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O R,
The Plain Dealing
LINNEN-DRAPER.

SHEWING

How to Buy all sorts of Linnen and Indian Goods: Wherein is perfect and plain Instructions, for all sorts of Persons, that they may not be deceived in any sort of Linnen they want. Useful for Linnen Drapers, and their Country Chapmen, for Semstresses, and in general for all persons whatsoever. Whereunto is added, The Art of Cutting out Shifts, so that you may save a quarter of an Ell, in Cutting out one Shift, and yet Cut it as long and large, as others shall out of a quarter more. A Work never before Attempted.

DEDICATED

To Her Royal Highness the Princess
Ann of Denmark.

By J. F.

L O N D O N.

Printed for John Sprint at the Bell, and Geo. Conyers
at the Golden Ring in Little Britain. 1696.

TO HER
Royal Highness

THE
Princess Ann of Denmark.

Humbly Dedicated.

MAY it please your Highness, that the Loud Acclamations, and Applause of your unlimited Goodness, and boundless Charity to all those that apply themselves to your Bounty, have never yet been known to return empty handed, which hath occasioned this present boldness in me, humbly to present this small Epistle to your Royal Highness, and hath made me presume with all humility to crave Umbrage to this small Epistle: Neither had I taken this Presumption on me, had I not been very well assured of two things, the first is, That amongst all them any Books that have been Writ on most Subjects, there hath not yet in any Age been any put forth on this; the next is, That I am well assured, it will prove as general an assistance and good in Worldly Affairs, as any yet written, both to Rich and Poor, by reason the Rich and Wealthy do often buy great quantities of Linnen, and so consequently, when they are deceived with bad Linnen, must be deceived of great Sums; and the Poor ha-

DEDICATION.

ving but little Moneys to lay out, and that little perhaps, hath been saved out of their Families Bellies, to procure a little clean Linnen to put on their Backs, and if they are deceived of that, can by no means get more to supply themselves withal; but if they take the advice of this little Book, they will not fail of their expectation, in having that which is good, let it be of any sort of Linnen, or Indian Goods whatsoever they shall have occasion for: And for these reasons I shall presume to place it amongst one of your Acts of Charity, it being hoped to be an Act of Charity to those Poor People that seldom buy Linnen, and being unskilful in Linnen, are therefore often deceived to their great sorrow; This being the first Book I ever wrote in my Life, and therefore humbly crave your Royal Patronage and Charitable Construction, on what your Wise and Knowing Judgment shall think amiss, is the Humble Request of

Your Royal Highnesses most Humble and Obedient Servant.

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AN
EPISTLE
TO THE
COURTEOUS READER.

FOR Five reasons I have been prevailed with to Write this little Book; the First Reason is, That those that I formerly dealt withal, having found by Experience that if they took Linnen on my Judgment, were never Cheated or Deceived; and therefore have been very Importunate ever since I left off, to have me put forth some Directions how they may have understanding to buy good, and not be Cheated. The Second is, The great difficulty it is for most People to know good Linnen from bad, by reason many sorts of Linnen are very good to appearance, and yet wear like Paper, and other sorts again appear very thin and ill, yet wear the best of Cloth. The Third is, To prevent People from buying damaged Cloth, which most People buy, it looking well to the Eye, but when it comes into the Water falls into pieces, and are in as much want the week after it is washed as if they had not bought any. The Fourth is, To prevent all People from buying one thing for another, for by asking for one sort, they are shewn another, which is a false sort, and wears very ill, and that is for want of knowing the sorts of Cloth, which several sorts I shall present you with such Instructions how to know them, that the meanest Capacity shall know all, or most sorts of Cloth, that they shall have occasion to use or enquire for. The

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Fifth and Last Reason, which hath persuaded me is, To let you know, that few or none of those Cloths that are brought about and sold by the Pedlars, are the true and right good Cloth for wear, but are a sort of fine Cloth to the Aspe^r, but wears not above half the time of true Cloths, which few or no people can discern, till they have worn it out, and by that time they have forgotten who sold it them: or it may be, when they have sold it you, will not appear to you in some time, but send their Partners, by reason they know they have sold you a bad Cloth for a good; I shall therefore make it my endeavour in this little Book, to lay before you such Instructions, for every sort of Cloth or Indian Goods, that you may not be deceived by the most crafty Dealer, if you shall please to take the Advice of this small Book; laying out the Price of one Book shall be saved in buying of six Ells of Linnen; and in order to your right understanding thereof, I shall proceed Alphabetically, and if it answers my design to your content, I shall in a little time enlarge on the same subject, and shall esteem my self happy, in being the instrument of your good,

Yours, &c.

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THE
Plain-Dealing
LINNEN-DRAPER.

A.

BEcause I design to go on Alphabetically in this Book, and the Cloth that deserves the preheminy in this, both for general and common use and strength, there is no Cloth that is at present in use, that exceeds Alcomore-holland, it being made of the best Flax in the World, and the Thrid being Spun by the most careful and curious hands; and it is Wove by the best of Weavers; and therefore if you are resolved not to fail of good Holland for Shirts and Shifts, you must buy this sort of Holland; now to let you know how to find or chuse the right, you must ask for Alcomore-holland that is made by one Stanlack in Holland, who only makes the true Cloth, the pieces contain about twenty nine, or thirty four Ells at the most; it hath frings in the Selvidges, not commonly sewed on, but tyed into holes loose in the Cloth: The present usual Prizes are from two Shillings and four Pence, to three Shillings, which is generally the highest price of the sort; it is about one yard and half a quarter broad. There is also another sort of Alcomore-holland, of the same man's make, which is
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above three quarters of a yard wide, and hath strings sewed on to both Selvidges, the right of both sorts is marked with this $\frac{4}{\text{D}}$ mark on the end at the middle of the breadth. $\frac{4}{\text{D}}$ So much for Alcomore-holland.

B.

I shall begin with Bore-laps, because that for Shifts or Shirts is counted and known to be a very strong Cloth, though not so certainly strong as the former, yet if they are thick and even threded they wear well, but if thin and uneven, they wear basely; there is three sorts, one Ell wide, the other yard wide, and another three quarters wide, they are made up much like an Alcomore-holland, being crested or double in the middle, and have strings sewed on: The ill-conveniency that attends this sort of Cloth is, that it seldom wears white, there is a third sort of Holland, which not only wears as well as Alcomore-holland, but washeth whiter than it doth, but that being Ell-wide is only used for Sheets, it is called Bridges-holland.

The next being Musling called Bettilies, which is of general use for Cravats, or Heads for Women, or use for several things, it being a more agreeable wear than any other slight Cloths, and is the strongest of all Muslings that comes into England of an ordinary sort, for there is none of them ever yet came extreme fine; There is two sorts of those Bettilies, the short sort as it is generally called, contains twenty yards, the long sort contains about twenty five yards; they are near ell-wide, and are the whitest of all Muslings for washing, there is besides your Bettilies, Colconda, and Oringal Bettilies, and your Cumum Bettilies, and several others; but I shall only treat of these, and of these I shall treat and

and give instructions in their order as they are set down, because these are the present useful ones for our service, the Bettilies Colconda are generally very fine but thin, they are useful only for Womens Attire, by reason they wear very slight and ill; they are about yard wide or a little more, they contain about sixteen yards in a piece: and are no ways fit for Mens use, by reason they are apt to be fray'd, unless they be starched by those that make it their profession only to starch, they are usually fray'd in the Piece as they come over, therefore you must take in your inspection great care, lest the piece be not fray'd when you buy them, for if they be, you can never bring it to rights in the washing; but when starched, if preserved from fraying, they look very delicate and clear. The second is the Oringal Bettilies, this is of a different nature, they being but twelve yards long, and are the properest sort for Necks of Mens Cravats, and for Cravats for ordinary Tradesmen they are extream good, by reason they are not only strong but thick; they are about yard $\frac{1}{2}$ wide, and are usually the cheapest of any of those Bettilies I have named, and are fit for most uses that Muslings are used for, the third and last of Bettilies that I shall speak of in this Book, is the Bettilies Cumum, which is above fourteen yards in a piece, and yard half quarter wide, it is usually stiff like the first Bettily, and very thin, but yet wears very well, very little worse than the first Bettily that I have mentioned, it being very clear and strong; it is very useful for many things, especially for the use of Women. The next Cloth that comes under the Letter B, is a Cloth called Barras, they hold generally twenty eight Ells, it is about Ell broad; it is a very useful Cloth for packing of Goods for the Country, and when well whited is good for

