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THE
INTEREST
OF
ENGLAND
CONSIDER'D,
With respect to its
MANUFACTURES
AND

East-India CALLICOES Imported,
Printed, Painted, Stained, and Con-
sumed therein.

OR, AN
ESSAY shewing from whence the Decay
of Trade, the Melting of Coin, the Scarcity
of Silver, the Increase of Poor do proceed.

By a CITIZEN.

The Second Edition.

*It will be found at last, when all things come rightly
to be consider'd, that no Plenty at Home, Victory
Abroad, Affection of the People, nor Conduct, or
Wisdom, in other Things, can give the Publick
effectual Help, till we can mend the Condition and
Posture of Trade.* Dr. Davenant.

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T O T H E
R I G H T W O R S H I P F U L

Sir *William Thompson*, Kt.
Recorder of the City of London,
His MAJESTY'S Solicitor General, and a
Member of the HONOURABLE HOUSE
OF COMMONS.

Honour'd SIR,



H A T Candour and Ge-
nerosity, the genuine Issue
of a noble Spirit, so re-
markably visible in your
constant Deportment, encourag'd
this Address, and the Liberty there-
in assum'd, of asserting that those
high and eminent Stations which
you possess, lay you under core-
A 2 spondent

The DEDICATION.

spondent Obligations to promote the Honour and Safety of his MAJESTY, the Prosperity of this City, and the Interest of your Country. This I presume to say cannot more effectually be done, than by advancing the Trade, the Commerce, and the staple Manufactures of *England*. This is what deserve, and at this present, needs the Assistance of that great Genius, and those excellent Gifts and Parts, with which Providence, Nature and Study have adorn'd your Person and Character. This is the sole Design of this ESSAY, which, with the greatest Deference and Humility, is recommended to your Consideration and Favour, by, SIR,

Your most humble

and Obedient Servant,

J. E.



THE
INTEREST
OF
ENGLAND
CONSIDER'D,
With respect to its
MANUFACTURES
AND

East-India CALLICOES Imported,
Printed, Painted, / Stained, and Consumed therein



ENGLAND's Fame and military Renown is not confin'd to *Europe*, but reaches to far more distant Regions, and will last as long as the *Flour-de-luces* remain quarter'd in the royal Standard, or the *Danube* keeps its Channel, and her royal Navy rides Sovereign of the Ocean.

It was Trade and Commerce that laid the Foundation of her Glory, 'twas this that procur'd her Wealth, that built and furnish'd her Ships, that paid her Armies and her Fleets, and maintain'd her Honour in all her Contests with the greatest Princes of *Europe*; and as long as Trade shall be encourag'd and flourish, Riches, and farther Accessions of Power and Greatness may

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may be expected as the genuine Effects thereof.

If we read the History of *England*, we shall find that Trade hath been always thought to be of that Importance, and so essential to the very Being of the Nation, That all our Kings and Queens, in their Treaties and Alliances with Foreign Princes and States, have had a very particular Regard thereunto; and whensoever any Infractions have been made prejudicial to our Commerce, such Injuries have been resent'd, Satisfaction demanded, and a Redress obtain'd.

And for the further Encouragement and promoting hereof, Charters and Privileges have been granted; and in Times of War, Fleets have been equip'd, Convoys appointed, for the Security of our Merchants, and guarding of the Seas, that our Trade might not be interrupted by Privateers, nor our Coasts insulted by our Enemies.

Trade is the general Concern of the Nation, and the Benefits and Advantages resulting from it extend to the remotest Parts thereof; and there are none, whether Rich or Poor, Noble or Ignoble, who do not, in a greater or less Proportion, participate of the Profits of the flourishing State thereof; nor are any exempted from being sensible whensoever Trade is in a languishing Condition.

There is at this Time among Merchants, Tradefmen, and Manufacturers, a great Complaint of the Decay of Trade, more particularly among those that trade in Silk, Cloth, Worsted, Stuffs, and those who are the Manufacturers both of Silk and Wooll, and such as depend thereon for a Livelihood.

As *London* is the Metropolis, and the chiefest Port of the Kingdom, I think myself therefore, as a Citizen (tho' moving in an inferior Sphere) oblig'd to endeavour to shew from whence this
Decay

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Decay of Trade and Commerce doth proceed; and, without Redress, what are like to be the Effects and Consequences thereof.

There are few Persons ignorant, that the Merchants and Citizens affected, do unanimously impute the great and chief Cause thereof to the Consumption of Chints, printed, painted, and stain'd Calicoes within his Majesty's Kingdoms and Territories thereunto belonging; to justify this Charge is what is design'd in these Papers.

1. These printed, painted, and stain'd Calicoes, are opposite unto and interfere with the Manufactures of *England*, and being consum'd here, hinder the Consumption of a like Quantity of the other; and consequently, if not restrain'd, will prove ruinous to them.

The two great Staple Manufactures of *England* are those of Wooll and Silk, and these, with Tin, Lead, Hides, Coals, Allum, &c. and, in some Years, Corn, are the chief Basis of our foreign Commerce.

Ever since *Edward III.*, the Legislature has taken particular Care of our Woollen Manufacture, and very many Laws are extant in our *Statute Books*, for the Regulation, Improvement and Encouragement thereof: When this Manufacture was in its Infancy, before it was dispersed through the Kingdom, and People instructed in the Art and Mystery thereof, Transportation of Wooll, upon paying a Duty or Subsidy, was allow'd by Act of Parliament, and several Staples were appointed for the Sale thereof in *England*, at *Calais* and *Bruges*; and it is remarkable what an eminent Historian informs us, * " That *Lodowick Malanus* " Earl of *Flanders*, about the Year 1338. allow'd " the *English*, by granting them most ample Pri- " vileges, to settle the Staple of *English* Wooll at " *Bruges*,

* *Cambden's Elizabeth*, p. 72.† 14 *Car. II.* cap. 18.

“ *Bruges* ; from that time, saith the Author, it is
 “ incredible how much the Trade of Mer-
 “ chants, Retailing, Shipping, and Fishing hath
 “ flourish’d amongst the *Netherlands*, insomuch
 “ that the *English* Wooll hath been to them the
 “ true *golden Fleece*, whereunto that famous Or-
 “ der of Knighthood so call’d hath been behold-
 “ en for its Original, and the Dukes of *Burgundy*
 “ indebted for their Wealth.”

But since that time our Woollen Manufacture
 hath prodigiously increas’d, and several Sorts and
 Species thereof adapted to supply the Demands
 from Abroad, and our Home Consumption, have
 been invented, upon which several late Acts of
 Parliament have been made for the preventing the
 carrying out of *England* any Sheep or Wooll what-
 soever, and all other Materials relating thereto.
 † In one of these Acts the Reasons assign’d for the
 making thereof were to prevent the great Decay
 of the Woollen Manufactures, the Ruin of many
 Families, and the Destruction of the Navigation
 and Commerce of the Kingdom.

In the Preamble of an Act made in the 11th
 Year of the Reign of King *William*, for the same
 Purpose, we have these Words: “ Forasmuch as
 “ Wooll and Wollen Manufactures of Cloth,
 “ Serges, Bays, Kerseys, and others made or
 “ mix’d with Wooll, are the greatest and most
 “ profitable Commodities of this Kingdom, on
 “ which the Value of Lands, and the Trade of
 “ the Nation do chiefly depend.”

