67-14

REMARKS

ON A
Scandalous Libel,

ENTITIL'D A

Member of Parliament, &cc.

Relating To The

In Which

The Trade with France is Confider'd, and the Falsities and Absurdities of the Mercator are Expos'd.

To which is added,

A Caution to the Freeholders of Great Britain. in their Approaching Elections.

An Exact LIST of this House of Commons, under several Distinctions.

The Second Edution Corrected, with Additions.

LONDON: Printed for A. Baldwin, at the. Oxford-Arms in Warwick-Lane. 1713. (Price Six Pence.)

N. B. The LISTS that have been lately Publish'd are very Erroneous.

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REMARKS

ONA

Pretended Letter

FROM A

Member of Parliament, &c.

Here are but Two Wretches upon Earth that cou'd write so Villainous a Libel as the Pretended Letter from a Member of Parliament. Both of 'em are already branded with Infamy by the Law. One of 'em never had any Principles or Morals, the other has had Principles indeed, but never had any Morals; these Principles he has basely Sold for a Precariou: Subsistance, and while he pretends to Liberty and Fanaticism, he Labours with equal Industry and Impudence in the Service of Popery and France. How in the Name of Wonder shou'd this Creature know any thing of Trade,

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unless it was by Inspiration? Whom has he conversid with for these Twenty Years past, that shou'd inform him of the Commerce and Wealth of the World, when during all that Period he has been the Abhorrence of the fair Merchant, and herded with none but Owlers, Bankrupts, Projectors, State-Quacks, Lighter-Men and Bailiffs? He had as good e'en throw off the Vizard and own himself a Jacobite or a Hireling, for there is no Man so dull but to see he will write any thing, do any thing, Pro or Con, according to the Cue that's given him. Among all the wretched Events that have contributed to make Fools of us, nothing is more to be lamented than Peoples suffering themselves to be amus'd and impos'd upon by a Parcel of lenorant Mercenary Scriblers, Fellows they wou'd scorn to Converse with in Person, yet in their Scriptions they are their Guides and Governors; Inconfiftency and Contradiction, which were formerly so Scandalous in Argument, 18 now become the very Foundation of it; this Man only afferts, and that he calls Proving; if detected and expos'd, he afferts again and that he calls answering. For my Part, tho' I have no more value for his Masters than I have for him, tho' I think their Merit to be much upon a Level, yet I have so much Respect for their Denomination, that I pity 'em for being reduced to the Necessity of employing

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ploying so foul and so prostituted a Pen. but indeed the Cause is such, that no Pen that is not proftituted and foul, will have to do with it. By the Cause, I underfland nothing but the Pretender and France: for the former, he has writ and been chaflis'd for it, for the latter, he is writing, and I doubt not, will one time or other, have another fort of Chastisement. Nonsense one wou'd think is a harmless thing, but when 'tis accompany'd with Affurance, and is laid in a Fools way, it does Mischief: A Fool cannot comprehend how a Man can be so impudent and yet write Nonsense. Boldness he has heard is a fign of Truth, and not being able to distinguish between Boldness and Impudence, between Truth and Falshood, he mistakes the one for the other, and the Mercenary Mercator, for what he presends to be, a Philisopher, a Wit, a Merchant, when in Fact he has nothing but Words and a Forehead to bring to Market. This his Chapmen know, but they know also that Reason and Merit are not of their side, and that such Wares as he sells'em are at present most in demand with 'em, and most for their Purpose.

I hope we may be allow'd to vindicate a House of Commons, that has done such great things for the Nation, that has refor'd Credit, confirm'd Peace, and made us the Envy of Europe; so much happier and greater are we than all the Nations