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ordinary Sheets for Poor People and Servants, it is of good breadth, and although very thin, is very strong, but especially if it be thick; there is another sort of Stuff called Boulter, it is not half yard wide: made of a sort of Woollen, which is very thin, only for straining and such like uses; it being of no great importance, I shall not treat farther on it, only let you know that they are usually, and ought to be twenty four yards long, and is bought for four, five, or six Shillings when dear, by the Piece, and is sold at Retail for 6 d per yard. As for Calicoes, by reason they are of general use with us, I shall speak of some of them; the First is Bafts, of which there are two sorts, broad and narrow, they both hold eighteen yards in length, the one being above yard, the other three quarters wide, they are the strongest of any ordinary Callicoe, and wear very well, and are much worn in Shirts and Shifts, the greatest inconvenience that attends them, they are inclinable to wash yellow without very good washing; there is another sort is called Birompots, which is much of the same nature and length, which is used for the same use, and for Linings of Britches, it being strong. I could name many more, but should I name all sorts, it would swell the Book beyond my designed limits, therefore shall content my self with what only is useful; there is one sort of Callico called Birom Baniés, which is much used for Curtains: This Birom Baniés is a Callico striped with a brown and white Cotton, wove one by the other, there is two or three stripes of brown, and one broad white, this Callico is above yard wide, it holds ten yards each Piece, it is naturally a rotten sort of wear, and for that reason is fit only to hang up for Curtains, either for Beds or Windows; it usually was sold for seven, eight, or nine Shillings a Piece, but is now,

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as all Indian Goods grown dearer, it oftentimes is full of cuts and slits, therefore you must take great care when you buy any of it.

C.

I shall begin with Cambricks, it being a Cloth very useful in our Nation, for these following uses, for Handkerchiefs, for Head Linnen, for Bishops Sleeves; there is a great deal of difficulty to know the right Cambrick from Kentings, by reason there are Kentings are of the same breadth, and are of the same whiteness as the Cambricks are; the Kentings though never so white at first, will in time wash yellow, but for Cambricks, they will wash white to the last of its wear; the Cambricks are sold either twelve, fifteen, or thirty in a Parcel, the Kentings are sold by Rounds, as four or five in a Round, as to be sold by Retail, the Kentings are always sold cheaper than Cambricks of the same fineness. Croca's is a sort of very coarse Linnen, it is of the use as Barras is of, it is the general sort of brown Linnen, which is used for Packing for Exportation, and Inland Goods, it being whited, it wears very little inferiour to a right Canvas, farther, it being whited, it is useful for abundance of other uses, as for Kitchen Cloths. Canvas, there are several sorts, but coming all from *France*, at this time they are Prohibited from coming into this Nation, and for that reason I shall in this Book pass by the directions, which otherwise should have been given in this, but we have a sort of Cloth made here in *England* called Canvas, which name ought properly to be given to none but French: but this sort of English Canvas which I am going to treat of, is a sort that is made here, and dyed in thred yellow, if you can

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get the colour that fits you, and fine enough for your purpose, it is better for Stays than French, for it will not retch, nor let Stays out of shape. The next of this Letter is Indian things, and the first I shall name is Coffees Muffling; it being a sort of Muffling which is of several breadths, as some almost yard and half wide, others of above yard wide, others of a little more than three quarters wide, the two first breadths being usually very fine and thick, it is useful for a great many uses, which I shall omit naming, the Buyer putting it to such uses as they think most proper, excepting Cravats, for which it is too thick, and will wear yellow, and look ill about the neck, but withal it wears very strong; the narrow sort of Coffees is thin and very coarse, only proper for coarse Necks of Cravats, or to lye betwixt fitching: Checker'd Linnen is a thing of great use in our Nation, for Bed-quilts, and for Sea shirts, it being Ell-wide, it is sold for thirty Shillings, or thirty seven Shillings a Piece, there is about thirty six yards in a Piece, it being thin, yet wears well, it is usually sold for 12 *d.* per yard. Coureyes is a sort of fine thick Callico about yard wide, it is a strong Callico, and double threaded one way, it is but seven yards and a half long in the Piece, is something yellower than Izarees, and cannot be known from right Izarees only the length of the Izarees is eight yards, and the Izarees is double threaded both ways, there is two sorts of Indian Silk called Culgees, the one is Satten, the other is Taffety, they are stained with all sorts of Colours; they wear as well as any Silk that comes from the *Indies*, they are much used for Handkerchiefs, and for Lining of Beds, and for Gowns for both Men and Women: they are two breadths three quarters wide, and yard half quarter wide: they are as at this time all Goods is, not only dear, but

but uncertain Prizes. Chints being of so general use in this City, that I cannot omit speaking of them, there being several sorts, but I shall speak of but a few; the first is a sort of very fine Chints, which are Painted with very fine Colours all of Indian Figures, either of Birds, Beasts or Imagery, which if washed never so often, still retain their colours till they are worn to pieces. There are your Chints Serunge which are something courser, yet are of very pretty Flowers, they are about three quarters of a yard wide, about twelve yards in a Piece: The Colours of those continue as well as the former, they are usually sold for Gowns, Petty Coats, and to make Quilts for Beds, which Quilts are counted the finest sort. There is a third sort which is all the sorts at present I shall name, this sort as the former is of great use for making ordinary Quilts, which is the greatest use they are sold for, they being about seven yards long, and were formerly sold for three Shillings and six Pence, but now are Five, and Five and Six Pence. Another sort of Indian Stuff, is Chercanneys, it is cheickered with variety of colours, as Red, Yellow, Blew and Green, it is a sort of Stuff wears very well in any thing you shall think fit to use it for, as Lining of Beds, Window Curtains or Morning Gowns, or Under Petty Coats, it is about ten yards in a Piece, and above yard wide: It has been sold some time since for thirteen and fourteen Shillings a Piece, but now are about twenty or three and twenty Shillings a Piece: Some of this kind holds about sixteen yards in a Piece, and are the same both as to the breadth and colour as the former.

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D. I

D.