This is sufficient to shew what Esteem the Le-
 gislature always had of our Woollen Manufac-
 tures; that it is a Manufacture that deserves their
 Care and Encouragement, appears from the vast
 Quantities thereof exported: Dr. *Davenant* in-
 form us upon Oath, * That *Anno* 1699, a Year
 before

* Report to Commissioners for stating the Publick Accounts, Part II, p. 71.

before the Subsidy Duties were taken off, and
 therefore less liable to the Suspicion of false or
 over-Entries, the Exports of the Woollen Manu-
 factures that Year were valued at 2,932,292
 Pounds 17 Shillings and 6 Pence Half-penny,
 which was above a third of our universal Ex-
 ports, which did not that Year amount to Seven
 Millions of Pounds *Sterling*.

It is a melancholy Reflection, which every
 one that hath a real Concern for the Interest of
England must make, when he shall consider that
 so noble a Manufacture, that hath so often tasted
 of royal Favour, a Manufacture guarded by so
 many Acts of Parliament, a Manufacture so ex-
 tensive in its Influences, with respect to all sorts
 and degrees of Persons throughout the Nation,
 should be reduc’d to such a Condition as to stand
 in need of farther Assistance and Protection.
 Notwithstanding this is the Truth of her Case,
 for so prevalent is private Interest and Humour,
 that our Woollen Manufacture (more valuable
 than the richest Gem in the imperial Diadem)
 at this Day lies bleeding, by reason of the
 Wounds given her by two sorts of Persons, *viz.*
 those that export our Wooll, and those that con-
 sume printed, painted, or stained Callicoes, in
 these Kingdoms; for could we so effectually stop
 all the Avenues by which our Wooll is convey’d
 out of the Kingdom, as to prevent its Exporta-
 tion, we need not fear being rival’d by any
 neighbouring Nation, for our Wooll exceeding
 theirs in Quality, without *English* or *Irish* Wooll
 to mix their own, they cannot equal in Qua-
 lity and Goodness what is manufactured in
England. And should printed and stained Calli-
 coes, &c. which are directly opposite to the
 Consumption of sixteen or eighteen thousand
 Packs of Wool a Year, the product of the largest
 B Pastures

Pasture Sheep, * be prohibited to be worn and consumed within his Majesty's Dominions, our Complaints would cease, our Trade revive, our Wollen Manufactures thrive and flourish.

The next great staple Manufacture I mention'd, was that of Silk, which is indeed of later Date, nevertheless it hath had the Favour of the Government, whereby it hath so wonderfully improv'd since the Restoration, as that our *English* Artists are inferior to none in foreign Parts, the Benefits arising hereby unto the Nation have been many, and those very considerable, both with respect to our Exportation Abroad, and our Consumption at Home. The former I shall have Occasion to insist on, when I come to discourse of our *Levant* and *Italian* Trades: As to the latter, the Profit thereof will be evident from the Money the Nation saves thereby, and the Numerousness of the Families employ'd therein. There are now made in *England*, of plain black Silks, to the Value of three hundred thousand Pounds, and upwards *per Annum*, which were formerly purchas'd with Money carry'd out of *England*; with these, I own, printed Calicoes do little interfere, especially those that are used for Hoods and Scarves, &c. but then there are many other more important Branches of the Silk Manufacture, which, including the other, are computed to amount to the Value of two Millions a Year, made in *Spittle-Fields* only, according to the Estimate of a very ingenious Writer, † which appears to be a moderate Computation; for the Weavers, in their Case, presented to the Parliament about six Years past, did declare, that the Workmanship of the several Branches of the Silk Manufacture was not less than five hundred sixty-

* This was the Observation of an honest ingenious Weaver T. S. who must understand the State of the Wollen Manufacture.

† Suppos'd to be Sir T. J. in his General Maxims in Trade. p. 27.

five thousand Pounds *per Annum*; with these the Consumption of Chins, printed, painted, and stained Calicoes do directly interfere, in that they are become the general and fashionable Wear of Ladies, Gentlewomen, Citizens and others, who before used to be clad in Silk.

2. From the Greatness and Extensiveness of these two staple Manufactures, with respect to foreign Exportation and home Consumption, we may make a Calculation of the Numerousness of those Families that are maintain'd thereby, Exactness herein is not to be expected, nor, indeed, practicable; but when we consider through how many Counties of *England* these Manufactures are dispersed, the various Sorts and Branches thereof, the Populousness of those Places where settled, together with the great Diversity of Hands every Species passes through before completed for Sale, that Men, Women and Children have their distinct Employments, and that several Trades are dependant thereon; whosoever, I say, reflects hereon, must conclude that they are innumerable. The honest Weaver before mention'd * who often appear'd at the Bar of both Houses of Parliament (where he always had Respect and Favour) as an Advocate for these Manufactures, acquaints us, in a little Tract he wrote, That the very home Consumption of *East-India* Silks, *Bengals*, &c. were directly opposite to the Employment of two hundred and fifty thousand Manufacturers: And it is evident, these printed and painted Calicoes do as much interfere with our Manufactures as ever those Silks, and the home Consumption of them more pernicious, in regard the Ware of them is more general and

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exten-

* T. S. Who at the Bar of the Lords House, by plain Reason and Matter of Fact, opposed the learned Council of the East-India Company, who oppos'd passing the Bill for restraining the Consumption of East-India Silks, &c.

extensive. Must not therefore these industrious Manufacturers, with those dependant on them, be soon reduc'd to Poverty, and forc'd to seek Relief of their respective Parishes, or else to wander and strole about the Nation with their Children a beging, to keep themselves from starving, or else retire into foreign Parts, as some have already done, and more are preparing to do, whither they are courted by Money and Promises, and urg'd by Poverty, insomuch, that if a Stop, more effectual than the late Act of Parliament, be not provided, the Enterprizes of a projecting Fugitive may prove more fatal to *England*, than the politick Schemes of an ambitious Cardinal, that have so much alarm'd *Europe*.

3. I shall further observe what Influence these Callicoes will have on our foreign Commerce and Negotiations; it is this that is the great Interest and Concern of the Kingdom: What would *England* be, without foreign Trade, but a Place of Confinement? The natural Genius of the *English* excites them to noble Undertakings. Our Ancestors sail'd round the Globe to make Discoveries, and obtain Settlements in the before unknown World; to them we owe the Original of our Riches, which ever since have flow'd in upon us. "Were it not for foreign Trade, saith a great Person, * what would become of the Revenue of six to eight hundred thousand Pounds *per Annum* for Customs? What would the Rents of our Lands be? The Customs would totally fail, and our Gentlemens Rents of Thousands *per Annum* would dwindle into Hundreds".

But all foreign Trade is not equally advantageous to the Kingdom. There may be such as Trade to some Places, under such Circumstances,

* Sir Josiah Child.

as instead of bringing Advantage, and adding to the Stock of the Kingdom, may be very detrimental and destructive, by wasting and consuming our Stock and Treasure.

