

12-10

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A
S T A T E
OF THE
BRITISH SUGAR-COLONY
T R A D E;

S H E W I N G,

That an Additional Duty of *Twelve Shillings per 112 Pounds* Weight may be laid upon BROWN or MUSCOVADO SUGAR (and proportionably higher Duties upon *Sugar* refined before imported) without making *Sugar* dearer in this Kingdom than it hath been of late Years, and without Distressing the *British* Sugar-Planters; for their Profits will then be Twice as much Money *per Acre of Land*, as the Landholders of *England* receive for their Estates.

All which Matters are plainly made appear, and the vast Losses which this Kingdom hath suffered by the Sugar-Colony Trade, within Thirty Years last past, are particularly pointed out.

Most humbly submitted to the Consideration of THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

By *J. Massie.*

L O N D O N :

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MDCCLIX.

(Price One Shilling.)



A STATE of the EXPORTS to and IMPORTS from the BRITISH Sugar-Colonies.

THE ANNUAL EXPORTS.

THE Value of the *British* and Foreign Commodities and Manufactures exported from *Great Britain* to the *British* Sugar-Colonies, upon a Medium of Four Years from *Christmas* 1728 to *Christmas* 1732, was *per Annum* as followeth— to *Jamaica* £147,675 : 2 : 3³/₄— to *Barbadoes* £85,780 : 15 : 7— to the *Leeward Islands* £69,410 : 15 : 9¹/₂— in all £302,866 : 13 : 8 300,000
 as appears by a Representation from the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, to the Right Honourable the House of Lords, bearing date 14th *January* 1733.

The Value of the Commodities and Manufactures exported from *Ireland* to *America*, including all the *British* Colonies there, upon a Medium of Eight Years from 1719 to 1726, was *per Annum* £87,857 : 19 : 8¹/₂ *Irish* Money, which amounts in *English* Money to about 80,000
 as appears by an Account formed from the Custom-House Books of *Ireland* by *Arthur Dobbs*, Esq; and inserted in his Essay on the Trade of that Kingdom, *Part 1st*, *Page* 59.

The annual supply of *Negroes* from *Africa*, for the Cultivation of *Sugar* in the *British* Colonies, is computed, by the late *John Ashley*, Esq; to be Six Thousand at £25 sterling *per Head*; and as the said *Mr. Ashley* hath asserted in the Supplement to his *Memoirs*, *Page* 10, &c. that the Duties on *Sugar* and on the *Sugar-Planters*, amount to *Ten Skillings* in the *Pound* on the Nett
 A Profits

ADVERTISEMENT.

AS this State of the *British* Sugar-Colony Trade requires more Time to complete, than I expected it would take, and the Want of the Remainder is in some Measure supplied by the Calculations and Observations contained in a supplemental Half-Sheet hereunto annexed, and printed for that Purpose about a Fortnight ago; I think it necessary to have this Part of the said State published, that all Persons interested therein may have timely Opportunity of knowing what it contains.

J. Massie.

6th Feb. 1759.

[2]

Profits of their *Negroes, Utenfils, and Land*, although, in my Opinion, they do not really pay any Duties at all; it may well be imagined that this and several of the following Articles, which are taken from Mr. *Ashley's* Computations; do much favour the Planters.—To this Article I shall add for 1000 *Negroes*, as a yearly Supply to keep up the Stock of *Negroes* who are employed in the Culture of *Ginger, Coffee, Cotton, Indico, &c.* or in felling, &c. of Wood for Exportation to *Great Britain*; which will make in all, 7000 *Negroes* at £25 175,000

The Value of the annual Supplies of *Salt-Fish, Lumber, Timber, Tobacco, Rice, Corn, Horses,* and other Necessaries exported from the *British North American Colonies* to the *British Sugar Colonies*, is computed by the said Mr. *Ashley* at £160,000—to which I shall add £25,000 to answer the Addition I have made for 1000 *Negroes* . . . in all 185,000

For Freight, Insurance, and Commission at Ten per Cent. on £380,000—the Value of the annual Exports from *Great Britain and Ireland* to the Sugar-Colonies, £38,000—and for *British Merchants Profits* on such of the said Exports as are not shipped on the Sugar-Planters own Account £22,000 . . . in all 60,000

For *Wines* from *Madeira*, as computed by Mr. *Bennett*, a well-known Advocate for the Planters 80,000