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round us, yet this very House of Commons has he infulted in the vilest manner: The Majority is the whole, and the Majority have rejected the French Bill. I doubt not they did it for the good of their Country, and that all that are against them must be as much its Enemies as if they were Voted to be so. There are some very short Questions to ask fuch as are fo mad after a French Trade. Will Interest Lye, is Theory better than Practice, and Sophistry stronger than Experience? What fignifies abundance of Words? Was there a trading Town in England that petition'd for the Bill? Was their a trading Merchant of Common Sense or Common Honesty that spoke for it? Don't every Boy upon the Ixchange know, that the One Article of Wines from France, will more than Ballance all that we can fend them; and that for the Overplus, and whatever alse you bring thence in a Thousand other Articles, Paper, Silks, Brandies, costly Frip. peries, &c. must be so much Money put into their Pockets, and that that Money amounted to near I wenty Millions, by a Medium between Sixty Eight and Eighty Eight, prov d to the Parliament in 1677. and again in 1689. This is the Fact, this is the History of the French Trade, this is the Consequence of it. And were not the House of Commons in the right, to hearken to the Petitions of fo many Thousand Manu tactures The Court of the Car

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factures of the Growths of Great Britain, whom the Bill, if it had pass'd, wou'd have fent a starving, if they knew any thing of the Matter, which 'tis probable they did, their Bread depending upon it, and the Bread of half the People of England. Is this a Matter to be banded about by a Clerk to a Brick Kiln, under the Protection of a Foot-man? Is it a Subject to be trifled with by a Wordy Declaimer? He has Two or Three Months been arguing against downright Fact; not a Line without a Lye in it; the Phrase is not a lot too strong in this Case. Whatever has had an Appearance of Argument, has been answer'd over and over again, yet his Papers are brought up and fent away by the Carriers in Bundles, Carriage Paid, to Poyson or Blind the Poor Country, and make 'em believe a Bottle of French Wine is better than a Bale of English Wooll and they will Thrive and grow Rich when they make Bonfires of their Looms and hoe for nothing but what we shall have from France.

'Tis a fine Employment a Man has, to take Notice of such Writers as these, Slaves to Printers or such as have bought them Body and Soul, and use the poor Creatures without Conscience. But unless we wou'd let the World run away with wrong Notions of Things, which those Tools to a Party are always vending by Wholesale and Retale, we must animadvert upon them; for People seeing

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no Body meddle with them, are apt to think 'tis not so much out of Contempt as Fear, not because we will not, but be-

cause we cannot.

These Writers have got one good way to defend themselves from Attack by making use of Her Majesty's Sacred Name and Authority in their Odious Disputes; whereas there's nothing more certain, than that 'tis of such Liscentious Scriblers, that Complaints have been so often made from the Throne; and never was there a more Scandalous one, than the Author of The Pretended Letter from a Member of Parliament, who treats so great a Part of that Illustrous Body, as so many Whim-sicals: A License I never before knew any one durst be Guilty of, while a Parliament was in being.

I am very well satisfy'd, he wou'd have excus'd himself of this Drudgery, had not the Man for whom he wrote, represented to him that he cou'd not Print his Lists without such a Preamble; and that those Lists wou'd put off Twenty or Thirty Pages of Scandal, which wou'd be so much the more Money in his Pocket. For as to this wretched Argument of his, he wou'd have kept it for the Mercator is it had not been to have mended his Bargain. There's such a Pack of 'em, that one can't guess at 'em without Blushing, to think one lyes under a fort of Necessity to have any thing to do with them.

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Some Persons, says this Notable Author; have deserted Us, meaning the Examiner, the Mercator, Abel, and the rest of the Labourers in that Glorious Cause. When Abel speaks of an Election in City or Country to his good liking, 'tis We that carry'd it, 'tis Our Parson has such a Deanery, Our Squire has such a Post, or such a Title; and this it seems, is the Company these unhappy Gentlemen have deterted, for there's not a Mortal Living besides them, that will own him.

The next Thing he presents us with, is his Bill, which being thrown out of the House of Commons, has no more weight with me than if he had writ it himself; so I shall not trouble the Reader about it but proceed to his Observations.