"It is a Maxim, as the same Author observes, generally receiv'd and approv'd, in Reference to foreign Trade, and taken as a Rule to measure any Trade by, whether it be profitable to the Kingdom or not, That where the Goods exported are less in Value than the Goods imported, the Kingdom loseth by that Trade, because what falls short must be supplied by Money. And, on the other hand, when the Exports are more than the Imports, the Treasure and Stock of the Kingdom is increased by such a Trade, it being necessarily suppos'd, that the Over-plus is return'd in Bullion.

"This Notion is undoubtedly good, and may, by a due Consideration of it, under several and various Circumstances, be improv'd and made use of to explain the Matters of foreign Trade, in reference to the Kingdom, so as to render the same intelligible to all Persons; for it will not only shew us, that we decay in our Stock, when the Cost of what we spend and consume is more than we can purchase by what we sell of our own Product and Manufacture, but also that it is our Interest to discourage Idleness and Profuseness, and to encourage Ingenuity, Labour, and Industry, to improve by manufacturing what we have of our own Growth, and also such Materials capable thereof, as are the Produce of those Manufactures sent abroad, and which we receive in Barter for them, and to export the Goods we sell, and import the Commodities we want, to and from the most advantageous Markets, in our own Ships.

I might here give an Account of those particular Characters, whereby good and bad Trades, are generally describ'd, and apply them to the several Countries with whom we Traffick. But my Design being chiefly to shew the pernicious Influence of the home Consumption of printed and painted Callicoes hath on the Interest of the Nation, with respect to its Manufactures, particularly those of Wooll and Silk, and also with respect to our foreign Commerce; I shall confine myself to instance in those Negotiations that do more especially relate to those Manufactures, viz. our Trades to *Turky* and *Italy*.

1. Our Trade to *Turky* hath been always esteem'd very beneficial to *England*, therefore a Company have been incorporated, and Charters granted them, with divers Powers and Privileges for the Regulation of the Trade, so as might be most conducive to the Interest of the Nation; The *Ottoman* Empire affords us the best Markets we have for Woollen Cloth, besides Lead and Tin, &c. In *Anno* 1716, and in 1717, the Company exported forty three thousand Cloths, and great Quantities of Lead, Tin, Sugar, &c. * And the better to promote the Kingdom's Interest, they were restrain'd the Exportation of Gold and Silver, that so Returns from thence, which are chiefly made in raw Silk, Mohair-Yarn, Gauls, &c. might be solely the Produce of our Cloth and Product. In this Trade are employ'd Ships of Force; and many younger Sons of the best Gentlemen in *England* think it not beneath their Characters to be educated therein. Now there being much less Demand for raw Silk than formerly, by reason of Chints, printed, painted, and stained Callicoes being so much in vogue, and so generally worn instead of Silks, it gave so great Discou-

* *The Case of the Levant Company*, January 29, 1718.

Discouragement to our *Turky* Merchants, that by Orders of several Courts of the Company, Ships were, for fourteen Months and more, restrain'd from going to *Turky*, but are now lately sail'd; and I have been inform'd by several eminent Merchants, that they lost by every Bale of Silk they sold, in which Commodity far the greatest part of Returns are made; 'tis probable those young Gentlemen, sent by several Members of the Company, who are now residing at *Constantinople*, *Smirna* and *Aleppo*, may induce them for some time to continue their Investments in Cloth, &c. but if this Discouragement remain, and all Hopes of better Markets fail, they will certainly be tired, and chuse rather to imploy their Money at home, where with less Hazard, and more Ease, they may acquire greater Profit; and should this noble Branch of our foreign Commerce be ruin'd, or in any considerable Degree impair'd, the Loss to *England* would be irreparable.

2. The next Trade I propos'd to discourse of, was that to *Italy*, which Trade is not only antient, but also very profitable to the Nation, great Quantities of Northern Cloths, Serges, Says, and other Woollen Manufactures, as also Lead, Tin and other Goods of the Product of *England* and its Dominions, together with several Sorts of Salt-fish being exported thereby, wherein numerous Sail of Ships have been constantly employ'd, and thereby Navigation considerably improv'd, many of them being excellent sailing Ships, built for the greater Security of Trade, during the late Wars. Returns are made in *Orsoy*, *Bologna*, and other fine Sorts of thrown and raw Silk, and other the Product of *Italy*, but chiefly in Silk, without which the Silk Manufacture could never have been so extensive in its Beneficialness to the Nation, or advanced to that
Height

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Height and Perfection it is, at this Day; as this Trade lies under great Discouragements by reason of these Chints and painted Callicoes, which do very much hinder the Consumption of *Italian* Silk. This Trade doth equally want and deserve the Favour of the Legislature, in regard that notwithstanding the Importations from *Italy* are made in very valuable Commodities, they do fall far short of what is exported, so that the Ballance is remitted by Bills of Exchange, to the encrease of the Kingdom's Stock.

4. The Continuance of this Callico Grievance will sensible affect the Lands of *England*; for it hath been observed, that as Trade and Manufactures flourish or decay, so Lands rise and fall in Value; one considerable Product of Land is Wooll, which is of various Sorts; that which is of a long Staple, and is produc'd chiefly in the Counties of *Lincoln, Leicester, Northampton, Bucks, Rumney-Marsh*, and all other Places proper for Pasture, and the breed of large Sheep, being not so proper for Cloth, is made into Yarn, and carry'd to *Norwich* and *London*, &c. to be wrought up into Stuffs made solely of Wooll, or else mix'd with Silk, with which these printed Callicoes, &c. do directly interfere and lessen their Consumption. As to other Sorts of Wooll, fitter for Cloth and Serges, these will be affected by whatsoever discourages our *Levant* and *Italian* Trades, which export vast Quantities thereof, and these are sensibly affected by these Callicoes, as they interfere with our Silk Manufactures, as hath been shewn.

Other Products of Land are, Corn, Butter, Cheese, &c. which constantly find the best Markets in those Places where the Inhabitants are numerous, which is the Effect of the Settlement of any considerable Manufactures, for most of the Wages, Persons employ'd therein receive, are spent

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spent upon the Produce of Land, which consequently inances its Value; besides, as the Poor increase, the Consumption will lessen, and Rates for their Relief will be advanc'd.

It must indeed be own'd, That Land at this time is high, which is to be imputed to the lowering of Interest, the Advancement of publick Credit, and the great personal Estates many Persons have acquir'd in this and some late Reigns; but should our Manufactures be ruin'd, Credit impair'd, we may rationally expect to see, within the Compass of a few Years, a Declension in Value, exceeding that Advancement which we have lately seen, for this must necessarily cause a Retrenchment, in Diet and Apparel; and I am inform'd, by an Officer therein employ'd, that the Duties of the Excise on Malt and Beer are lately considerably lessen'd in Places where our Woollen Manufactures are settled.

5. Another very great Mischief that attends the home Consumption of Chints, printed, painted, or stain'd Callicoes, is, That it exhausts the Treasures of the Nation, they being purchas'd and procur'd with our Silver. It is a Truth so evident, as I think cannot be deny'd by any Person, That for any Nation to export Coin or Bullion, to bring back Commodities to be expended therein, interfering with, and to the apparent Detriment of its own Manufactures, is a Trade pernicious in its Effects and Consequences. This is acknowledg'd by Sir *Josiah Child*, where he tells us, " That that Trade that takes off little from us in
" Commodities, and furnishes us with abundance
" of either unnecessary and superfluous Things,
" or such Commodities as hinder the Consump-
" tion of our own Manufactures, and serve not
" to supply foreign Markets, exceeding by ma-
" ny hundred Thousands annually what that
" Country

“ Country takes from us in Commodities: That
 “ Trade, under such Circumstances, cannot be
 “ otherwise than very ruinous and destructive.”