The Total Value of those annual Exports, according to this State, is 880,000

The ANNUAL IMPORTS from the *British Sugar-Colonies* into *Great Britain, North America, &c.*

75,000 Hogheads of *Sugar*, of 1500 Pounds nett Weight each, in the Sugar-Colonies (that being a less Quantity than was annually imported in the 4 Years; for which the *British Exports* are here inserted) at Six Shillings Sterling per 100 lb.; which, and not 112 lb. is the Hundred Weight there 337,500

Note . . . *Brown* or *Muscovado Sugar* is computed to waste One-Tenth Part, upon an Average, in bringing from the *West Indies* to *Great Britain*; so that a Hoghead of *Sugar*, which weighed 1500 lb. there, will weigh but 1350 lb. here; and is to be rated at only 12 Cent. lb. of 112 Pounds each.

Add

[3]

Add the Difference of Value between *Clayed* and *Muscovado Sugars*, upon 7,500 Hogheads of 12 Cent. lb. each, at 10 Shillings per Cent. lb.; that being the annual Quantity of *Sugar* clayed, and the increased Value thereof, according to Mr. *Ashley's* Computation. 45,000

50,000 Hogheads of *Rum* and *Melasses*, of 100 Gallons each in the Sugar-Colonies; being the Quantity produced when 75,000 Hogheads of *Sugar* are made, as computed by Mr. *Ashley*; and are by him valued at Six Pounds Sterling per Hoghead, in the Places of Production 300,000

Ginger, Coffee, Aloes, Cotton, Indico, Mahogany, &c. . . . 100,000

The Produce of *British, &c.* Commodities and Manufactures exported to *Jamaica*, and from thence sent to the *Spanish Settlements*, or bartered for *Logwood*, amounting in Value here to above £100,000; as appears by the *British Exports* to *Jamaica* exceeding the like Exports to *Barbadoes* to that Amount, although the latter Island then had above twice as many white Inhabitants as the former; and therefore the said Produce in *Money, Logwood, &c.* may well be above 120,000

The Total Value, according to this State, of those annual Imports, rating *Muscovado Sugar* at only 6s. per 100 lb. is . . . 902,500

Which Sum over-ballanceth all the Exports to the *British Sugar-Colonies*, as here stated, about £20,000; and I believe that the Profits which the *British Sugar-Planters* gain by selling of *Negroes* for the *Spanish and French Settlements*, do amount to as much more.

But I shall not reckon upon either of these Articles, in what I have to say concerning this State, as there ought to be an Allowance in favour of those Planters, to make good the Money gained from them by *Physicians, Surgeons, Lawyers, Tradesmen, Hired-Servants, &c.* residing in the Sugar-Colonies; and I am persuaded that the said Over-Ballance only, is sufficient to repay such Money, as very few of the People who go from hence to those Colonies, in the above-named Capacities, do return to this Kingdom, much less, bring back Fortunes of their acquiring in the Sugar-Colonies.

An

An ACCOUNT of the Duties, Freight, and other Charges on Brown or Muscovado Sugar of the British Colonies imported into Great Britain . . . as computed by Mr. Ashley, on 10 Hogheads of 12 Cent. lb. each.

Table with columns £, S, D. Rows include: British Duties on 120 Cent. lb. at 3s. 6d. . . deducting 5 per Cent. Discount; Bill-Money, Primage, and Post; Lighterage and Wharfage 9d. Porterage 10d. Cooperage 6d. . . is 2s. 1d. per Hoghead, and for 10 Hogheads; Land-Waiters 3d. Cartage 6d. Pierage 1 1/2d. is 10 1/2d. per Hoghead, and for 10 Hogheads; Ware-houfe Rent 6 Weeks, at 3d. per Hoghead per Week; Freight of 120 Cent. lb. at 3s. 6d.; Commission and Brokerage, 3 per Cent. on £120, the Produce of the Sugar, at 20s. per Cent. lb.; Insurance on £90, at 4 per Cent. and Policy 4s. 6d. The Total as computed by Mr. Ashley, is 50 : 15 : 7. Add the Duty of 4 1/2 per Cent. (in Barbadoes and the Leeward Islands, but not in Jamaica) which for 10 Hogheads of Sugar, each weighing 1500 lb. Nett there, amounts to 675 lb.; and that Quantity of Muscovado Sugar, at 10s. Sterling per 100 lb. the general Price for many Years, makes the said Duty amount to 3 : 7 : 6. The Total of the Duties, Freight, and Charges, on 10 Hogheads of Muscovado Sugar . . . to the Year 1747, was 54 : 3 : 1. Add, the Subsidy laid in the Year 1747, being 1s. 6d. per 112 Pounds, without Discount; which for 10 Hogheads is 9 : - : -. The Total of the present Duties, Freight, and other Charges on Muscovado Sugar, is on 10 Hhds, of 12 Cent. lb. 63 : 3 : 1; on 1 Hhd . . . 6 : 6 : 3 7/8; on 1 Cent. lb. 112 Pounds - : 10 : 6 3/8. The Charges of producing Muscovado Sugar, including the Proportion of Charge for Maintenance of the Planter's Family, and the Loss by Waste in bringing from the W. Indies to Great Britain, are on 10 Hhds, of 12 Ct. here 45 : - : -; on 1 Hhd . . . 4 : 10 : -; on 1 Cent. lb. 112 Pounds - : 7 : 6.