This Honest and Ingenious Person, all along flatters the Whigs when he abuses 'em. He sets 'em out as if they had more Concern upon 'em for the Good of Trade and the Nation, than all the rest of the Kingdom, and as if they were so Cunning as to make their Neighbours believe so-He makes his Members say; You may be sure we heard little New in the Dbaies. By the way, he is talking of the Merchants at the Bar, who, we know, are us'd to debate Things as the House does in Committees, because 'twas apparent their Speeches were the Collected Sense of the Whig Party: And then he has a Fling at the Lawyer Lechmere and the Sophister Walpole, Persons so infinitely below him for Quality

and Merit, that I wonder he shou'd condescend to be so familiar with them. The first thing this Fool puts into the Mouth of his Gity Orator, the worthy Mr. Cook is, The Advantage that wou'd accrue to the Turkey Trade, by their Merchants having a New Market to Sell their Silks at, meaning France. Pray Gentlemen have Patience. The French will not buy Silk at Marfeillies, and their other Ports in the Mediterranean, they will stay till our Turkey Ships come about and buy it all of us: That will be very kind indeed, and the Spittle-Field Weavers only will have Cause to complain, because they cannot live upon Roots as their Country Men do in France, by which their Workmen will be able to Work cheaper, and their Weavers to undersell us; and this he cryes is all Mr. Cook had to object to the Treaty: Was there ever such Stuff? Had he not better have kept to his other Argument, that the Turkey Company did not send the Petition; but to fatisfy him they did, I will answer for 'em, they shall send out one a Week, if he cou'd give Security that it should fignify any thing.

The next Merchant he speaks of, p. 19. was Mr.—— A Fellow, says he, of the most Grave Impudence I ever saw. You that think I have been Guilty of Breach of Manners, in using such course Phrase with this course Writer, pray mind what an Example he set me. A Two Penny Author, under the Disguise of a Parlia-

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ment Men, thus treats a Citizen and Merchant of London, who wou'd not admit him among the Number of his Servants, and deals Alms every Day to Perfons every way Superior to him. Well, what does he make this Gentleman fay? Why, Scruples and Cavils, Names given to Fact and Argument, when People can fay nothing elfe: And he spoke against not only the Eighth and Ninth Articles, but the Whole Body of the Treaty, which I blame him for, because I like every one of the Articles but those Two, and shou'd have lik d them, had not the Parliament dislik'd them.

The next he introduces on the Stage, is the Italian Merchant Mr. Toriano, for whom he also makes a Speech of his own Invention: For cou'd any Man Alive but he make a Florence Merchant say, Few People now drink Florence Wines, whereas there's Ten Times the Quantity drunk, that there was before the Revolution; and is there a Wretch so stupid, as to think the Italian Silk Trade would be better if their Silk came hither Unwrought, when the Fr. Silks are Imported here at Low Duties? If our Weavers have not Employment enough for the Turkey Merchants what must the Italian do? Can they imagine the silk Manufacture will so Flourish, when we have a Glut of French Silks?

Having made the Three former Citizens talk with just such Force of Reation and Eloquence as he wou'd have

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done himself, he comes to Collonel L Ekeus, of whom he fays, The Weave made it plain to himself, that the Frenc coud a little underwork us, and owns ou Lutestrings are so admirable, the French cou'd never hurt us either in Lutestrings or Alamodes. Who is it that is to be charg'd with this Untruth? 1 defy him to ask any Common Scarf-maker from Tuttle-Fields to Spittle-Fields, whether there wou'd be a Scarfmade of English Alamode, if they cou'd get French at Six Pence a Yard dearer There is not above a Shilling or Eighteen Pence a Yard difference with the high Duties, and when those Duties are off; French Alamodes may be 6d. a Yard cheaper. If fo, or indeed at an equal Price, there wou'd not be a Yard of English Lutestring or Alamode made in the Kingdom in a Year or two. Have pity on us, Courteous Reader, that are oblig'd to deal with Arguers. This is the Fact, this is known to every Girl in the Exchange; and yet these Factors for France, wou'd impose it up. on us for ruth, that our Alamodes and Lutestrings are better than the French That's all, there let the Argument stand, I'll give it up for ever, if it is not as false as that there is a Peace at Landau. His next Orator, the Portugal Merchant, Mr. Milner comes off too as he wou'd have him, fays a Foolish thing or two, on purpose to be knock d down by this Man and h Experienc d Merchants, Dealers in Old