The same Person, who was no Stranger to the Affairs of the *East-India* Company, acquaints us, that the Exports in one Year, as it was in the End of *Anno* 1674, and the Beginning of 1675, was about Four hundred and thirty thousand Pounds, whereof about three hundred and twenty thousand Pounds in Bullion, besides about eighty to one hundred thousand Pounds allow'd upon the Account of private Trade, to Owners of Ships, Commanders and Seamen, &c. The Account Dr. *Davenant*, who wrote *Anno* 1696, gives of the Exports of Bullion to *India*, is not much different; these being strenuous Advocates for the Trade, we may depend on it, that they did not augment this Article to the Company's Disadvantage; for I have seen a Copy of the Report of the honourable Commissioners for Trade, some Years past, giving an Account of our Trade to most Parts of *Europe*, which computes the Bullion exported to the *East-Indies*, from *Anno* 1675, to *Anno* 1685, to amount to about Four hundred thousand Pounds *per Annum*, besides what was carry'd away on Account of private Trade, and from *Spain*; by these two last Accounts there doth not appear to be above Threescore and ten thousand Pounds in Value of *English Goods per Annum* exported to the *East-Indies*. By a later Account, laid before the honourable House of Commons the 13th of *January* 1703, by *Charles Crisp Esq*; there appears to be exported to *India*, in five Years, as followeth, *viz.* * In Silver 12335120½ Ounces, which, at 5 s. 6 d. the Ounce is 3392158 l. In Gold 32057 Ounces, which, at 4 l. the Ounce is 128229 l. Total of five Years 3520387 Pounds *Sterling*. Ac-

* *Collector Outwards of her Majesty's Customs.*

According to this Account, there were for five Years, *communibus Annis*, exported from *England* to the *East-Indies*, seven hundred thousand Pounds a Year, exclusive of what was exported from *Cadiz* of *English Effects*; by which we may observe, that as that Trade increas'd, so did the Company's Exportation of Bullion increase likewise.

This Trade, even from its Infancy, hath continually carry'd away so much Bullion, that some have question'd whether it hath been of any Advantage to *England*. *Cambden* tells us, “ * That the
 “ Queen, about *Anno* 1600, set up a Company
 “ or Society of *East-India* Merchants, with large
 “ Privileges, who, to their great Profit, and to
 “ the Honour of the *English Nation*, have plac'd
 “ Factories in the Empire of the Great *Mogul*;
 “ to which the Historian adds, whether to the
 “ good of the Commonwealth, so great a Mass
 “ of Silver being still exported out of *England*, and
 “ such a Multitude of Seamen consum'd every
 “ Year in the Voyage, let wise Men speak, and
 “ Posterity judge.” Dr. *Davenant* owns, † “ That
 “ the *East-India* Company has been for a long
 “ time look'd upon with an evil Eye, by some
 “ People, because there has been formerly ill Ma-
 “ nagement in their Affairs, and for that some of
 “ their Goods were thought to hinder the Con-
 “ sumption of our own Manufacture; and be-
 “ cause it was seen what Silver they really carry'd
 “ out, and not enough consider'd what Bullion
 “ their Effects brought hither in return.” Others
 observing, that about 1693, and some subsequent
 Years in which there were few *East-India* Goods
 imported, there was a very great Demand for
 our Woollen Manufactures, have inferr'd (how
 justly is besides my Purpose to determine) That
 the *East-India* Trade hath always been prejudi-
 cial

* *Cambden's Eliz.* p. 596. † *Essay upon the East-India Trade*, p. 41.

cial to the Kingdom. Even the great Scarcity of Silver we lately had and still have, is, by an ingenious Writer on that Subject, chiefly attributed to the vast Exportations of Silver for the *East-Indies**. In the Act of Parliament for restraining the wearing of *East-India* Silks, &c. are these Words: "Whereas it is most evident, that the Continuance of the Trade to the *East-Indies*, in the same Manner and Proportion as it hath been for two Years last past, must evidently be to the great Detriment of this Kingdom, by exhausting the Treasure thereof, and melting down the Coin, &c." I agree with that Learned Gentleman † who tells us, he had reason to conclude, that the *European* Nations in general had been richer by a full third than they now are, if that Trade had never been discover'd and undertaken; yet as long as our Neighbours trade to *India*, I cannot think it advisable to quit it; for then we must be supply'd at excessive Rates with those Commodities, the Product of that Country, which are so necessary for us to have, and the Want whereof may prove of fatal Consequence; neither do I believe this Trade, considering its present Posture, can be carry'd on without considerable Exportations of Bullion, but am inclin'd to think, if the Interest of *England* were more than particular Persons Profit consulted, there might be such great Retrenchments made, with reference to this Article at present, and such Enlargements made of their Traffick on the Coast, and in the vast Empire of *China* and *Japan*, by the Prudence and Industry of the Company, as might procure a far larger Vent for our Manufactures and native Product, and thereby save our Bullion (as the *Dutch* do theirs) and render the Trade

* *Thoughts on our Silver Coin*, 1713. † *Dr. Davenant's Essay*, p. 14.

less invidious than for several Years it hath been.

This, I confess, is a very tender Point, which I humbly submit to be discuss'd by those in Authority, if they shall think it of that Importance as to deserve it. I shall therefore only add this Observation, That when the *French King*, Anno 1664, establish'd an *East-India* Company, in the 18th Article thereof they desir'd, That his Majesty should grant License to send Gold and Silver, as much as should be thought needful, both unto the Isle of *Madagascar*, and the *East-Indies*, and other Places of the said Commerce, which the King granted, with a Restriction in these Words, *viz.* "The exporting of Gold and Silver, being a Thing never publickly permitted in any State, and yet at present acknowledg'd to be necessary: It shall be allow'd, by a particular Permission, to remain in the Hands of the Directors of the said Company *."

To do Justice to those great Advocates for the *East-India* Trades Sir *Josiah Child* and Dr. *Davenant*, the former very much interested in the Stock of the Company, to obviate the Objection made against their Exportation of Silver, they endeavour to prove and convince their Readers, that notwithstanding this Exportation, the Kingdom's Stock is annually very considerably increas'd by this Trade to the *Indies*, to the Value of Five hundred thousand Pounds a Year, saith the former; Six hundred thousand, saith the latter; which arises chiefly from the large Exports made to foreign Parts of the Goods brought from *India*, whereby far greater Quantities of Bullion are imported, than were carry'd out to purchase them. Another vigorous Champion for this Trade assures us, that above four fifth Parts of the Commodities

* *Vid. Articles dated the 31st of May, 1664, signed LOUIS, and underneath DE LYONNE.*

modities imported hereby, are again exported into foreign Parts †.

I shall not examine the Estimates of these Authors, in which there is little doubt to be made that they were greatly mistaken, or any other made by their Opponents, for the Circumstances of Trade often vary, and in a less distance of time than that since they wrote, it takes a divers Course, and the Parliament may command an exact Account whenever they please from the Custom-house Books, of the Exports and Imports relating to the Affairs of the Company, since his Majesty's happy Accession to the Throne, for their Information.