An

An ABSTRACT of the present Duties, and Charges on British Muscovado Sugar imported into this Kingdom.

Table with columns: Charges of Production and Planter's Maintenance and Loss by Waste; Charges for British and Colony Duties, Freight Insurance, Entry, &c.; The Total of Both. Rows include: On 1 Hhd . . . 12 Cent. lb. . . £ 4 : 10 : - . . . £ 6 : 6 : 3 7/8 . . . £ 10 : 16 : 3 7/8; On 1 Cent. lb. 112 Pounds . . . £ - : 7 : 6 . . . £ - : 10 : 6 3/8 . . . £ - : 18 : - 3/8.

By the preceding State of Exports and Imports, it appears, that the low Price of Six Shillings Sterling per 100 Pounds Weight for Muscovado Sugar in the British Sugar-Colonies, is fully sufficient to ballance their general Account with Great Britain, Ireland, and the British North American Colonies.

By the foregoing Account of all the Duties and Charges on Muscovado Sugar imported from the British Sugar-Colonies into Great Britain, it appears, that the Price of £0 : 18 : 0 3/8 for 112 Pounds of such Sugar here, is the corresponding or equivalent Price to £0 : 6 : 0 Sterling per 100 Pounds there. And consequently,

When the British Sugar Planters receive either £0 : 6 : 0 Sterl. per 100 Pounds for their Muscovado Sugar in the British Sugar-Colonies, or £0 : 18 : 0 3/8 per 112 Pounds in Great Britain, after they have paid all the before-mentioned Duties and Charges thereon, their general Account with Great Britain, Ireland and the British North American Colonies, is then even and quit.

But there is an After-Account with the British Sugar-Colonies, of which it is necessary to make a State, as the British Dominions thereby suffer great Losses which do not appear by a general Comparison of the Value of the Exports with that of the Imports.

LOSS to the British Dominions by the Consumption of East-India, &c. Manufactures in the British Sugar-Colonies.

The Inhabitants of Jamaica, Barbadoes and the Leeward Islands, instead of confining themselves to British Commodities and Manufactures, do yearly consume East-India and other foreign Manufactures, &c. to the Amount of about One Hundred and Forty Thousand Pounds Sterling, as valued here; and the said Manufactures, though purchased chiefly with Money, are exchanged in the British Sugar-Colonies for Sugar, Rum, and other Commodities consumed here; so that the British Dominions thereby lose all the said Money, which may reasonably be computed at Eighty Thousand Pounds a Year. B LOSS

LOSS to the *British* Dominions, by the fraudulent Importation of *Sugar* and other foreign *West-India* Produce into the *British* Sugar-Colonies.

As to this fraudulent Trade, there is the following Paragraph concerning it, in a Pamphlet written by *William Perrin*, Esq; upon the State of the *British* and *French* Sugar-Colonies, and printed for *T. Cooper*, in the Year 1740.

“ It is pretty well known, and may but too well be made appear, that the *French* and others have found Means, by a Trade with some of our Islands, to introduce among them at least *Fifteen Thousand* Hogheads of *Sugar* yearly, which have been afterwards shipped to *Great Britain* as *English* Produce.” Page 18.

Several other late Advocates for the Sugar-Planters mention this Affair.