I shall begin with Dowlas, for the general use it is of for ordinary Shifts and Shirts for Trades People, and should have begun with Dowlas from *France*, by reason it is usually the strongest sort, but that being prohibited and forbidden, as Canvas is, it is at present needless to fill up the Book with unprofitable discourse, therefore shall proceed with Dowlas from *Hamborough*. This sort of *Hamborough* Dowlas is of several breadths, as three quarters, three quarters and one sixteenth, three quarters and half; it is made much like the French, and some in particular is so like, that were it not for the lengths, many Drapers could not know it from the right French, but the difference is thus, the French holds one hundred and four Ells in each piece, and fifty two in a half piece: the *Hamborough* holds fifty four ells in a whole piece, and twenty seven ells in a half piece, this last wears well, but with these faults, which they never fail of, it wears with prickles or sheaves, and never wears perfectly white as the former doth, there is this difference in the folding up of the French from the *Hamborough*, the French Dowlas hath both Selvidges turned in, and after that folded into three folds flat, but the *Hamborough* is rowled up very hard, and either tacked with Thred, or tyed about with Tape. Dimetty being of several sorts, and of great use in our Nation, and being of our English Manufacture, I shall therefore discourse on every sort in particular, and shall begin with the strongest, which is called Pillow Fustian, it is of great use to put Feathers in for Pillows, and is exceeding strong for Waist-Coats, and for Lining of Breeches, but many will not use them for either, because they think them

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too thick, it being double wove; it is about twenty yards long, and almost half ell wide, the courser they are, they are the narrower and the shorter: The next sort of Dimetty, is the common sort of plain, which is usually the same length of the former, but those are single Wove, and are but half as thick as the former, the finest sort is commonly the broadest and longest; there is two sorts of those, one has a Nap on, and the other sort which is always the finest without a Nap, and is used only for to Work Beds on, they are the former length and very strong, some of the Pillow Fustians are Brown, those are always dyed sad colour for mens Frocks, and there are some of the single dyed, these are used to foot stockings with, and to line Breeches; there is another sort of flowered white, which is used only for Waist-Coats for Men, and Petticoats for Women, they are made broader than the plain, and if they are not cut in the working, will wear very well, this sort is twenty yards long, and are of several Figures, if you would discern the Cuts that is in them, you must look on the wrong side, which you will find sewed up again, if there be not many Cuts it is excusable, for they cannot cut the Cotten which is on the right side, without cutting some holes through, the finest of those flowered are the strongest. There is likewise one sort more of flower'd Dimetty that is whiter but thinner and is dearer. I shall now begin with the strip'd, which hath been, and now is in use for Waist-Coats, and Petty-Coats, for Men and Women: There is of several Stripes, which are generally called by these names, the Common-stripe, the Packthread-stripe, and the Vienna-stripe; the Common-stripe, the finer it is, the more Bars it hath, the course sort hath not above thirteen or fourteen Barrs, the finest hath about thirty bars, which

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fort is very fine, and wears much better, both in colour and wear than the course; the Packthread-stripe is the fort which is most in fashion, and is always the dearest, and not undeservedly, for it is really the strongest of all sorts, both of Flowered and Striped, but is the narrowest of either sorts; the Vienna-stripe is a fort that hath some distance betwixt the Stripes, but not so much as the Common stripe hath, but is always made much thinner than any of the former, and I do believe wears much worse than any of the former, even worse than the flowered which I formerly mentioned. There is one fort more which is called strip'd Dimetty, it being Cotten flowered with several sort of coloured Sattin stripes, but is not properly a Dimetty. The next that comes under the Letter D. is Diaper, of which there is several sorts, and at present I shall only discourse of those sorts which are most useful, the first is the Diaper which comes from *Holland*, of which there are two sorts of work, called Rose and Pave, the Rose is a small little round work, the Pave is a little square figure, but both are of equal breadths, and very good colours; they are of several fineness, which is known usually by the numbers, which is by the Hundred, for example, the lowest number that comes is called sixteen hundred, the highest that comes is called forty hundred: The way of buying it is, if you agree for the Napkenning, the Tabling is three times the breadth, and three times the price; it is a sort of Diaper, that not only wears well, but wears extream white. There is another sort of Diaper called Sleasy-Diaper, which comes from *Hamborough* of which there is several sorts, which I shall describe to you in order: And first shall begin with Diaper Table cloths, which are Wove into breadth and length for Spanish Tables, but of those I can give

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no commendation, because they wear very ill, but considering their bredth being one yard, three quarters long, and the same bredth, are sold the cheapest of any Tabling, they being sold from the Drapers for three Shillings and four Pence, or three Shillings and six Pence each Table-cloth; as for the sorts of Napkins, there is a sort that may be bought for seven Shillings a Piece, it being twelve yards in length, or it may be hold half a yard short; there is a great many of this sort sold for Clouts, by reason they are made very thin and soft, the next is a sort of the same nature, but they are finer, broader and longer, proper only for Napkins, for a Piece makes a dozen of Napkins, and wear much stronger than the other I formerly discoursed of. The next is a sort of Sleasy-Diaper, which is the finest sort of all that comes from *Hamborough*, that is as fine as fine *Holland-Diaper*, they are in suits, as I should have told you, all the former are, for two pieces of Napkins is as much as a Piece of Tabling, the Piece of Tabling being eight yards, and something more, it holding always a quarter over, sometimes half a yard: But the finest of all is twelve yards in a Piece of Tabling, and to every Piece of this Tabling, there is two Pieces of this Napkins to compleat a sute, it being very fine, and wears very genteel and well, and very white; the whole sute is generally sold at the best hand for three Pound ten, or three Pounds twelve Shillings per sute, which is not above three Shillings six Pence a yard Tabling, and fourteen Pence the Napkin, but is as fine as the *Holland-Diaper* of two Shillings, and six Shillings, as is of the same figure, and few People can know it from the right *Holland-Diaper* when washed. There is one sort more of this Diaper that is of the same figure, of the *French-Diaper*, and is so like, that few people can hardly know it.

it from the right, unless it were compared together. The next is a sort of Diaper made in *England*, and is very strong, called Huckaback; There is uncertain lengths in each Piece, both Tabling and Napkins, there is of the Napkins from nine Pence to two Shillings the yard, the widest of the Tabling is not exceeding two yards wide, and the narrowest but yard and half. There is other sorts of Diaper brought from *Holland* and *Hamborough*, being wrought into very pretty figures, and is proper only for Petty-Coats, Waist-Coats or Breeches for Men, the Ground being white Thred, and the Flower is brown Thred, that which comes from *Holland* is broader, finer and stronger than the other, and is much dearer; for the *Hamborough* is not worth above 18 d. at most, but the *Holland* is sold for 2 s. it is extraordinary pretty for Beds or Hangings for Rooms: There is no Tablings of this. There is Diapers come from *Ireland* to *England*, which are of various figures, and wears as well as any Diaper whatever, and is dearer than *Sleasie*, but not so dear as the *Holland*, the Works are much like the *Sleasie*, but the Cloth is much thicker and stronger; there is some of it as fine, and of the same Work of the *Holland*-Diaper, both fine and course, in two or three washings, washes as white as *Holland*-Diaper, if washed well. There is another sort comes from *Scotland* which is not easily known from *Irish*-Diaper, but hath this difference, it wears like damaged Cloth to the former, for in a few washes it wears to pieces, it being always over-whited, and never wears well, unless you buy it brown or half whited, and if you buy it brown, it never wears white till it is worn out. There is other sorts of Diaper comes from the *East-Indies*, and is called Callico-Diaper, it is called so by reason it is made of Cotton, as the Callicoes are, and

is wrought into little figures, there is several bredths and fineness, the narrow sort is about three quarters, and the widest sort is yard and half wide, it is extreme white, and wears very well for several uses, and is the most decent wear that any Man or Woman can wear for Waste-Coats or Petty-Coats. There is a sort of Callico-Dimetty, which is for bredth and fineness exactly the same, but is Wove with a Wale like a plain Dimetty, and is likewise made of Cotton, and for whiteness and use is full as good as the former, and of the two is most worn.