Besides, whether these Estimates be true or false, I do not think the present Debate concern'd therein, for it is not whether the *East-India* Trade be beneficial or hurtful to the Nation, but whether one Branch thereof consider'd under one particular Circumstance, as consum'd at home, be so or not; if a Restraint hereof should be obtained, how doth this affect our Exportation? that may be carried to as great a Degree as ever; so that whatsoever Benefit doth hereby accrue to *England*, or whatsoever Quantities of Gold and Silver are brought into it, by virtue of *East-India* Goods sent abroad, they will not in the least be obstructed or lessen'd, in case printed, painted, and stain'd Callicoes be prohibited to be worn and consum'd within the Kingdom. What Reason can be assign'd then, why the beneficial part of that Trade should not be preserv'd and encourag'd, without continuing with it that Part which hath such a malignant Influence on the Manufactures and Interest of *England*, as hath been abundantly made evident the home Consumption of these Callicoes hath, since they are in their Nature separable, and there is no Inconsistency therein?

6. The

† A Treatise written by Φιλοπάτρις as he styles himself,

6. The Advancement of Trade is the general Aim of all the Nations of *Europe*, and they seem to strive who shall out-wit one another therein. And they all concur in this Maxim, That the less they consume of foreign Commodities, the better it is for them*.

“ The *Dutch*, to obviate too great a Consumption of foreign Goods amongst them, make use of Excises, and they have for that reason laid a very high Excise upon Wines.

“ The *French* study to prevent it by Duties of Importation, Duties on Consumption, Tolls from one Province into another, by strict Visitations, Restraints and Prohibitions, and by the Example of the Court, in wearing their own Manufactures.

Their late King, by a Decree of the 26th of *October*, 1686, enforc'd by many Arrets of Council since, did, under severe Penalties, forbid the painting and printing of white Callicoes, and the Sale thereof; and also of *China* and *Indian* Silks and Stuffs; the Reason assign'd therein is, that they had not only given occasion of transporting many Millions, but also have diminish'd the Manufactures of old established in *France*, and at the same time caused the Ruin and Destruction of the working People, who, with their Families, having no Work, or means of Subsistence, are gone out of the Kingdom; which Decree made a great Abatement in the Value of our *Indian* Exports; for Dr. *Davenant* tells us in his Report, that he heard experienc'd Merchants affirm, that six of them, for several Years, exported to *France* to the Value of three hundred thousand Pounds per Annum in *East-India* Goods.

We have also acted by this Maxim, and have of late Years, by laying high Duties upon some foreign

* General Maxims in Trade, p. 19.

foreign Commodities, saved what formerly we were at a considerable Expence to purchase, which hath lessen'd their Consumption, and encouraged Artifts to proceed in their improving many useful Manufactures in *England*, which by that means are now brought to a great Perfection.

It was upon the same Consideration, that the Parliament, in the 29th and 30th Years of the Reign of King *Charles II*, pass'd an Act prohibiting the Importation of *French* Wines, Brandies, Silks, Salt, Paper, and other Commodities of the Growth, Product, or Manufacture of the Territories and Dominions of the *French* King; the Reasons given in the said Act are, that it had by long Experience been found, that the Imports thereof had much exhausted the Treasure of the Nation, lessen'd the Value of the native Commodities and Manufactures thereof, and caused great Detriment to the Kingdom in general.

In pursuance of the same Maxim, was the Act for restraining the Consumption of *East-India* Silks, *Bengals*, &c. made, and the same Reasons prevail'd, contrary to the Endeavours of the Court with the House of Commons, to reject the Bill for confirming the eighth or ninth Articles of the Treaty of Commerce between *England* and *France*, in the last Reign: And the Event hath sufficiently justified their Wisdom, for the Preservation of the Trade, Manufactures, and Interest of *England*, are owing to those Acts.

7. One may, without pretending to the Gift of Prophecy, presage what will quickly be the State of our Trade, if a Restraint be not laid on the Consumption of these Callicoes, if we call to mind what the State thereof was, when *Indian* Silks like a Deluge came flowing in upon us; *Canterbury*, a flourishing City, wherein there had used to be a thousand Looms, was then reduc'd beneath an hundred; almost whole Streets in

in *Spittle-Fields* were desolate; *Norwich*, and other Places, where were Settlements of Worsted Manufactures, greatly distress'd; yea, clothing Towns also felt the Effects thereof, and joined with the others in petitioning the Parliament. It was very affecting to every christian Heart to behold the Perplexities thousands of Families were then in for want of Employment, and to have heard in what diversity of Language they gave Vent to their Sorrows and their Passions: Poverty, with all the sad Consequences thereof, visible throughout the Nation, the Parliament sensible of the Justness and Importance of their Complaints, and having a true Representation of the sad Posture of our Woollen and Silk Manufactures, laid before them by Merchants and others, passed an Act for their Relief.

No sooner was the royal Assent obtain'd, but the Prospect of the Advantages thereof reviv'd their fainting Spirits, our Weavers return'd from their Retirements and settled to work; and before the eighteen Months allow'd by the Act for the disposal of *Indian* Silks were expir'd, a mighty Change appear'd amongst the Woollen and Silk Manufacturers, and those dependant on them; the disconsolate forgot their Sorrows, they were hearty in the Expressions of their Gratitude to the King and Parliament, for putting a Period to those Calamities that had even over-whelm'd them, empty Houses were re-inhabited, Rents risen 20 per Cent, Exportations to the *Levant* and *Italy* encourag'd; and the Effects and Benefits of this Act soon reach'd to the remotest Parts of the Land.

This is a true and short Representation of what thousands have seen and known; and can there be any doubt, but that the same Causes will produce the same Effects, whether they proceed from *East-India* Silks, or printed and stained Callicoes? Are not these as directly opposite to, and must equally, if not more affect our Woollen and Silk Manufactures

than the other did? Is not the wearing of these become more national than the others ever were? Do we not daily observe Persons of Quality and Distinction, and all intermediate Ranks and Degrees, to the meanest Servant Maid, clad in what is painted, stained or printed? many of these could not procure *Indian Silks*, (tho' of the meanest sorts) nor indeed were such fit for servile Employments; and as the Consumption is more general and extensive, will not the calamitous Effects thereof, in time, prove so too? Want of Trade is the general Complaint; indeed, the Effects thereof are not at present so visible as at the time I have been discoursing of, in regard these Printed Calicoes have gradually increased, before they reached their present Zenith, which hath not as yet been of any long Continuance; so that these poor Manufacturers, by retrenching, as much as they could, the Expences of their Families, have made a Shift, tho' a very poor one, to subsist with what a flourishing Trade had put them in possession of: And the Expectation of Relief doth at present buoy up their Spirits: "We have, say they, all the Reason in the World to hope for a Redress of our Grievances, not only from a King, who is universally renown'd for Wisdom, Goodness, and Clemency, but also from a Parliament who hath distinguish'd itself in a more particular manner, for the common Good and Welfare of their Country." And after having requested the Favour of the Master Weavers, that they would be pleas'd to hinder any Printed Calicoes to be worn in their Families for the future, they dutifully conclude their Answer to the Company of Weavers Advice in this manner.