Now if such fraudulent Trade had been carried on with *British* Commodities, the *British* Dominions would not have lost much by it, for the Loss would then have been mostly confined to some of the *British* Sugar-Planters; but there is an Account in the Representation from the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, before-mentioned, which too plainly shews that the said illicit Trade was carried on by Way of the *Leeward Islands*, with *British* Money; for the annual Imports into *Great Britain* from those Islands, upon a Medium of 4 Years from 1728 to 1732, amounted to £642,269 : 9 : 6½; whereas the annual Exports from *Great Britain* to the said Islands, during that Time, came to only £69,410 : 15 : 9½, which is but One-Ninth Part of the Value of their Imports: so that the before-mentioned contraband Importation must have been of much greater Extent than 15,000 Hogheads of *Sugar* yearly.

For according to other Accounts in that Representation, the *British* Exports to *Barbadoes* were to the Imports from thence, nearly in the Proportion of One to Three; and those of *Jamaica* as One to Four; the latter of which Proportions being most favourable for the *Leeward Islands*, in this Case, I shall make it the Standard; and that will account for their annual Imports being worth about £280,000; but there will then remain £360,000 a Year to be accounted for.

And I cannot account for that Sum otherwise than by there having been such great Quantities of *French Sugars*, and other foreign *West-India* Produce, fraudulently imported into the *British Leeward Islands*, as, when brought into this Kingdom, were here estimated to be worth £360,000; from which Sum I shall deduct One-Third Part for Profits to those *British* Subjects who bought the same of the *French*, &c. and then there will remain

main £240,000 a Year; whereof there was recovered by the Re-exportation of *Sugar* from *Great Britain* to foreign Countries, about £100,000; so that the real Loss to the *British* Dominions, by the before-mentioned fraudulent Trade, during those 4 Years, seems to have been *One Hundred and Forty Thousand Pounds per Annum*.

LOSS to the *British* Dominions by the fraudulent Importation and Consumption of foreign Manufactures in the *British* Sugar-Colonies.

In a Pamphlet that was published in the Year 1733, by an Advocate for the Sugar-Planters, there is an Account of the Value of the Exports from *Great Britain* to the *British* Sugar-Colonies, in Twelve Years from *Christmas* 1714 to *Christmas* 1726; and according to that Account, the said Exports amounted in those 12 Years, to *Five Millions Two Hundred Sixty four Thousand One Hundred and Eight Pounds and Six Pence*; which is *per Annum*, upon an Average £438,675 : 13 : 4½

But according to Accounts of the like Exports, for 4 Years from *Christmas* 1728 to *Christmas* 1732 (inserted in the before-mentioned Representation from the Board of Trade) the medium annual Value of them was only 302,866 : 13 : 8

So that the yearly Decrease in the said Exports, according to those Accounts, was 135,808 : 19 : 8½

Now this Decrease, whether more or less than is here represented, cannot be accounted for by any Decrease in the *British* Sugar-Colonies from 1728 to 1732; for in those 4 Years much greater Quantities of *Sugar* were imported from thence into *Great Britain*, than ever were brought here from those Colonies, in any 4 Years, either before or since that Time: And as several Advocates for the Sugar-Planters, have not only acknowledged that there then was an illicit Trade carried on between the *British* Sugar-Colonies and those of other Nations, but the vast Disproportion between the Exports to and Imports from the *British Leeward Islands* doth plainly shew that the said Trade was of great Extent at that Time; the most natural, and in Appearance, the true Way of accounting for this great Decrease in the Exports from *Great Britain* to the *British* Sugar-Colonies, is, by the Inhabitants of those Colonies consuming vast Quantities of *French* and other foreign Manufactures there imported with foreign *Sugars*, or by other Means.

Nor hath such fraudulent Importation been confined to the *British Leeward Islands* only; for it appears by a Pamphlet called “ The State of

“ of the Island of *Jamaica*, &c.” published in the Year 1726, that the same Sort of unlawful Trade in foreign Manufactures was then carried on there, by Means of foreign Ships, under Pretence of their wanting *Wood* and *Water*; for the purchasing of which Necessaries, Licenses were granted to the Commanders of such Ships, and they, under Colour of supplying their pretended Wants, sold foreign Manufactures, &c. to the Inhabitants, who generally paid for the same in *Money*.

GAIN to the *British* Dominions by the Re-exportation of *Sugar* to foreign Countries, in 4 Years from 1728 to 1732.