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Lace and broken Bottles. The Portugal Merchant he says affirm'd falsely, That if the Duties on French Wine were lower'd to be equal with Portugal Wine, little or none of the latter wou'd be Imported. The contrary of which, every Honest Octobrian is sensible of from the known Aversion we have to French Claret. If we cou'd have stout Bourdeaux Wine for 12 d. a Bottle, our Stomachs, as he pretends, are so chill'd by the War, we shou'd want Oporto Wine to warm them, and not bring a Pipe the less in from Pertugal, which is as plain as the Sunat Noon-Day. He strengthens this doughty Argument, with afferting that the Vintners cou'd not Brew without Port to mix their fat Portugal with lean French Wine. This is the strongest Proof he has of the Advantages of the French Trade over that of Portugal, unless it is that he knows a parcel of Merchants who will buy all the Wines that can be made in Poxtugal. I suppose he means J. M. Esq. and Company, and that he will himself be bound for 'em, or else the Portuguese will never trust their whole Stock to a fecond Composition. But suppose the worst, that we shou'd have a Fancy to drink ten times as much French Wine as Port, which I believe we shall judgeing of others by my felf; and as much as I hate the French and their Trade, I shall certainly do fo, whenever it is not above a Teaster odds in a Bottle or Two; yet the Portuguese cou'd not live without our Stuffs, the Nuns must go Naked without our Bays; our Trade is as necessary to them as Bread,

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and they must Traffick with us whether they will or no. If so, we may do what we will with them that's certaid, and that it is so, he has prov'd just as I have said it. Now supposing we have no Rival in the World in this Trade, which we should have fast enough from the North or South if we neglected it, can Common Sense without Knowledge of Trade, imagine the Portuguese will take off One Fourth Part of the Manufactures we send them, when we will not take One Fourth of the Wines they fend us. Is it not likely that a Cloak shou'd last a Portuguese Cob. ler Four Years instead of One, and that a Nun mnst wear her Petticoat as long, if nothing will pass for our Bays but Ready Money? To be ferious, can any Man in his Wits believe, that the Manufacture will not fink half at least, when the Portuguese must lay down their Vineyards, and Ship off their Gold for it? Was there but this Loss, it wou'd be enough to set us against putting the Two Trades on a Level, but when the Portuguese have so much Gold, as well as Oils and Fruits, there will be other Carriers found out for them; and if they must have our Stuffs, they'll take Care to have as little of 'em as possible. Icannot pass by this Snbject, with out observing that the Ballance of Trade between us and Portagal, is now almost incredibly to our Advantage. 'I is prodigious, some have reckon'd it a Million and Half, which I grant is too much; a Million I believe is made out by the best Calculations; and this! can tell of my own Knowledge, that within a Fortnight past, one Merchant, Sir R. F. has

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paid near a Hundred Pound for the Carriage only of Poringal Gold from the West Country to London. But Jays my worthy Antagonist, If the Bill had pass'd, we had taken off all their Fruits and all their Oils, and been paid in Money. Was ever any thing fo strange? Yet this he calls stating Objections in their full Force: Upon my Word tis true, if ever you shou'd see the Book, turn to p. 24 you'll find it. Before I talk with my Spark for his abufing those Two very Noble Lords, the Earls of A - n and A - a, I shall for once be so impertinent as to say a Word or Two of this same French Trade, tho I hardly think it worth troubling our felves about it, unless it were on a Foot that we cou'd get something by it. Twou'd vex one to the Heart to think the French shou'd get a Penny by us. I confess freely, I have not so much Christian Charity as to Love such Enemies, I hate 'em heartily, and wish 'em as much Mischief as is necessary for our own Welfare and Safety. One main Topick us'd by the Advocates of France, is that the Dutch will run away with the French Trade if we do not intercept em; fo let them, if they can beggar the French by it, and we can enrich our selves by other Trades: Does not every Body know that Monsieur Pontchartrain represented to the French King in the Year 1699. That the Commerce of Holland was of far less Advantage to France than that of England, because they drew a great deal of Money more from the one than from the other. See Annals de la Cour & de Parls on this Subject, p. 193 printed at Paris in the Year 1608, where the French Man (14)

fpeaks plain, and owns a Truth we are labouring to confute so much to our Honour and Interest. This is the Confession of an Enemy, now let us see what our Friends say, and we shall need no surther Satisfaction in this Important Controversy.