"If we all act and behave ourselves as we ought to do, who can doubt but our Superiors, in their great Wisdom, will take our most deplorable Condition into their serious Consideration? In the meantime we'll heartily pray, that God may long pre-
"serve

"serve his most gracious Majesty King GEORGE.
"Amen.*

I may say this for the Master Weavers Reputation, that they not only by their Advice, but also farther than was consistent with their Interest, employ'd Journeymen at Work to prevent their Murmuring, and to keep them quiet, inasmuch that they have unusual Stocks of Goods on hand unfold. But badness of Trade continuing, and fearing to involve themselves, by stretching their Credit too far, in inextricable Difficulties, they have been necessitated to let their Looms stand still. This gives us a melancholy Prospect what is like to be the Case of these poor Manufacturers in the depth of Winter, when Frost and Snow shall put a sharper Accent upon their Poverty, when they shall have both Hunger and Cold to distress them, and destitute of what should satisfy the first, or guard against the latter. Who can think of those Perplexities, with which thousands of Families will then be seiz'd, without Compassion and Emotions of Sorrow? What Ideas must we frame in our Minds of those Calamities which these poor Creatures must then feel and endure?

8. There hath been formerly, but never more than at this Day, a most pernicious Practice of clandestine importing prohibited and unaccustom'd Goods, to prevent which many Acts of Parliament have been made; but by the Cunning and Dexterity of those vers'd in this Trade, have been eluded, and Chints, &c. in great Quantities brought in and worn.

There is another sort of Trade now practis'd that is equally mischievous, viz. the entring Goods at the Custom-house for Exportation, and shipping them on board some Vessel, whereby they are entitled to a Draw-back; but instead of carrying these Goods to the several Ports for which they are enter'd, they are,

* Answer to the Master-Weavers Advice of the first of July, 1719, from Weavers-Hall, at a Court then held.

by Contrivance and Agreement with the Masters of those Vessels, secretly re-landed and consumed in the Kingdom. These Practices are not to be prevented by Penalties, Oaths, or Obligations; for *England* being an Island, there are a thousand Places for putting Goods on Shore: and with respect to printed and stained Callicoes, &c. the Advantage is so great, that should, by the Vigilance of the Officers of his Majesty's Customs, sometimes a Seizure be made, it will not discourage fresh Attempts. These Practices are so notorious, that Dealers in these Callicoes have acquainted me, that they believe one third of the Callicoes consumed in the North of *England*, are clandestinely imported; and some Estimate may be made by the Amount of the Draw-backs, what Quantities are enter'd, and re-landed, by such Merchants as are fair Traders to, and have Correspondents residing at those Ports, for which such Entries are made. It is amazing to think what Perjuries are committed, what Artifices are us'd to carry on this pernicious Trade, a Trade which defrauds his Majesty of his legal Dues, a Trade that is injurious to all the fair Traders in the Nation, a Trade that renders all Estimates of the true Value, of what is really exported, uncertain, besides the Guilt contracted by the Managers thereof: There was a considerable Discovery of this villainous Practice, at a late famous Tryal in *Guild-hall*, notwithstanding the Endeavours used by the blackest Perjury for its Concealment.

All Endeavours for the prevention hereof will prove ineffectual, without a total Prohibition of printed and stained Callicoes to be worn and consumed, under suitable Penalties, in the Kingdom. This, and only this, will be an effectual Remedy; for what shall induce any Person clandestinely to import, or fraudulently pretend to export printed and stained Callicoes, and re-land them, when, should he escape all Hazards of Seizure, he knows they must remain a useless Stock in his Shop or Warehouse, for want of a
Chapman ?

That

That which gives the greater Force to this Argument, is, from the late Establishment of *East-India* Companies in *France* and *Flanders*; for if they should be continued to be worn within his Majesty's Dominions, will not these be the Markets for the Vent of those vast Quantities of Callicoes they will undoubtedly import? In *France* the Consumption of them is prohibited, and it is said they are also prohibited in the *Austrian Netherlands*; What less can this produce than the Ruin of our Woollen and Silk Manufactures, and all the fatal Consequences thereof that must inevitably ensue? And here I cannot but observe, that by the late Arret of the Council of State in *France*, in the sixth Article, leave is given to the *India* Company to import all sorts of Silks, Stuffs, &c. also Callicoes dy'd, printed and strip'd, upon Condition that they be transported to foreign Parts: And by the twelfth Article, all such Stuffs and Callicoes are strictly forbidden to be transported to any *French* Colony; whereas by former Arrets the Importation of them was prohibited, by which it seems to me pretty plain, that *England* was not forgot when these Articles were penn'd, where they have encouragement to expect a very profitable Market, in case printed, painted, and stained Callicoes (of which the *English* are unreasonably fond) be continued to be worn and used, either for Furniture or Dress, in *England*, and the Territories thereunto belonging.

9. We have, ever since King *GEORGE*'s happy Accession to the Throne, seen amongst us many disaffected to his Person and Government, whom all the Instances of his Majesty's Clemency and Mercy have not been able to reclaim; these are restless and unwearied in instilling rebellious Principles into others, omitting no Opportunity to increase the Number of their Profelytes, on purpose to disturb the Government, and favour the Claim of the Pretender. These industriously catch at all Opportunities to create and cherish

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cherish popular Discontents ; how ready are they to mix with all Gatherings of the vulgar People, exciting and encouraging them to Riots, Tumults, and other illegal Actions ? What a Mortification must it then be to these Men to have their Hopes defeated, their Expectations frustrated, by an Act so much conducing to the Interest of *England*, so much to the Satisfaction of the generality of his Majesty's Subjects, as the prohibiting the Consumption of printed and painted Callicoos will be ? How chagrin and displeas'd will they appear, when they see so many thousands unalterably fixt in their Allegiance to his Majesty, and the only Cause of Complaint (with which they have been practising to serve their wicked Purposes) removed ?

Before I conclude, it will be necessary to answer two or three Objections, that are commonly made on behalf of these printed Callicoos.

First, That by restraining the Consumption thereof, you will destroy the Fund that is appropriated by Act of Parliament for a Security of Money lent the Government.

I answer with the ingenious Author of the State of the Question, That this Fund is redeemable by Parliament ; who, when convinc'd of the absolute Necessity of doing it, we may leave it to the Honour and Wisdom of that House, for the establishing an equivalent Security to the Satisfaction of such as have lent their Money.

To which I may add, That whensoever an Estimate of the clear Amount of what the Duty of the Stamps produces shall be laid before that honourable Assembly, much of the present appearing Difficulty will vanish, for there are so many printed Callicoos fraudulently enter'd for Exportation, which are again relanded ; which, with such as are really *bona fide* sent to foreign Parts, will make a considerable Deduction ; for I have been credibly inform'd, that there is a certain Tradesman, whose Entries, and those

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those of a near Relative of his (whose Business is foreign hereunto) are so large, that the Draw-back they are entitl'd unto, by reason of the Duty for Stamps only, is not less than seven thousand Pounds *per Annum*, to which the Draw-backs at the Candle make a very large Addition ; and there are many more, whose Names are extant in the Custom House and Excise-Office, who are concern'd in these foreign Exports.

Object. 2. It is the Interest of the Nation to wear *East-India* printed Callicoos, because cheaper than our own Manufactures.