I have already computed this Gain to be *One Hundred Thousand Pounds* a Year, which I was enabled to do by the Help of a public Account; and I have under-rated the Loss arising from the fraudulent Importation of *French Sugars*, &c. into the *British* Sugar-Colonies £100,000 *per Annum*, in Consideration of this Gain; so that it is already accounted for by that Means.

GAIN to the *British* Dominions by the Re-exportation of *Cotton*, *Ginger*, and other *British* Sugar-Colony Produce.

The several Commodities comprised under this Head, are valued in the State of Imports from the *British* Sugar-Colonies, at £100,000 a Year, which I am inclined to believe was not far wide of their real Value; and considering the great Consumption of such Commodities in this Kingdom, I think that not more than One-Fourth Part of them was re-exported from hence, either in their natural State, or wrought into Manufactures; but that $\frac{3}{4}$ Part, when re-exported from *Great Britain*, may well be valued at double what it is rated according to the Estimation thereof in the Sugar-Colonies, without reckoning for the *British* manufacture of the same; I shall therefore rate the Gain arising from the Re-exportation of the aforesaid Commodities at Fifty Thousand Pounds a Year, though it may be considerably more or less for any Thing certainly known to me.

SAVING to the *British* Dominions by the Consumption of *British Rum* instead of *French Brandy*.

The Quantity of *Rum* supposed by Mr. *Ashley* to have been annually imported into *Great Britain* about the Year 1740, was 5,000 Hogsheads, or 500,000 Gallons; and upon looking into a Manuscript Account of *Rum* and *Brandy* imported into this Kingdom, I find that his Supposition in this Respect is not far remote from Truth; I shall therefore rate the *British* Consumption of *Rum* at *Five Hundred Thousand Gallons* a Year, for the Four Years from 1728 to 1732 inclusive; and this will make the annual Saving by the Nonconsumption of so much *French Brandy*, at One Shilling *per* Gallon, to be Twenty-five Thousand Pounds. An

An ABSTRACT of the After-Account between *Great Britain*, &c. and the *British* Sugar-Colonies for 4 Years from *Christmas* 1728 to *Christmas* 1732.

Annual LOSS to the <i>British</i> Dominions	£	£
By <i>East-India</i> , &c. Manufactures exported from this Kingdom to the Sugar-Colonies	80,000	
By <i>French-Sugars</i> , &c. fraudulently imported into those Colonies, after deducting for <i>Sugars</i> re-exported	140,000	
By Foreign Manufactures fraudulently imported into the said Colonies	130,000	
The Total of the Annual Loss		350,000
Annual GAIN to the <i>British</i> Dominions		
By <i>Sugars</i> re-exported from this Kingdom to foreign Countries £100,000, accounted for before	- - - -	
By <i>Ginger</i> , <i>Cotton</i> , &c. re-exported	50,000	
By consuming <i>British Rum</i> instead of <i>French Brandy</i>	25,000	
The Total of the annual Gain		75,000
The ultimate Loss to the <i>British</i> Dominions, according to this After-Account was <i>per Annum</i>		275,000

And as to the Loss that *Great Britain* in particular then suffered by her Sugar-Colony Trade, it appears to me to have been so amazingly great, that I should not have ventured to publish any State of the Account, if the principal Articles therein had not been vouched for by public Accounts and public Authority; but since the said Articles are so vouched, and the Distribution thereunto annexed accounts for the *Money* so lost, or at least shews, that there was some such vast Loss brought upon this Kingdom by the aforesaid Means, I cannot hesitate a Moment about publishing an Account, that is, in the Main, as well supported as any Accounts of the like Sort have been.

C A STATE

A STATE of the Trade between Great Britain and the British Sugar-Colonies, for four Years from Christmas 1728 to Christmas 1732.