The Foundation on which we may fafely and profitably Trade with France, are on

these Conditions.

1. That a Ballance of Money may be Annually gain'd to England, or at least not issued into France.

2. That our Commerce may contribute to the Increase of our Rents, and the Value of the Landed Interest, or at least not impair them.

3. That by means of this Commerce, more of our People may be employ'd, or at least that great Numbers may not be brought to the Parish, and the Lands for Relief.

These things settled, I believe no Body wou'd be against a trade with France, and indeed if it can be made Beneficial. I don't hate the French so much, but I shou'd be glad to get some of their Money. Is it likely we shou'd have any Commodity to Ballance the Inundation of Wines that wou'd flow in upon us, when the French do not offer to lay our Woollen Manusacture Trade as open as they wou'd have their Wine? On what Foot we stand with them at present, with respect to Cloth, may be seen by the Foot we stood upon by the Tariss of 1699. France has now given no more ease to our Cloth, than she did when the Duty was Two Shillings and

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Eight Pence a Yard; and when it was rigoroully exacted, Doctor Davenant acknowledg'd, we exported in the last Year of the last Peace, but to the Value of 1,801.61.8 d. I don't see how all the Friends to the Bill can get over this one Exception. If we did not Export 2000 1. worth of Cloth in one Year. as the Dr fays, and shou'd Import 1000000 1 worth of Wine, as no doubt wou'd be done were the Duties encouraging: For Godsake how will you pay for this Wine? All the other Articles of our Trade are a Trifle in respect of the Staple Woollen Commodities. and they have other Articles enough to Overballance any of them: I will not enter into the Detail of all the Branches of it on both Sides, here's enough; and till I am fatisfy'd on this Head, I shall conclude with the 193 Patriots, that the passing the French Bill was against the Interest of England. When these Wretches enter into the Particulars of our Commerce with France when they talk of our Stockings, Lead, Hides, Leather, Pewter, Coals, Allum, &c. 'tis to amuse or confound their Readers, all these Articles never amounted to a Million, and the Estimate said to be given to the French King, of the Exports from France to England, amounted to Two Millions, so that there was a Million lost that way, and those that argu'd most for France formerly, cou'd not deny but our Loss might amount to 300000 l. or thereabouts. Now granting that their own short Calculation was right, are we so much oblig'd to the French, as to give them Three Hundred Thousand Pounds

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aYear out of meer kindness? But this is not thing, whenever the Trade is settled as France would have it, I shall be glad to find Three times Three Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year will make good our Loss by it.

If therefore we run behind hand in Trade about a Million Yearly with France, how can the Ballance of Money be on our side?

If our Manufactures, the Growth of our Lands be discouraged, how can our Rents rise?

If our Weavers be forc'd to turn off 100000 Hands all over England, how will our People be employ'd, and the Parish Charges lessen d?

The whole Argument turns on this Hinge; Did we lose a Million Yearly or did we not? And what Steps have the French taken to bring our Trade with them to an Equality, or to turn the Ballance on our side.

In 1674. the Merchants of London presented an Estimate of our French Trade to the Lords Commissioners appointed to conclude a Treaty of Commerce with France, by which it appear'd that the Ballance was on the fide of the French a Million Sterling, it was more afterwards as has been already hinted, and as we have nothing in the World to Ballance their Wines but our Wollen Commodities, and as they will not let us send them thither, but under high Duties, and probably won'd not buy them if they had them, fince without those Duties they have Wollen Manufa-Aures more than enough of their own, and of fuch goodness that I'll warrant you we should have much ado to keep People from fetching them if the Duties wou'd suffer it: As these