I shall now come to speak of Damask, it commencing with the Letter D. It is a very fine sort of fine Linnen, and is wrought into several sorts of fine Imagery and Figures, of Stories taken out of Scripture, it is for few uses except for Table-Linnen, both for Table-Cloths and Napkins; that for Table-Cloths is broader than any sort of Linnen for that use, and the Napkins is always made one third of the bredth, and as I have given you advice in the Diaper, so you may observe in this, the Tabling being three times as broad, is three times the price, it is so fine and white that the King hath nothing better covers his Table; but of these there is two sorts, *Holland* and *Sleasie*-Damask, as for the *Holland*-Damask, I have in this side described, but for the *Sleasie* it is not so fine nor of such curious works as the former, it being usually wrought all in Flowers, and with this farther difference, that it will not wear so white after washed, as the *Holland*-Damask doth, neither is the Tabling or Napkin so broad as the former, but it is always bought much cheaper. There is one sort more of Damask that comes from the *Indies*, made of Silk, which commonly is used for fine Beds, and makes very rich Gowns for Ladies, and Upper Petty-Coats, it is a Rich, strong Silk, and wears

wears very well for an Indian Silk, it is wrought with variety of colours, which is very fine; it is about half yard and nail wide, and contains about fifteen yards in each piece.

The next is a sort of Derriband, it being a Callico of little use, and therefore I shall be very brief in my Discourse of those Derribands; there is two sorts known by these two names, large Derribands and small, the large are about yard wide, the small is but three quarters wide, the large is eighteen yards long, the small are about twelve yards: It is a sort of Callico that is very yellow, and wears the worst of any Callico that at present is in use, the utmost use it is for, is dying, it will take a very good dye for any colour, and is proper for Lining of many things, which otherwise is fit for nothing. Dunggarees is another sort of Callico which is coarse, but something whiter than the former, yet not so fine, but is much stronger than the Derribands, it is used for Shifts for ordinary People, and for Linings for many things, and many Pieces are Dyed and Printed with coloured Flowers. I shall come now to a sort of Strip'd Mullings which begins with D. it being called Doreas, it being a Mulling that is a yard half quarter broad, and the broadest sorts of stripes of any Mulling, and usually the courtest and cheapest of any sort, it wears but indifferent well, but is very white.

E.

The next sort of Commodity is Elatohis it being an Indian Silk strip'd with variety of colours, and often

often with very modest colours, it is usually for Gowns, and contains just the quantity for a Womans Mantua, and wears very well.

F.

I shall begin with Flaxens, of which there is several sorts, but for brevities sake, I shall speak only of those that are the most useful at present, and shall begin with English Flaxen, because it is made in our Native Country, of which there is several bredths, the broadest of it being yard and half wide, too broad for two bredths in a Sheet, and two narrow for one bredth in a Sheet, therefore is only proper for Table-Cloths, it is wonderfully strong, and although it is not extream white at first, yet in a few washings becomes as white as any sort of Holland which doth not exceed two shillings six pence the ell; this sort comes out of Lancashire, as doth the three other sorts I am going to treat of. The next is yard wide, which is the bredth for Shifts, for a moderate size body, but for a lusty Woman it is too narrow, but is wide enough for any Man, and wears as well as the former, it is not so fine of the price as many other Linens are, but what it wants in the fine, you have compleated in the strength: if it be any thing white before you buy it, you may be assured it will in a few washings be very white. The next bredth is the only proper bredth for both Men and Women for Shifts, it being full three quarters wide, and is full as serviceable as the former, and is much alike for whiteness, there is much a greater quantity sold of this than of the former, by reason the bredth fits both Men and Women for Shifts, better than the former. The fourth and narrowest bredth which I am going to treat of, is but half ell wide,

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and is proper only for Children, by reason of its bredth. I shall not give you any other description of this, only say, that it is in wear every way like the former sorts of Flaxen that I have wrote of, but shall say this more, that if you can contrive the bredth to be convenient for Sheers, it is the strongest sort of Linnen now in being for that use or purpose. There is other Flaxens of several bredths which comes out of *Ireland*, and of several sorts, but I shall speak of the most useful of them, and shall begin with the broadest, which I have seen three yards wide, and very fine, and very strong, but this although very useful both for Sheets and Table Cloths, yet it is not commonly made use of. There is another sort made where the former is made, within, or about the City of *Dublin*, which is made of the same Flax as the former, and is as strong in wear as our Flaxen, or as the *Alcomore-holland*, and wears as white or whiter than either, there is some of the same sorts made three quarters wide, and yard wide, all made of the same nature and strength. There is other sorts beside those made in the North of *Ireland*, some yard wide, some three quarters, and some half ell, which are of great use for Shirts and Shifts, and wear very white and strong, but not so strong as the former made in and about *Dublin*, and are very useful for other uses. Fry Burgures are a sort of *Sleasie Linnen* which comes from *Germany* or *Hamborough*, it is about yard wide, it is an ordinary Cloth, and thin, and wears very ill, but is white for some uses; it hath been worn very much for several uses in our Country, and particularly for Aprons, till they had the experience of the wear, but since they have had other Cloaths much more commodious for their service this sort holds forty ells the whole Piece, and twenty ells the half Piece. I shall now treat of

Frize.

Frize-holland, which is the strongest and best colour of any Holland of that fineness, it being a Holland that is usually half a quarter wider than the other sorts, which are commonly called Frize, but are not right, this sort is usually known by the bredth and its roughness, for if it be right Frize, it is not so even threded to the Eye, nor wrought quite so thick as any of the others, nor to any ones liking half so strong, by reason there appears oftentimes thin places in it, and that is because it is not Callendred, or thickned as other Cloths that I shall speak of hereafter, but is just as it comes from thee Whitster, without any of the least deceit; to know this Cloth more plain, it is usually above twenty nine, or betwixt that and thirty four Ells long at the most, it is generally made up long folded, and hath always the whitening strings on at both ends. I have at large discoursed on this, by reason those that have had the trial, will if they can get it, be unwilling to wear other, this sort of Cloth is but scarce to be had, by reason it is not near so fine of the price, by reason of its bredth and strength, and therefore few Drapers will buy it, lest they should not sell it to any advantage, or at least may lye by them some considerable time before it is sold, and other Cloths being finer to the sight, sell quickly to advantage.

G.

There being a great many sorts of Cloth comes under this Character, but as I have said before, I shall for brevities sake, treat only of the most useful to us in this Nation, and if what I shall treat of shall be found acceptable, I shall enlarge hereafter on those I shall now omit, and pass by of each Letter. Gulix being the finest sort I shall discourse of

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on

on this Letter, and of as great and general use for all Persons of Quality, and Gentry of any Quality: I shall therefore begin with that, it being the most proper of any for fine Shifts or Sheets, and to my utmost, explain it to all capacities, it is a Cloth just Yard wide if fairly measured, but by deceit of some in Measuring the bredth of Linnen Measure, but three quarters of an Ell for a Yard, and by that means makes it appear to be Yard and Nail wide, but as I said before, is but just Yard wide, they are of fine Cloth, the strongest except true Frize, of any fine Cloth, they are if well made, very even, and very thick, and of all Cloth the whitest except Bag-Holland, but is not so fine of the price as a Bag, but much stronger; there is of this sort of Holland of most prices, from two shillings and six pence, to sixteen shillings the Ell, it contains in the Piece from twenty nine Ells to thirty one or there abouts, I give you as near as I can, an account of the lengths, to prevent your buying a sort of Holland we call small thred, which if well made are scarcely to be known from Gulix but by the bredth and length, the Small Thred being not quite so broad if fairly compared and measured, and but in length betwixt seventeen and nineteen Ells, and is of no service, as I shall observe to you in the Letter S. you may, if you desire to see the length of either sort, find a Ticket tyed on to the side of the Cloth where the white strings are cut off; the Holland called Gulix is not so fine by much of the price as a Small Thred is, but wears full as long again as doth a Small Thred; there is another sort of Gulix, which comes cut into half Pieces, and is done up in blew Papers, being folded double, and in my observations, I account this to wear the best of the two sorts; this sort being cut in the middle, is generally half the length