The Value of the Commodities imported into Great Britain from the British Sugar-Colonies, upon an annual Medium, within the Time of this Account, was per Annum as followeth—from Jamaica £539,499 : 18 : 3½—

from Barbadoes £246,599 : 13 : 10¼—from the Leeward Islands £642,269 : 9 : 6¼—in all £1,428,369 : 1 : 8 £ 1,425,000

as appears by a Representation from the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations to The Right Honourable The House of Lords, bearing Date 14th January 1732. The Value of the Commodities and Manufactures exported from Great Britain to the British Sugar-Colonies, upon an annual Medium, within the Time of this Account, was £302,866 : 13 : 8 per Annum, as appears by the said Representation 300,000

From which deduct, the Loss by foreign Manufactures, &c. in those Exports as before stated 80,000

And there will remain for British Commodities, Manufactures, Labour, &c. 220,000

The Freight, Insurance, Commission, and British Merchants Profits on the British and Irish Exports to the Sugar-Colonies, are rated in the State of Exports and Imports, at 60,000

The annual Supply of Negroes for those Colonies, is estimated in the said State, at 175,000

The Half of £80,000 for Wines from the Madeira Islands, as rated in that State, is 40,000

The Gain to Great Britain by the Re-exportation of Sugar and other Commodities, as also by the British Consumption of Rum instead of French Brandy, is rated in the After-Account with the Sugar-Colonies, at 175,000

These several Articles amount per Annum to 670,000

And this seems to me to have been the whole annual Sum that Great Britain either paid, by Commodities, Manufactures, Freight, Insurance, &c. or recovered, by the Re-exportation of Sugar and other Commodities, &c. toward discharging the annual Debt of £1,425,000 to her Sugar-Colonies.

If therefore it cannot be made appear, that the Imports from the British Sugar-Colonies were of less Value, or that the British Means of paying for the same, by Commodities, &c. were greater than are here specified; it will undeniably follow,

That during these Four Years, Great Britain lost by her Sugar-Colonies, no less per Annum than 755,000

A DIS-

A DISTRIBUTION of the Sum of One Million 428 Thousand 369 Pounds 1 Shilling and 8 Pence, at which the annual Imports from the British Sugar-Colonies, within the Time of the preceding Account, were valued, as is there mentioned.

The Value of those Imports was per Annum £1,428,369 Whereof there belonged to Great Britain, viz.

For British Exports, as per Representation from the Board of Trade £302,866

For Freight, &c. of British and Irish Exports, as per State of Exports 60,000

For 7000 Negroes at £25 each, as per Ditto 175,000

For Half of £80,000 for Wines from Madeira, as per Ditto 40,000

The Total that, according to this Distribution, belonged to Great Britain, for British Exports, Freight, Profits, &c. was 577,866

and consequently, according to this Distribution, The Balance due from Great Britain upon the Sugar-Colony Trade was 850,503

Whereof there belonged to Ireland, 80,000

For Irish Exports, as per Mr. Dobbs's Account, from the Custom-House Books 80,000

Whereof there belonged to the British North American Colonies, viz.

For Provisions, Lumber, &c. as per State of Exports £185,000

Of which, there might be paid for in Sugar, Rum, Melasses, &c. 125,000

And in Money 60,000

For half of £80,000 for Wines from Madeira, as per State of Exports 40,000

Whereof there belonged to the French, &c. viz.

For Sugars and other foreign West-India Produce fraudulently imported into the British Sugar-Colonies, as before computed 240,000

For foreign Manufactures, &c. fraudulently imported and consumed in those Colonies, as already estimated 130,000

Together 550,000

So that, according to this Distribution, the Nett Balance or clear annual Gain to the British Sugar-Planters, was £300,503

From

From hence it appears very plain, that the Loss to *Great Britain* by the Sugar-Colony Trade, within the Time of this Account, must have been some such vast Sum as *Seven, Six*, or at least *Five Hundred Thousand Pounds* a Year; and in order to bring that Loss so low as *£500,000 per Annum*, it must be supposed that the annual Imports from the Sugar-Colonies are valued in the Custom-House Accounts at *£250,000* more than the Planters received for the same, clear of Duties, Freight, &c.

It must likewise be supposed, that the Inhabitants of *Jamaica, Barbadoes*, and the *Leeward Islands*, did not gain much Money by their Plantations at that Time; for if the Value of those Imports be reduced *£250,000*, the Planters Profits will, in that Case, be so much less: And when it is considered, that the general Prices of *Sugar* were very low in this Kingdom during the Years 1729, 30, 31 and 32; and that there were loud Complaints of Distress among the Sugar-Planters, those Suppositions cannot reasonably be objected against.

But I must at the same Time observe, that the Distress of which the Sugar-Planters then complained, is a strong Indication, if not a Proof, that the fraudulent Trade by them carried on, was as extensive as I have computed it to have been; for admitting that their Imports were over-valued in the Custom-House Accounts *£250,000 per Annum*, there was then *£600,000* a Year due to them from this Kingdom, instead of *£850,000* as stated in the preceding Distribution of the Sum at which those Imports were valued.