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thefe Things are all unquestionable Facts, once more let me ask this Letter-writer how he will hinder us from buying 20 or 30000 Tons of French Wine, or how he will pay for it, but with our Silver and Gold, with our very Vitals; the Sinews of War and the Soul of Peace. All the Absurdities, imaginary Schemes, in short all the World of Words wasted on this occasion by the Mercator and his Brethren, are fully answer'd in Two Pamphlets, the one Entitled, The Confequences of a Law for reducing the Duties upon French Wines, Brandy, Silks, and Linnen, to these of other Nations, with Remarks on a Paper, Entitled, The Mercator, &c. The other Entitled. Torism and Trade can never agree, &c. The Scriblers for the Rejected Bill dance in a Circle of Falsities and Nonsense; they cannot speak a Word to advance their Notions, but it must be an Untruth if it is on their Side; for the Fact that has been felt, woefully felt, is against them, and therefore they have recourse to Invention, and having puzzled their Readers, it does as well as convincing them. For if the People of England can be brought to be in suspence about this Matter, if they cou'd but once doubt whether we shall lose by a French Trade or no, 'tis'. plain, there are a Thousand Motives that would drive them to be for the Trade rather than against it. I need only mention one, and that is the Example of their Doctor, which they are very hardly brought to think ill of. But Truth has at last been Triumphant, and pray God it may fo continue.

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If the Reader will not take my Word, if he thinks I have been guilty of Exaggerations or Amplifications; that I have made more of our Loss by the Ballance of the Trade with France, I refer him again to the Two beforementioned Pamphelts, were he will find it made out beyond Contradiction, and that I have leffen'd and not enlarg'd the Calculations which turn the Ballance to the French Side. To argue the Matter over and over is an Impertinence that seems intolerable in an Argument so plain and self evident. One may as well perswade a Man in a Fit of the Stone that he is mighty easy, as a Clothier that he is Thriving when his Looms are useless, and he has no Market for his Cloth. The Clothiers and Merchants of England are the Judges, they do know this Matter, and no Body else. Let them determine it, and I make no question of their giving their Sentiments effectually at the next Elections.

We may ground our hope of what they will do for the good of Trade, and their Country, by what they have already done. In looking over the Lists publish d of the Members who Voted for or against the Bill, as far as I have Knowledge of them; the Gentlemen who are engag'd in Commerce, stand as follows.

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A LIST of the Merchants and Gentlemen concern'd in Trade, who were Members of Parliament, and Voted for or against the Bill.

Pro.
Robert Child, Esq.
Fohn Snell, Esq.
Frederick Hern, Esq.
Sir James Bateman
Thomas Vernon, Esq.
John Mead, Esq.
John Ward, Esq.
Samuel Swift, Esq.
Sir Joseph Martyn
Sir William Withers
Sir Thomas Cross
Sir Robert Davers

Con.
Owen Buckingham Esq.
Samuel Sheperd, Esq.
John Bromley, Esq.
Nathaniel Hern Esq.
Sir William Lewin
John Burridge, Esq.
Robert Hesham, Esq.

William He Sham, E SQ. Sir Thomas Johnson John Cleveland Esq. Sir Richard Hoare Sir George Newland Sir John Cals Foseph Earl Esq. Sir Charles Cox Sir John Parsons William Newland, Esq. Paul Docminique, Esq. Gregory Page, Eiq. Nathaniel Gold, Esq. Thomas Pit, Fig. Robert Pit, Efg. John Rudge, Liq. Philip Papillion, Esq. Sir Francis Dashwood Robert Bristow, Fig. Edward Jefferys, Elo.

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Not Forty Gentlemen and Merchants concern'd in Trade. I have put Two worthy
Gentlemen, though of differing Opinions.
Sir Robert Davers and John Bromley, Esq,
among the Merchants; they having both conlderable Interest in Barbadoes, and both con-

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cerning themselves for Trade on all occasions. By this imperfed Scheme, as perfect however on one side, as the other, one may see how the Trade Interest stands affected; what are the Sentiments of those that are more immediately to be Gainers or Losers by the French Commerce, and is not so vast a disparity contrary to Mens Passions, and the strongest Influence of more Weight than all the glosses of a few Hackney Writers: They will never be able to corrupt the honest Clothiers of the North and West, and the Trading Burroughs of England Trade is as good a Cry as Church the latter being, as it is secur'd, beyond possibility of Danger.