length of this sort of Cloth, they are very finely whited, and is not quite so thick and harsh threaded after it is washed as before, but is soft; and notwithstanding thick enough to wear very well, because it is even threaded; and the reason it grows thinner in the wash is, because when it is whited, the last wetting it is wrenched out of a Pap as the Dutch call it, to thicken the Cloth, which they do to all fine Cloth, except the right Frize, for which reason the Frize is thicker after it is washed by much than before; notwithstanding all which, the Gulix wears extraordinary well if it be not thin and ill made, which will appear in the middle of the Cloth, if you well observe it. The next for its general use is Gants-holland, or as we commonly call it Gentish-holland, the name of it is derived from *Gaunt in Flanders*, of these there are several sorts and bredths, of which I shall discourse one after another in their places. The first of these being Ell-wide, of which there is three sorts of whiting; the first and best colours is the *Flanders-white*, which is very white, without much Pap in it, it commonly wears very well if not over whited, it is crested, and hath whiting strings to it on both sides, and is usually the finest sort; the next is the *Holland-whiting*, this whiting is always much stiffned and blewed, and if much stiffned, and is very blew, or hath lain long in it, it certainly wears ill, and at the best wears oftner ill than well; it is made up long-folded, and hath the whiting strings at one end; it is of the same length of the former of this sort, which is in length about forty Ells in a Piece, and is oftentimes divided for conveniency into half Pieces, which is but twenty Ells; there is the third sort of whiting which is whited in *England*, this sort wears always better than the last mentioned, but with this difference, that it seldom or never wears white, because

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cause our Climate is not hot enough to whiten so thick a Cloth, as it usually is for it being so thick, that it often frets and wears ill, being Wove so extream thick, that it frets in the creasts under Men or Womens Cloaths, this sort hath no strings to whiten it by; but our way of whitening is to stake Linnens to the Ground on the Grass: They in *Holland* and *Flanders* white it on Sand. This being the last sort of Ell-broad Gentish that I shall treat of at present; I shall come next to the Yard wide, and give you an Instruction, and demonstrate to you each sort in its due place, which is as followeth; of the Yard wide there is as of the Ell wide, three several sorts of whitening, the first and best whitening, both for colour and whitening, is the *Flanders* whitening, which we esteem to be both whiter and stronger than any other of this bredth, though I must confess, as in the former whitenings I have said, that there is in them all some Pap or Pulse, which, although it makes the Cloth to appear very thick, yet it does not prejudice the Cloth for wear, but adds to the whiteness of the colour, although when it is washed out, the Cloth feels thinner and softer to the hand, but wears never the worse; the second and next to it, is the *Holland* whitening, which is both stiffened and blewed much more than the former, by which reason it is probable, that the blew if lain long in the Cloth, is very pernicious to the Thread, and makes it wear ill, altho' to your appearance it is very thick and strong. The next and last sort of *Gants-Holland*, is a sort of the same bredth, but whited in *England*, and although it is not brought to that perfection of whitening, yet wears far stronger than the two former: there is difference in the length, the two former being about twenty Ells, not much different over or under, and have strings on one side, the latter hath no strings

strings, and is about forty Ells or thereabouts, not much under nor much exceeding that quantity: this sort unless it be well whited will not wear white, but if well whited will wear white enough for common Shifts. The next is *Garlits*, whereof there are several sorts, and because they are useful in our Kingdom, I shall treat of them all as near as I can with brevity, unless I should out-run my designed limits. I shall therefore begin with the Ell-broad, of which there is two sorts of whitening, the first is a blew whitening, this sort notwithstanding its blewness, wears as well as any if even and thick; this sort hath strings at the end, and is folded double, this sort is much finer of the price than a *Gentish*, but wears much thinner. There is another sort of Ell-wide *Garlits*, which is of a browner whitening, which seldom or never wears white, but if thick and well made wears very well, but if thin it wears very ill, but notwithstanding is good for Dying, for Blews, or for Linnens. The next sort of this Linnen is Yard-wide, of which there is several length, as well as colours, the first sort is of a blew stiff colour, it holds twenty Ells in the Piece, it is generally well made, and if so, it wears as well as the former; it hath whitening strings at the end, is used for Shirts and Shifts, and Aprons. The next of this bredth, is of the same length, but is not so stiff and so blew as the former, yet wears as well as it doth, this hath no strings to it: there is another sort very thin, but if it chance to be as thick as the former, will not wear near so well as it will, by reason it is made of more fleshie thread than the former is, and is fit or proper only for Dying or Glasing; this sort often holds 27 Ells in a Piece, but sometimes holds but 20 Yards in a Piece. There is one sort more holds but 16 Ells in a Piece, this wears usually very well, and is of a pretty

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pretty white colour, and hath no strings to it. There is another sort that is three quarters and half wide, which is thick, it wears well, though not so well as Flaxens of the same breadth by far, but wears thinner than it doth. There are several sorts of three quarters breadth, some fine, some coarse, but the fine wears the best, but the coarse is made of bad Flax, and wears ill, and is only proper for Dying for several slight uses, there are several sorts of three quarters wide; but those I have spoke of at present may suffice, for should I speak to every sort in particular, I should exceed my designed limits. There are besides all these, several sorts of brown Garlits, which are bought for whiting, but these that are whited in *England* wear stronger than any of the others, but never wear white, but of a black grain, and there is others that are bought for dying, which are not proper for whiting. I shall now begin with a Callico called Gingham, it is a sort of Callico, for its use and service I shall not omit to name, because it falls under this Letter, and is of general use, first for Shifts and Shirts, as it is for several uses, it is a Callico yard and half wide, of which there are two sorts, the one is double threaded both ways, the second is but double threaded one way, that which is double threaded both ways is forty yards in a Piece, it wears exceeding white, if washed by it self from other Linnen.

H.

I shall begin with a Callico called Hummums, it being a Callico something above yard and half wide, there is fine and coarse, the fine is generally used for stitching and flowering, the coarse is only proper for Linnen, by reason it is not only coarse but yellow, it holds

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holds twelve yards and a half in the Piece, but is counted in buying but for twelve yards, the half being allowed for measure to those that retale them. It is a Callico that neither wears white nor strong, but is finer of the price than any Callico considering the breadth. The next of this Letter being Linnen, is called Hemp Roles, it is always brought into *England* brown, and is a strong coarse Linnen, yard wide, and is when whited very good for Sheets for Poor People, and is often bought by the Poor People for Shifts, and although not very thick, it wears admirable strong, there is much of it used brown for ordinary Painting. The next is Hammils, a sort of narrow Cloth, there is of this two sorts, Flaxen and Hemp, the first and finest of this sort is often used for Soldiers Shirts, and for Napkins, and often being put three breadths in a Sheet, is very good and lasting for that use: the Hempten is likewise used for ordinary Sheets for Poor People, and for Towels, but seldom wears so well as the finest, it is almost three quarters wide; there is another sort finer than either of these, but doth not wear near so well as either of these, it is thinner and of the same breadth, it is called Herford.

The next sort of Linnen comprehended under this Letter is called Hockingfielders, of which there are two sorts, broad and narrow, the broad is of great use here instead of Canvas, for Sheeting, but wears not half so well as right Canvas doth, but when it comes to the Water grows much thinner than before, by reason it is stifned after whiting; the other sort is under yard wide, and by reason of its contrary breadth is of little use in this Country, it is a Cloth that comes out of *Germany*, it is a Cloth so like Canvas when Callendred, that few or none can know it, but those that use to Trade in it from the right; this shall

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shall not last above five or six years, the Canvas shall wear eleven or twelve years in constant wear: you may know the right from the wrong by this, the wrong is made up crested when they come over, and is two half Pieces made up in one: it contains forty Ells in a half Piece, but when Callendred, made up long folded, and are but twenty Ells in a Piece: as for the right, it hath often in a whole piece before it is Calendred fifty, sixty, seventy, eighty and some old measure in a piece, and when Callendred, they cut them into thirty or forty Ells in a piece: this is of no certain length as the other is, and the right wears much whiter than the wrong doth. The next of this Letter is Huckaback-Diaper, it is for the most part made in Lancashire, it is a very strong Diaper, and wears very white, but is made all of one figure, the finest that is made doth not exceed 18 d. a Yard or the Napkin, and if the Tabling be three times the breadth of the same fineness, it is above three times the price, by reason it is more difficult to Weave.