Out of which annual Balance of *£600,000* the Sugar-Planters had not quite *£200,000* to pay for Commodities and Manufactures sent from *Ireland*, or from the *British North American* Colonies, to the Sugar-Colonies, according to the said Distribution; so that there remained *Four Hundred Thousand Pounds* a Year, either for the *British* Sugar-Planters, or for the Foreigners with whom they carried on a fraudulent Trade; and as the Former were distressed, it is plain that the Latter must have had most of that vast annual Sum of Money.

I might very well have excused myself from making a supposititious Reduction of this national Loss, as the foregoing State thereof is founded and most of it determined either by authenticated public Accounts, or by Calculations made on the Part of the Sugar-Planters; but my Intention is, to make a just Representation of these Matters, according to the best of my Judgment; and as, in this Instance, there appeared to me good Reasons for deviating from those authenticated public Accounts, I have not scrupled to do it, upon the present Occasion.

All that remains on this Head, is, to consider how much Money hath been carried out of *Great Britain*, and how much out of the *British* Dominions, by Means of the *British* Sugar-Colony Trade, within Thirty Years past; for as to making an exact Computation of the Money so carried away and lost, it is a Thing quite out of my Power; and therefore I shall

shall content myself with shewing how much the said Loss doth in all Probability amount to.

The Loss by *East-India, &c.* Manufactures exported from this Kingdom to the *British* Sugar-Colonies, is constant and certain; and therefore I shall rate it, as I have before done, at *£80,000 per Annum*; which amounts, in 30 Years, to *Two Millions Four Hundred Thousand Pounds*.

As to the Loss by *French* and other foreign Manufactures fraudulently imported into the *British* Sugar-Colonies; when it is considered, that the Motive to carrying on such Trade was *Gain*, there will appear but little if any Reason for thinking that those unlawful Dealings have been of less Extent since the Time of this Account, than they appear, by the before-stated Decrease in the *British* Exports, to have been for 4 Years from 1728 to 1732; that is to say, above *£130,000* a Year; however, I shall rate this Loss at only *£100,000 per Annum*, which, in 30 Years, amounts to *Three Millions of Pounds*.

The fraudulent Trade in *French, &c. Sugars* seems to have been highest in the 4 Years above-mentioned; and I much question, whether any such Trade was carried on between the Time of the last Peace and the Beginning of the present War; but be that as it may, I shall rate the Loss thereby caused, at only *£50,000* a Year for the whole Time; which will make the Amount thereof, in 30 Years, to be *One Million Five Hundred Thousand Pounds*; though I believe it comes to a greater Sum.

To these Losses must be added a fourth Loss, which was primarily caused by the great Consumption of *Rum* in this Kingdom; for that put the *British* Sugar-Planters upon distilling such great Quantities of *Melasses*, as not to leave a sufficiency thereof to supply the Demands of the *British North-American* Colonies; and this obliged the Sugar-Planters to pay Money for a considerable Proportion of the *Provisions, Lumber, &c.* wherewith they were supplied from *New-England* and other Northern Colonies; of which the Inhabitants of *Barbadoes* complained in their Petition to his Majesty, and farther said, that the Money so paid was exported to foreign Colonies, to purchase the very same Sorts of Goods as the Northern Colony People used to supply themselves with in the *British* Sugar-Colonies.

So that the Money which seems to be saved to this Kingdom, by the Consumption of *British Rum* instead of *French Brandy*, is not a real Saving; since what the *French* lose by not selling so much *Brandy* in *Great Britain*, is made up to them by the *British* Money they receive for *Melasses*: and this Loss is to be estimated at double that Saving, upon equal Quantities of *Rum* and *Brandy*, because the former costs this Nation about Two Shillings per Gallon, and the latter costs but One Shilling a Gallon: for which reason, instead of reckoning only *£25,000* a Year, as I have before done for *Rum*, in the After-Account with the Sugar-Colonies, this Loss is to be rated at *£50,000 per Annum*, which amounts in 30 Years, to *One Million Five Hundred Thousand Pounds*.

An ABSTRACT of the before-mentioned Losses, in Thirty Years from 1727 to 1756.