Answer. Considering the great Variety of worsted Stuffs now made, that are of a low Price, the meaner sort of People may be cloathed cheaper therewith than in printed Callicoos ; as for others of a superior Degree, if they shall, instead of Chints and Callicoos, wear *English* Silks, or such curious sorts of Stuffs, which 'tis probable our Weavers, when encourag'd, will invent for that Purpose, at a little advanced Price above the other ; this will not be the least Prejudice to the Nation, the Materials being of our own Growth, or the Produce of our Manufactures ; whereas the other are purchas'd with our Silver sent to *India*.

Object. 3. By consuming *East-India* Callicoos at home, we shall export greater Quantities of our Manufactures to foreign Ports, which will be a great Advantage to the Nation.

Answer 1. This is *gratis dictum*, no Medium have I ever heard propos'd for the Proof thereof ; nor, indeed, is the Truth thereof so much as probable : For,

2. There is no want of Wooll in the Kingdom, that we need consume printed Callicoos, lest we should not have sufficient to manufacture to supply foreign Markets, for are not Quantities thereof daily secretly convey'd out of *England* ; and the Act of Parliament made for burying in Wooll remains unrepeal'd ; neither have we any want of Hands to
work

work it up, for it is the general Complaint that thousands of Families are reduc'd to Poverty for want of Employment, and the Markets for Wooll very moderate and the Prices falling.

3. All Demands from abroad of our Woollen Manufactures are supply'd, and Quantities thereof lie at foreign Ports unsold; and the great Plenty of woollen Goods at *Exon, Colchester, Norwich, &c.* where these Manufactures are made, and at *Blackwel-Hall*, and in Factors Warehouses, manifestly confute this Objection.

Object. 4. The last Objection I shall mention, shall be in the Words of *Dr. Davenant*: "Trade is in its Nature free, finds its own Channel, and best directeth its own Course; and all Laws to give it Rules and Directions, and to limit and circumscribe it, may serve the particular Ends of private Men, but are seldom advantagious to the Publick". "Laws to compel the Consumption of some Commodities, and prohibit the use of others, in Countries inclin'd by Genius to Trade, and adapted to it by Scituation, are needless, unnatural, and can have no Effect conducive to the Publick Good".

Answer 1. According to this Maxim, our Senators, for several Centuries, have been mistaken; if this be for the Interest of *England*, ought not the Act of Navigation, those to prevent the Exportation of Wooll, Fullers-Earth, with many others, for the Benefit of our Trade, to be repeal'd? Ought not all those Inclosures, that Charters of Incorporation have made, to be thrown open? Why should any Restraint be laid upon the Importation of *French Wine, Brandy, Linens, wrought Silks, Salt, Paper, &c.*? Have we not had late Experience of the great Advantages that accrued to the Nation from the Act made for the restraining the Consumption of *East-India Silks, Bengals, &c.*? The State of our Woollen and Silk Manufactures was at that time in such a Condition, as must soon, without Redress, have

have ended in their Ruin; what a wonderful and happy Change throughout the Nation was visible upon the passing thereof, hath been before taken Notice of.

2. Here is no Prohibition of *East-India Callicoes* argued for, they may be imported and printed without Interruption, and freely exported to foreign Markets, 'tis against the Consumption of them at home that I am pleading; if this tends to lessen either their Importation or Printing, with respect to Quantity, let it be remember'd that it is on purpose to encourage the Manufactures of *England*, with which they interfere, it is to employ his Majesty's Subjects, and preserve them from the Extremities of Poverty; it is to promote the most valuable Branches of our foreign Commerce, and thereby to add to the Wealth and Safety of the Nation; it is to advance the Price of Land, by causing better Markets for the Product thereof; it is to prevent the unnecessary exhausting of our Coin and Bullion by foreign Exportations; it is to keep our printed Callicoes from being imported by our Neighbours, and fraudulent Entries from being made at the Custom-house, whereby his Majesty is defrauded, and fair Traders injured. That these will be the Effects of restraining the home Consumption of printed and painted Callicoes, hath been the Design of this Essay to prove, and which I think are as evident as any Proposition in *Euclid*.

" 'Tis plain (saith the Doctor so often mention'd) to those who are not resolv'd to shut their Eyes, that we have nine Millions less in Coin than we had in the Year 1688". * Which way this hath been expended I shall leave to the Conjectures of others, from what hath been herein before related;

* Report Die 10, 1711, p. 60.
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but this I may with Certainty assert, that the Wealth *England* then possess'd was the Effect of a long flourishing Trade ; and that this Diminution of our Treasure can by no other Way or Method be restor'd, than by encouraging those Trades that promote our Manufactures, and return us Silver and Gold in exchange for them ; we have a rich natural Product, and many advantageous Colonies in *America*, which would (if due Care were taken to prevent the sending thither printed Callicoos) take from us far greater Quantities of our Woollen and Silk Manufactures than at present they do ; so that if we are not remiss and negligent in the Management of these Advantages, we cannot possibly fail of increasing the Nation's Stock ; for those large Quantities of Tobacco, Sugars, Wood for Dyers, &c. brought from thence, and re-exported, are, in a manner, as beneficial to *England*, as if the Value of them were brought home in pieces of Eight and Gold Dust.

To this purpose Care ought to be extended to all those Negotiations whereby the Treasure of the Nation hath been exhausted, to guard against all unnecessary and extravagant Exportations of our Coin and Bullion ; and whatsoever Traffick is inconsistent with the Interest of the Kingdom, ought to be discourag'd ; for if whatsoever be brought in one way, be carried away by another into distant Countries, we shall never increase in Wealth, Honour and Safety.

We now have, and for some Years have enjoy'd the Benefits of a very large and extensive Credit ; however, *England* can never be esteem'd entirely safe, till she possesses such a Quantity of Silver and Gold as may guard against any sudden Emergencies, and that may bear some due Proportion to Paper Credit.

England's Honour is at this Day advanc'd to such a Height, that the Ballance of *Europe* seems to be plac'd

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plac'd in his Majesty of *Great Britain's* Hands, his royal Fleet rides Sovereign of the Seas, carrying Terror to his Enemies, and Comfort to his distant Friends and Allies : And there is no doubt but our Merchants, whose Ships are protected, their Interest assisted in foreign Courts, will reap the Benefit of a Naval Power for Years to come ; for it hath been observ'd, that *France* could never obtain to have the Affair of Commerce well settled at the *Ottoman* Ports, till the Year 1673, at which time, all *Europe* was startled at the Successes of her grand Monarch.

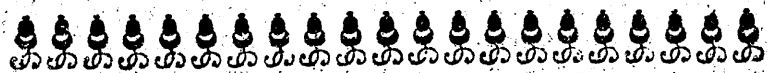
From the foregoing Particulars we may take Notice of the excellent Harmony, Dependance and Connexion there is between the Honour, Riches, Power and Safety of the Nation, and the Trade and Commerce thereof, with respect to both its Branches, as it is Foreign and Domestick ; this is the Original of the other, and upon this Basis fixed, and without this can neither be preserved or encreased ; Trade is what all the Princes of *Europe* have courted, that which hath always merited, always had, now wants, and there is little doubt to be made, but that it always will have the Favour and Protection of our Government.