There are not many sorts of Linnen falls under this Letter, but I begin with the Indian Goods first, and that is Izarees, it is a Callico made exact eight yards long, and is Wove double threded both ways: it is yard half quarter wide, it is the strongest sort of Callico that is made, and is the finest that is made double threded; it is extremely worn by Gentry for Shifts, when to be gotten as it is the strongest and dearest of Callico, for it is the whitest of all Callicoes, it hath been formerly sold for 16 d. and 18 d. a yard the finest, but by reason of its long service and great use, it is very scarce, and for that reason is grown very dear, and is at this time sold for 4 s.

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per yard, which is 32 s. per piece, and but little to be gotten at that rate, which I believe is at this time very difficult to be had, if you would give any price for it. The next sort of this Letter is Inderkins, which is a sort of Cloth of no great use in this Town, only proper for Towels, it is a coarse narrow Cloth which comes from Hamborough, it is bare half yard wide, and contains about sixty, seventy, or eighty yards in a piece, it is most used in the Country, and is sold to Country Shop-Keepers. As to its wear it wears ill, but washeth very thick, which thickness causes it to fret out, by reason it is made of the worst of Hemp: being under the Letter I, I think it necessary to give some Instructions concerning Indian Dimetties, I having discoursed something on the same before, but not to the full: There is of this three sorts of bredths, the narrowest is three quarters wide, the next is yard $\frac{1}{2}$ broad, the third bredth is yard and half wide each, they being made of Cotton, and so well twist-ed and wove, that they wear as well as any Linnen; they may be properly worn for Shirts and Shifts, which if any person made trial of, he would scarcely make use of any other by reason of their duration and warmth: besides the addition it would be to their health; for if Callico be a healthy wear, this must be better than Callico, for it is warmer, and is made of the same sort of Cotton, and is stronger than the Izarees, notwithstanding its great strength, and naturally washeth whiter than any Callico: this Callico Dimetty is always ten yards in a piece, and so is the Callico Diaper of the same length, for they differ nothing the one from the other, but in the make.

L. There

There are but few sorts of Cloth come under the Letter K. only a sort of Cloth which we use in *England* called Kentings, but are called by all people in other Countrys Slesie Lawns, and are so termed by Linnen Drapers here, of which there are three several sorts, and by reason it is not the proper Letter they fall under, I shall omit the explanation of them in this place, and shall refer you to the Letter S. for the more plain instructions of this sort of Cloth, and therefore shall pass on to the Letter L.

L.

I shall begin with Linsey Woolsey, by reason it is our own native Manufacture, there are of this several sorts of colours and breadths, but I shall only speak of those which are sold by Linnen-Drapers, whereof there are two sorts. Blew and Green, the Blew being the more generally used, and they being both made a like, therefore in treating of one will be instructions for both; I shall therefore speak of the Blue, you shall see whether it be well covered with the Woollen, so that the Linnen can hardly be seen, but if you can partly see the Linnen that is not well covered, but is thin, and wears not well; besides, if you observe, if it be a deep and even dye, if some places are whiter than others, then those places are not so well covered as the rest, neither will it wear either well or of a good colour; the same you may observe in the Green.

I shall now speak of what Indian Goods come under this Letter, and shall begin with Long Cloth, because it is the most useful that falls under this

this Letter; it is so called by reason of its great length, it being usually thirty eight or forty yards in length, and is about yard half quarter wide, of which there is two sorts, fine and coarse, the coarse is only proper for Linnen of several things, the fine is much used for Shirts, Shifts, and often for stitching for Petty-Coats and Waist-Coats, both for Men and Women, and is both white and thick, though but single thread; the Price at this time is uncertain, by reason of an extraordinary rise of Indian Goods in general, but the price formerly for the coarse, used to be about Eight Pence the Yard, or Nine Pence the most, and the finest sort used to be for Fourteen Pence, and at most for Sixteen Pence, and at this time is much dearer, and is feared will be dearer yet; there is of this sort comes over brown, which is only for dying into sad colour and blues, but those that come from the Indies ready dyed blue, are much the better, they never lose the colour in washing as the English-dye doth: you may know the English-dye from the Indian by the colours, for the Indian-dye is much evener dyed than the English, for the English hath brown and dark spots in it, and there is of the Indian often comes damaged, this you may know by the stains you will see in it, and therefore if you see any stains in it, try it with your finger, and if it be damaged your finger will tear a hole in it with ease, and by that you may be sure it is damaged: you may try any sort of Callicoes or Linnens the same way, where you see any stain is in the Cloth. There is another sort of Indian thing called Longees, this sort is made of the same stuff your Grass Taffeties are, of which I shall speak hereafter, but with this difference, this sort is wore with variety of colours, checker'd, and some wrought with flowers in the midst of the check, this is made of an Indian Grass

or Herb, from whence comes the name of Longees-Herba; they contain ten yards in each piece and are proper only for slight uses, as Linen of Beds, and for Window Curtains, they wear very slight and thin, being much stifned, they feel pretty thick before they are worn or washed, but after either, they are like a Rag.

There is a coarse sort of Cloth called Lettis-Cloth, it is a coarse narrow sort of Cloth for Towels, which is seldom enquired for, there being better sorts for that purpose.

There is one sort more I shall not omit to make mention of in this letter, by reason it takes the beginning of one name with the letter L. it being called Lawns, and by reason it is usually called Sleasie-Lawns, I shall only treat of it in part here, and part in the letter S. because it begins with S. being called Sleasie-Lawns, the name Sleasia it takes from a Town called *Sleasia* in *Germany*: these Lawns are of two breadths, the one is just the breadth of a Cambrick, which is three quarters and half quarter broad, if it is thick and well made, it is very strong, and wears very well, but if thin and uneven, it wears very ill, but it seldom or never wears very white, and notwithstanding it often wears very yellow; there is of this sort three quarters wide, which is made of the same thread, and the same make, and of the same nature in every respect as the former: is be sure you never buy any of them yellow at first, for if you do, those always not only wear yellow, but very ill, but if you can get those that are of a clear white, without stiffening, and those if well made will wear the whitest and strongest of any sort. I shall leave you to the letter S. for farther Instructions, and therefore shall desist from treating any farther on this Cloth in this place.

The

M.

The next Letter that comes Alphabetically under my discourse is M, and shall begin with *Indian Goods*, of which there are several under this letter, but I shall treat only of the most useful here, of which *Morees* is one, this is a Callico extremely in use in Drawing to Work, for Petty-Coats and Waste-Coats, for Stitching, Quilting or Embroidering, it is of several fineness, and is yard, quarter and half quarter wide, and is as white, fine and even as any Callico, but is not comparable to other Callico for the wear; but is usually as fine of the price and breadth as any, and is commodious for many other uses, as Linnen of Beds, and for Curtains for Beds and Windows, which uses have no great occasion for strength: but I would advise no one to use them for Shifts or Shirts, as at this time many do, for they wear like dirt in comparison to the double threaded, there is oftentimes of them damaged, that you may perceive, if you see any stains in them, or if they look yellow, and are limber, it is a sign they have been washed from the damage; for the same are stiff in the Piece, and the thread feels harsher and firmer than the former: this Callico is known by its length as well as by its breadth, it holds a contrary length to any other, for it comes over just nine yards in length only, a little allowance for the Retailer, which is something above a quarter of a yard in each piece.