I might now take upon me to give the Free. holders of Great Britain some Instructions how to proceed in the approaching I lections; but it has been so often done, and the British Freeholders are so well instructed already in what concerns their Interest, that I shall leave this presumptious Office to those Officious Politicians, who will surely be selling Advice of all Prices, from a Half penny to Six pence, and I forewarn the Freehold is not to be cheated, for what they vend is like Mounte bank's Medicines, either Powder of Post or Poison. I never knew a New Parliament to be Chosen but out came Advice upon it: Some times we are caution'd against Republicans, sometimes against Schismaticks, sometimes they Harangue us against the Money Interest, at others against Officers, and so forth: for my Part, I hall only recommend to the Honest British Freeholder, to chuse Men

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That are Loyal to Her Majesty and Zealous for the Church f

That are heartily or the Protestant Succession in the Illastrious House of Hanover.

That are Enemies to the French, at the same Time that they are Lovers of Peace, because our Interests are incompatible.

That are Friends to the Dutch, at the same Time that they are Lovers of Trade, because our Interests are Inseperable.

That are for maintaining the Union, and the Church of Scotland.

That are for the Toleration to Diffenters, and doing no more to make em Jealous and unealy

That are for Encouraging Trade, and Sup.

porting Credit,

That are Wise enough to know there is no Difference between the Trade-Interest and Land-Interest, and that when one suffers the other feels it.

That are Lovers of the Revolution, and the Glorious Memory of King William. .

That look upon a Common Wealth ns a Chimera, and think no Constitution so good as our own.

That believe the Pretender to be an Im postor, or care not whether he is or not, That do not Cry out the Church, and mean that of Rome, nor Hereditary Right,

and mean Perkin's, That do not Sign the Abjuration with an Intention to break it, as a Man said, who Lives within Sight of Gooper's Hill. (22)

That do not make a Crime of the Late War, nor a Jest of our Victories.
That do not Rail at Plumperers without discovering the Plunder.
That are Men of sense, Courage and Virtue.
Let them be Whig or Tory, if they are of these Principles chuse them, but Beware of Counterseits.

I need fay nothing as to the Members who Voted for the Bill of Commerce. If I had written of the Tack, the best thing I cou'd have done, was to have told the Fact and have nam'd the Tackers; the Consequence is plain, and there I leave it. I question whether they will stand to my Test above-mention'd, but he that will not shall have no Vote of mine.

I shou'd now say a Word or Two to this Letter-writer about his Coaxing his Sheep as he calls them, to come back again next Parliament; but the Man does not confider that by next Parliament the Worthy Members will have perceiv'd, that the unanimous Voice of all the People of England concurs in their Vote, that the people have nothing so much at Heart as their Trade, and those who were for it will, I make no doubt, be made so sensible of the Inconveniencies of that Bill, by their Electors, that we shall hear no more of it. I wonder how he came to bring the Ministry into this Dispute, no Minister has more than one Vote in passing an A& of Parliament, and I pay always too

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much Deference to the Administration, to have the least Suspition of any indirect Influence in the making our Laws. I'll assure him I am piqu'd at none of them. speak my Mind as a Freeholder of England, who would be as free in my Speech, as in my Estate, and in both according to Law, to which being obedient, I am entirely indifferent to all other Things and Persons

Persons. Whether or no this Arch Wag, as some pretend, looks one way and writes another. as a Waterman Rows, whether he means what he fays, which is most likely. I shall not enquire; tis sufficient, he has said enough to do Mischief, there's the Poison, but where's the Antidote? I think the Two or Three last Pages of his Book, where he so impudently Villifies two of the most worthy Peers of the Realm, are not to be match'd in all the Libels that ever were publish'd. What he means by his Church Party, with Reference to a Commerce with France, I cannot imagine, or how the Church came into this Controversy. he Zeal of those Lords for her Interests deserv'd better usage from him, and it is not to be doubted that zeal will always distinguish them; but their Lordships are not to be amus'd with the Cry of Church, Church upon every flight occasion, and must needs think it very Ridiculous to find it made a Pretence for setting a French Trade o' Foot. The one Peer he tells us has a Great Post, the other a Great Pension: The one is a Punster and Sophister, the other a

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Child that wants Leading-Strings. I hope those Noble Lords will take Example by another very Noble Member of their House, who for not going all Lengths, has lately been the Mark of the Scandal of the Examiner and his Brethren. I hope they will have an Abhorrence for these Insolent and Ungrateful Men, see thro' their Artifices, and shake 'em off for ever.