I shall conclude with the Words of the ingenious *Dr. Davenant* : " Whenever we lose our Trade, " we must bid farewell to that Wealth and Strength " which have hitherto enabled us to preserve our " Liberties against the Designs of *Spain* and *France*, " the two greatest Monarchies that have been erected " since the Declension of the *Roman* Empire. Want " of due Circumspection, in a Point so essential to " the very Existence of this Kingdom, may, per- " haps, in less than an Age reduce us to be the " Prey of some Conquerors, notwithstanding our " large Estates in Land, the Fertility of our Soil, " the Richness of our Product, and the Convenience " of our Ports, which natural Advantages, if not

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“ well made use of and directed, instead of becoming a Defence, are rather so many Motives to invite our Invaders of a Country, which suffers its naval Strength, the Effect of Trade, and of Trade only, so to languish, as to be no longer in a Posture to defend it self.



POSTSCRIPT.

HAVING, in the preceding Essay, shewn the evil Effects and Consequences, the continued Consumption of printed, painted and stain'd Callicoes will have on the Trade and Interest of England, amongst the many therein mention'd, one was, that it would encrease the Number of the Poor. This being a Matter of general Concern and equal Importance, I cannot think it improper to enlarge thereon.

The Poor of England may be ranged under several Ranks, each of them deserving a distinct Consideration.

1. There are some who are able and may have Work, but chuse to live vagrant, idle and disorderly, rather than to be employ'd; for such the Law provides Bridewels and Houses of Correction to cure them of their Laziness and vicious Habits.

2. There are those Poor who are unable to work, such as thro' Pain, Aches, or other chronick Distempers, or such as thro' Age are leisurely creeping to their Graves; or such as are bereft of their Reason and Understanding; for these the Laws have made

a Provision for their Maintenance; and the Charity of our Ancestors, and other Benefactors of the present Age, have founded Hospitals and Alms-houses, suited to the Variety of their Cases, for an Additional Subsistence.

3. There are others, who are, by reason of their Health, Strength, &c. not only able to work, but also by Inclination willing to work and labour to support themselves and Families, but are destitute thereof; these commonly struggle with great Difficulties, endure many Hardships, use their utmost Endeavours to obtain Employment, before they can think of having Recourse to their respective Parishes for Relief; these deserve a particular Consideration how they may be provided for, not by Alms, but by procuring Work and Employment for them, that they may thereby be useful, and subserve the Interest of the Kingdom.

This is a noble Design, and hath exercised the Parts and Pens of many great Men, as Sir Matthew Hale, Sir Josiah Child, and others. This is what King William, Anno 1701, recommended to the Parliament, telling them, if they could find proper Means for setting the Poor on Work, they would ease themselves of a great Burden, and at the same time add many useful Hands to be employ'd in Manufactures, and other publick Occasions.

Dr. Davenant saith, * “ That he had reason to think, that the People receiving Alms in this Kingdom were twelve hundred Thousand; if but half could be brought to work, besides their own Nourishment, their Labour, one with another, might produce to the Publick, at 20 s. per Head, at least per Annum 600,000 l.” This would have been some Compensation for the Money carried yearly to India, which the Doctor used all the Rhetorick he

* Essay, p. 27. printed 1696.

was

was Master of to justify and excuse, if he could have found a way to have effected it : Whether the Number of the Poor since he wrote be increased or lessen'd, I leave to the annual Assessments for their Maintenance to determine ; but if the latter, I do with Reason and Assurance assert, That the continuance of the Consumption of Printed and Painted Callicoes is the most effectual way to compleat his Computation, and add to the Charge of maintaining them.

I must, indeed, confess, such Calculations are uncertain and conjectural, but considering the extent of our Woollen and Silk Manufactures, and all the Branches thereof ; and also that the Hands employ'd therein, are such as are to be valued at a much higher Rate than the Doctor's Estimate. Reflecting likewise on the present Fondness, all Degrees of the Female Sex have for these Callicoes, and the general Consumption thereof in the Nation, &c. we must conclude, (as hath been before asserted) that the Numbers will be vastly great that will be depriv'd of Work ; and consequently that the Loss the Nation will sustain thereby will be so too ; to which I may add another Consideration, viz. That of the learned and pious Lord Chief Justice *Hale*, who tells us :
 " That the Consequence of depriving the Poor of
 " Work, will be the ready way to breed up whole
 " Races, and Families, and successive Generations,
 " in a mere Trade of Idleness, Begging and Thie-
 " ving ; and to what Purpose are new Laws added
 " against these Vices, as long as by decay of Work,
 " and want of Employment, they are forc'd to beg,
 " thieve, or starve ?

Sir *Josiah Child* informs us, That if all our impotent Poor were provided for, and those of both Sexes and of all Ages, that can do Work of any kind, employ'd, it would redound some Hundreds of Thousands of Pounds *per Annum* to the publick Advantage. For, The

The Riches of a City or Nation consist in the Multitude of its Inhabitants, and useful Manufactures to employ them, such as are proper for home Consumption, and foreign Exportation ; the Resort then of Persons to Places where Settlements thereof are made, well manag'd and encouraged, must bring a Conflux of Riches to that City or Nation.

The Act for restraining the wearing of *East-India* Silks, *Bengals*, &c. is entitled, *An Act for the more effectual employing the Poor, by encouraging the Manufactures of this Kingdom* ; and the Reasons assign'd for the passing thereof, amongst others, were, That the *East-India* Trade, as then driven, took away the Labour of the People, whereby many of the Manufacturers were become excessive burthensome and chargeable to their respective Parishes, and others forced to seek for Employment in Foreign Parts.

This I think is sufficient to shew what Sentiments our great and wise Men, yea, our Princes and our Parliaments, have had concerning the Employment of the Poor, and encouraging the Staple Manufactures of the Kingdom for that Purpose ; and, indeed, the former hath that close dependance on the latter, that whatsoever interferes with, and is destructive of our Manufactures, deprives the Poor of their Work, and must necessarily involve them in inevitable Perplexities.

Indeed it must be own'd, that many Hands are employ'd in Printing, Painting, and Staining of Callicoes, but most of these were educated in other Professions, notwithstanding I cannot but have a compassionate Concern for the Persons of those that probably will have Difficulties to struggle with, whensoever the Consumption of them shall be restrain'd : But then ought we not in a far more transcendant Degree to be concern'd for three hundred times their Number,

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Number, who will be affected in their Employments, and thereby liable to the same, yea, greater Straits and Wants, by the permitting these Callicoes to be worn and consumed in the Land, or transported to our Plantations, which, in a Proportion, discourage our Woollen and Silk Manufactures. Let not any be surprized at the Comparison of the Numbers I make between one and the other; for I have been credibly inform'd, that one Weaver in *Spittle-Fields* lately did employ more Persons in the Management of the Affairs of his Trade, than are employ'd in Printing, Painting and Staining of Callicoes within ten Miles of *London*; I might therefore with Reason have carry'd my Comparison to a far higher Degree of Inequality.

This Argument alone (exclusive of the rest that have been insisted on) relating to the Poor, will be an over-balance to whatsoever can be alledged on the Behalf of printed and painted Callicoes, to induce the Continuance of the Consumption of them in *England*, and the Territories thereunto belonging.

F I N I S.