The next is *Mulmuls*, it is a sort of *Mullins* used for many uses in this Nation, but I cannot in the least give it any commendation, for there is not one property in it, in my Judgment, that is praise worthy; in the first place it is always very thin, the next is it is generally frayed, and it not only wears extra-

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ordinary ill, but when washed two or three times, wears very yellow, although when you buy them they are often to the view very white; it is a sort commonly sold by Hawkers and Pedlars, being the finest of the price of any Mussen, but in the wear is a perfect Chear; this Mussen holds always twenty yards in a piece, as doth many sorts of Mussen, and is usually one yard $\frac{1}{4}$ broad, or as we call it, one yard half quarter wide, you can know it no way but by the thinness, it deserves neither Time nor Paper to be bestowed on it, therefore I shall desist.

I shall go on to an Indian thing called Mober Bannies, for the service of which it may go hand in hand with the last mentioned, it is a sort of Callico which is strip'd sometimes with yellow Cotten, and sometimes with yellow Silk, it is fit only for Linnen of Beds and for Window Curtains, for which use it looks very well, but wears very ill in any use where any or the least strength is required; those that buy of it must look it narrowly over, lest there should be holes in it before they buy it, for there is seldom any comes over, but what hath many slits in them, it is above yard wide, and holds ten yards in a piece, it no more deserves to be treated of than the former, and therefore I shall go on to the next letter.

N.

There being not many sorts which begin with this letter, I shall therefore begin with some Indian thing which is called Nilleys, of which there is two sorts, strip'd and plain, by the Buyers are called Bengalls, because they come from the Bay of *Bengall*; they are yard half quarter broad, and should contain ten yards in each piece, but the *Indians* are now grown as great Cheats as other Countries, and begin

begin to falsifie every thing, and for this Stuff, make it sometimes a yard, and usually half a yard shorter than it used to be, for it used to contain ten or upwards, it is of much use for Gowns and Petty-Coats, but does shrink in wearing unreasonably, they are very fine stripes, but are of no great use or service, the plain are generally for Dying, and those when Dyed are only useful for Linings of Men and Womens Cloths, but many sorts of Linnen is much more proper than this, by reason of its little service, and a greater in conveniency attends it, that it shrinks much, and by that means often spoils a Garment. There is of this sort variety of plain mixed colours which are very proper for Mantua's for Women, and of late years hath been much used by Gentry. The next sorts are Neck-cloaths for Men, of which there are several lengths and fineness: as to this sort, all the direction that can be given as to the understanding of those is, that you must buy the thickest and hardest threaded, and not those that are thin limber, and uneven, they usually hold sixteen in a piece, there is one sort Ell long, another sort is one yard and a half, long, another length is two yards long, there is another sort that comes from *Holland*, and made of Cambrick, those wear much better and whiter than the former; there is of the same lengths and breadths as those from the *Indies*. There is one sort more which comes from *Hamborough*, these are made of Kenting thread, and strip'd at the end as the former, but wear very yellow and rough, besides, they always look dirty after you have worn them, you can hardly know them from Cambrick Neckcloths, only by this observation, that the Cambricks are broader, and not so much blued as they are; there is besides these a sort of Linnen called *Norridge Linnen*, which if the right, wares very well

well, but not so well as the true AlcomoreHolland, but is so like it, that for bredth, length and strings, it is so much like it, that many knowing Drapers do not know one from the other, but only by *Stanlack's* Ma k, it wears whiter than the Alcomore.

O.

The next Letter is O, of which Letter I know but few Linnens that is used in this Town. I shall for its general use begin with *Ozenbrucks*, it being of more use than any one sort of coarse Linnen in *England*, the white is very much used for Shirts and Shifts, the brown for Painting; it is a sort of Cloth, if not too much whitened, and is thick after whitening, and even threaded, wears well for any use that it is proper for, as for Sheets, to put three bredths in a Sheet; they look very fine of the Price, and wear better than a Hocking-fielder; as for the brown, it is very good for Dying blue, either for Aprons, or for Seamen's Shirts, it wears for either use very strong. There is one sort of *Indian* Goods which beginneth with the same Letter, which is called *Oringal* Bettilies, it is thicker than a *Mulling*, and not quite so thick as a *Callico*, it is about yard half quarter wide, and twelve yards long, it is much used for Necks of *Cravats*, and is the best thing for that purpose, that can be gotten, and wears very well for that use, and hath been formerly used for Hoods for Women, but by reason that of late it hath been very scarce, they have made use of other things in the place of it.

P.

Few sorts of Linnen come under this letter, therefore I shall begin with something from *India*, which is

is called *Putcays*, of which there is two sorts, one three quarters wide, the other almost yard wide, the widest is of the same length of the coarse, but with this difference, is finer than the narrow, it is a sort of coarse *Callico* the finest, but if thick, wears very well for ordinary Linnens for several uses, they hold usually seven yards in a piece, and are made up almost square like a *Book*, and is but of an ordinary colour to other *Callico*. The next sort beginning with *P*, is a sort of fine *Callico* called *Percallis*, there being of it two sorts, the one is much like *Sallampoires*, and is made up much like it, and is just half the length; the next is made up like a *Book*; these sorts are indifferēt fine, and are fit and much used for Shifts and Shirts, but the *Book-Percallis* is the strongest, both these sorts are one yard half quarter wide, and are eight yards long, and if the Sleeve be taken out of the bredth, a Piece will make three Shirts, it is likewise very useful for Stitching and Quilting, and if well washed washes very white, it is much of the nature of *Sallampoires*, but of that I shall speak of in its letter, which is *S*. The next *Indian* thing is a *Silk* called *Paunchi*, it is a sort of *Silk* which is about half yard wide, and ten yards long, it wears very well for Linings of mens Coats, and some other certain uses, but it being of no general use, I shall not farther insist on it; there is a sort more of the same nature, both for bredth and length, it is called *Gelongs*, it hath a few flowers up and down in it, but they are some space distance one from the other, if either of those are Dyed, they wear greasie like *Persian* *Taffaty*. I had not mentioned the *Gelongs* here, but that I omitted it in its Alphabet, there is of both comes over white, and these are Dyed into colours, but if you buy colours, chuse those that come ready Dved. There is one sort of

Indian Silk more, called *Persian* Silk, or *Persian* Taf-fety; which of all Silks that comes from the *East-Indies*, is of most use, of which there is abundance used here; it is the strongest Silk that comes over, and is proper for most uses; as for Linnen of Beds, for Gowns and Petty-Coats, and Linings of Mens Coats; there is of it white, but the white is not ever known to be of good white, therefore those are always Dyed into all sorts of Colours; and besides, there is of all sorts of colours comes, that are Dyed in the Raw Silk, before they are wove, if you will have those that are, and will wear of a good gloss; buy those that you are sure are Dyed before they come over, for those that are Dyed after they come over, do most certainly wear dull and greasie, and in spots; there is of those *Persians* several lengths, the shortest holds ten yards, the next 20 yards, the next holds 30 yards, the next holds 40 yards, and seldom any longer; it is yard half quarter wide, but when they are Dyed they hold not above yard wide, for they shrink both in bredth and length in Dying; the sure to know those that come over Dyed, which are the best, is to observe the ends, where you will find some white wove in, and by that you will find they are not Dyed here, or if both ends be cut, you will find a thread of white wove into each side, whereby you may know the natural colours.

The next Letter being Q, there are not at present any Goods begin with this letter, that are very useful to us in this Nation, and therefore at present I shall say no more of it, but pass on to the Letter R.

R. Of

R.