Since the First Edition of these sew Pages were published we had a Mercator highly resenting that it was said there was a Lye in his Paper. I have often said I wou'd not enter into a Dispute with a Scriber; that I once more affert, has not one Paper to produce without a Notorious Untruth in it. In

See a Letter from of 1674, is a Forgery, which a West-Country Scheme, was incontestably Clothier, pag. 4. prov'd to be a True One in the House of Commons. But

supposing that Scheme was as False as he wishes it was, what was the Scheme of March the 30th, 1677, as I shall take it out of Andrew Marvel's Growth of Papery. It has been made appear, says he, and that in Parliament, that upon the Ballance of the French Trade, this Nation was detrimented Yearly 900000 l. or a Million; the Value of the Goods Imported Annually, so much exceeding that of the Goods Exported hence thither; Whereby it is Evident, that such a Sum of the Treasure and Money of the Nation, was Tearly exhausted, and carry'd into France, and all this by unnecessary Wines, Silks, Ribbons, Feathers, &c. The saving and - setrench

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retrenching of which Expence and Exhaustions will in a great Degree serve to maintain the Charge of a War. He adds, That the Present was the best Time, and that this mon'd give Reputation to the Confederates, Comfort and Courage to our best Friends immediately, and Safety to our selves in Futurity, against the Old Perpetual Enemy of England, &c. Judge therefore whether this Writer is to be believ'd in any thing, when he cannot help bringing one Falsity to excuse another. Here is 167 as well as 1677, and the latter written by a Member of that very House of Commons to whom that Ballance of a Million Loss by the French Trade, was made appear: And in 1689, every one that ever heard of the French Trade, knows that it was near 1200000 l. by a Scheme to the then House of Commons.

I cannot without Lifted Hands and Eyes, see with what Impudence these Scriblers talk of their 218 Sail of Bilanders, carrying Corn and Clothes to our Garrison at Dunkirk, and give us a List of the English Manufactures Landed there, and Sold to the French. Deal fairly by us, do not confound us with Numbers. Do you think that in all the Cargoes of these Two Hundred and odd Coasters, there was as much Cloth and Stuff as would Load half a Dozen West-Country Waggons. That the French will fend 213 Ships more to fetch our Corn and Beef, I do not doubt; That they will fend as many more for our Wooll, and for our Minerals; Who questions it? But what will they have of us for (26)

their Wine & their Silks; there are a Thousand Things that the Vanity and Folly of the English wait with Impatience to fetch from 'em. In his last Mercator, he tells those that give him the Lye, a Word never to be us d on any account but in Disputes with such as he; Give the Lye to the most Just Calculation made by the Noblest Hands, and acknowledg'd by the House of Commons to be Right; and this they do without so much as descending to Particulars, or telling wherein those Calculations were wrong. Once more Gentle Reader, have recourse to the Two Pamphlets before-mention'd, wherein the Author descends to every Particular of the French Trade, and has not left this Hireling room for any thing but Assertion and Insolence. The poor Creature is in the wrong, if he flatters himself that any Body thinks there's one Man of Sense, Honour and Experience, concern'd in his Libel. I never heard but two or three guess'd at, as being Assistants, and all of em to Ignorant and Contemptible. That the matter will not be much mended, by his shifting it off from himself. There will be another Opportunity taken totalk with him further: In the mean time I give him Caution, that if he abandons himself to this Drudgery, he keeps clear of one Quarter, for a little Provocation may bring Matters to Light, that will shew what a Bleffing the Party have in their Mercator. But as yet they are too Personal; and there has been too much faid to him already, unless he was more worthy of it.

AN

EXACT and CORRECT

OFALLTHE

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* P Sir Alex. Cumming the

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