Of which there are not many sorts neither, but I shall begin with what *Indian* things are only useful to us, and shall begin with *Romals*, of which there are usually three sorts, which be termed as followeth, there is *Silk Romals*, there is *Romals Garrub*, and *Cotton Romals*; I shall begin to give you advice first of the *Silk*, and so each in order; the *Silk* is made of all *Silk*, and if thick, wears well, if thin, wears very ill; the *Garrub* is the most deceitful of any, for they for the generallity wear like Dirt, if any of them chance to wear well, it is more than we expect; the *Cotton* being the third and last sort, and is by much the best, for they as certainly wear well, if they are made all of *Cotton*, as the others wear ill. There is one sort of *Indian* thing more, called *Rasties*, it being a strip'd *Silk* for either Gowns or Petty Coats, there being of it several bredths, but the broadest is yard and half wide; they do not wear very well, but are pretty colours, yet are but little used here, therefore I shall at present pass it by, and shall come to *Roans* and *Rasserns*, but because there is not any allowed to come, I shall pass it by, and come to *ushy* Cloth, which although it is a coarse Cloth, is of much use with us, and therefore shall give you some small directions on this; it is about full half yard wide, if it chance so to be, it is of great bredth, if you buy that which is fine and even threaded, and not too thick, it will wear very well for any use you have occasion to put it to; of this there is two sorts, *Hempen* and *Flaxen*, but your *Flaxen* is known by being whiter and finer than the *Hempen*, and wears by much the better; they are when they come from beyond Seas tyed up in Bundles, with

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with a piece of the same Cloth they are herwixt one hundred and three hundred Ells in a Bundle, and although it is sold by the Pedlars, and other Shops by the Yard, yet they buy by the Ell, the pieces be very short, the longest seldom holds more than ten Ells, there being some hold not above five Ells; I shall not treat any more on this, because I have already outrun the designed limits of my Book.

S.

I come now to S. and shall begin with *Indian Goods*, and of those *Susis* shall be the first, it being of most general use of any under this letter; *Susis* is a sort of Stuff, made of half Silk, half Cotton, and is adorned with very delightful colours, and wears, if not damaged, much beyond your belief, and the more Silk is in it, the better it wears, it is proper for a great many things, as Gowns and Petticoats in our Nation, but the greatest and most general use in this Kingdom are for Linnen of Beds and Window Curtains, for which they are extraordinary pretty, because they are usually light colours, and are cheap; I could mention many other sorts, as *Sannows* a sort of Callico, *Sipriss* a sort of Silk, and many others, but of no great use, but in this Book shall pass them by. I shall now begin according to my promise to treat of *Slesie Lawns*, it being a very useful Linnen here with us, it takes its name from a Town called *Slesia* in *Hamborough*, and not for its wearing *Slesie*, as a great many do imagine, but if good of the sort it wears very well; of this there is two sorts of breadths, one three quarters and half, and the other but three quarters; the broadest is good for large Handkerchiefs, and many other uses, but is only most proper for Handkerchiefs, this
broad

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broad sort seldom fails of wearing very well, for they are always made of strong and good Flax, but seldom wear very white, unless they have very good washing, they are a very good breadth for Shirts, but are hardly thick enough for that purpose; of this sort you may have as fine as a *Cambrick*, and sometimes there comes over some of *Cambrick* whiting, those wear very white, the other three quarters wide is only proper for narrow Handkerchiefs, the coarsest sort wears often ill and yellow, but the finer the stronger, they being evener-threaded than the coarse; there be of this sort some of the *Cambrick* whiting, but very seldom, which if you can get, wears as white as any, but this I must tell you, that both sorts notwithstanding they are of *Cambrick* whiting, when they grow old will incline to wear yellow; but right *Cambrick* wears white to the last. *Scotch Cloth* coming under the letter S. I cannot omit it, being of so general use, and of so great consumption; it is a sort of white *Slesie* Soft-Cloth, it is of no great wear, but is fine of the price, and it is of great use for Dying for Hats, Linings and many other slight uses, but not for strength, and since *Callico* hath been dear, is much used for Linnens for Beds and for Window Curtains, there is two sorts of breadths, one full yard, or a little above, the other full three quarters, they are of different fineness, but never wear truly white, and all wear soft and *slesie*, they hold differing lengths, some hold but five yards, those are the very coarsest of all, and as they arise in fineness, they rise in length, the longest not exceeding twelve, or at the most fourteen yards, they are bought by the whole-sale, by the numbers; for example, suppose the first number be twelve, they will take of 12 of the whole throughout, and then you have the pieces that are
numbered

numbered twelve for nothing, and supposing the numbers rise to twenty five, the highest stand in thirteen pence a yard. there are several sorts of brown for Dying Blues, or any other colour, but for those there is several breadths, and of differing prices, but those are not bought by the number; you may ask for Fief Cloth or Mondros Cloth, which is the broadest and fittest for most purposes, For these are the proper sorts only for Dying. And because Shifts begin with the Letter S. I shall here give you such Instructions, which if well observed and followed, you may thereby know how to Cut out a Shift out of two Ells of Holland, as most People shall do out of two Ells and a quarter, and shall be both as long and as large, for example; If you will Cut out but one Shift Ell long, take two Ells of Holland, and slit it through the middle; let it be Ell wide or Yard wide, according as the bigness of your body requires, and when it is split through the middle, instead of taking one half breadth, and just the same length of the other half breadth for the Body, cut off $\frac{1}{8}$ of one of the half breadths, and just the same length off of the other half breadth, which take for the body of your Shifts, then take the remainder of one of the half breadths and double it, then lay it across, and cut it for your Goars, then take the other remainder of the breadth, and double it, and cut it in the middle, which makes just a pair of Sleeves, then you want only for your Guffets, which will come out of the hollowing of the Neck of your Shift, which Rule you may observe in cutting out two, four, or six Shifts, for when you cut out two take a body of one of the half breadths, and a body off of the other, and when you cut four, take two Bodies off of one of the half breadths, and two Bodies off of the other, and when you cut six, take three off of one of the half breadths, and three off

off of the other, and by that means you may cut them what length in reason you please; whereas if you take your Bodies all of one piece, you can make them but two Ells long, and by this means you save a quarter of an Ell in the Cutting out of each Shift. I could give you other Instructions for Cutting out half-Ell Cloth, that you might Cut a Shift as large out of a Cloth half Ell, as others should do out of a Cloth three quarters wide, but I shall be forced to omit this, by reason it would make me out-run the limits of my Book, and for that I shall treat of it in my next Edition.

T.

T being the next Letter, there being but few Linnens of this, that are of any great use here, whereof Ticklenburs is one, it being a coarse Linnen, and generally very uneven, which comes from *Hamborough*, it is but little different from *Ozenbricks* in likeness, and none but those that are of the Trade can tell the difference, but the right Ticklingburs, are almost as strong again as the *Ozenbricks*, you may know the right Ticklingburs by this, the right is broader than the other, and is not so fine, but thicker, and the thread is not so even as the *Ozenbrick*, yet this Cloth is extremely useful both in Town and Country; there is not many Cloths sold in *England* that hath so great Consumption as this, and at the dearest is not above Ten Pence, or at most Eleven Pence the Ell. There are other Cloths of this Letter, but of little or no use here, and therefore I shall refer you for them to my next Book.

H

U. There

U.

There being few or none except *French Cloths* under this Letter, as *Vehemounty* and *Vitery Canvas*, I shall refer you for their Instructions to my next Book.

And for the Letters following, they having nothing falls under their Alphabet worth mentioning, and therefore shall conclude with my wishes, that it may work my desired effects, which I am sure it will not fail to serve you in, if you punctually observe its Directions, and if it is serviceable, I shall make an addition of some material things, which I have omitted for Brevities sake.

FINIS.