	Pounds Sterling
By <i>East-India</i> , &c. Manufactures exported from <i>Great Britain</i> to the <i>British</i> Sugar-Colonies	2,400,000
By <i>French</i> , &c. Manufactures fraudulently imported into those Colonies	3,000,000
By <i>French</i> , &c. <i>Sugars</i> fraudulently imported into the said Colonies	1,500,000
By <i>French Melasses</i> , &c. purchased with <i>Money</i> , for the <i>British North-American</i> Colonies	1,500,000
The Total of those Losses, according to my Computation, is	8,400,000
From which deduct, the Gain by <i>British</i> Sugar-Colony Commodities re-exported, and the Saving by the <i>British</i> Consumption of <i>Rum</i> instead of <i>French Brandy</i> , amounting to £75,000 <i>per Annum</i> , as already stated in the After-Account with the <i>British</i> Sugar-Colonies, which in 30 Years comes to	2,250,000
And reduces the ultimate Loss to the <i>British</i> Dominions, by Means of the <i>British</i> Sugar-Colony Trade, to	6,150,000

As to the Losses which *Great Britain* in particular suffered by the Sugar-Colony Trade, within these Thirty Years, they much exceed the ultimate Loss to the *British* Dominions in general; for all the *Money* so lost, is paid by this Kingdom: of which any Person may be convinced, by considering that the Ballance which the Sugar-Planters from Time to Time receive on their Trade with *England*, is the Fund by which they pay for all the Commodities, &c. elsewhere bought by them with *Money*.

The *Specie* which the *British North American* Colonies receive for *Provisions*, *Lumber*, &c. sold in the *British* Sugar-Colonies, and all the *French Sugars*, Manufactures, &c. fraudulently imported there, are paid for out of the *Money* received from this Nation; so that none of those vast Losses do in the least affect the *British* Sugar-Planters, excepting in particular Cases; for the *British* Wealth which they dissipate by those several Means, is constantly replaced by other Wealth received from their Mother-Country.

The Sugar-Planters do undoubtedly save a considerable Sum of *Money* yearly, by consuming such vast Quantities of *East-India*, *French*, &c. Manufactures, instead of confining themselves to wear and use no other than *British* Manufactures; but such Consumption of foreign Manufactures makes at least Twenty Thousand *Paupers* in this Kingdom, whose Maintenance costs the People of *England* about One Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year, and is ultimately paid by the Landholders.

Nor

Nor are the Payment and Loss of that *Money* the only Things to be considered; for the great Increase of Poors-Rates thereby occasioned, operates very prejudicially upon every Branch of the Trade of this Nation, by making our Manufactures dearer: so that all the *Money* which the *British* Sugar-Colony Trade causes to be carried out of the *British* Dominions, is not only so much real Loss to *Great Britain* in particular, but is attended with the additional Losses which are here mentioned.

As to the Ballance which *Ireland* gains by the *British American* Colonies, and chiefly by the Sugar-Colonies, it is to be considered, that the People of the said Kingdom are happily in Possession of ample and increasing Means to pay for all the Commodities and Manufactures which they purchase from *England*, as appears by Mr. *Dobbs's* Account formed from their Custom-House Books; for according to those Accounts, the Ballance on the Trade between the two Kingdoms, including the Exports from *Ireland* to *America*, upon a Medium of Eight Years from 1719 to 1726, was full Seventy Thousand Pounds a Year against *England*; and since that Time the *English* Consumption of *Irish Linen Cloth* hath undoubtedly been very much upon the Increase.

It is likewise probable, that the Consumption of *French Sugar* in *Ireland*, hath been very great within Twenty Years last past, as the Quantity of such *Sugar* there consumed in the Year 1724, which Mr. *Dobbs* hath taken for a medium Year, is valued by him at Ten Thousand Pounds; although *British Sugar* might then, and for Ten Years after, have been bought at reasonable Prices: so that considering the exorbitant Prices at which *British Sugars* have been generally kept for 20 Years past, and the moderate Prices of *French Sugars*, it would not be at all surprizing to hear, that the People of *Ireland* have, within that Time, wholly or mostly supplied themselves with *Sugars* from *France*; especially as the *Irish* Duties on foreign *Sugars* are very moderate.

The following Account of the Duties upon *Sugars* imported into *Ireland*, was taken from a Book of Rates compiled by Mr. *James Fleming*, and printed at *Dublin*, in the Year 1741.

	Sorts of Sugar
Nett Duties per 112 Pounds	Loaf refined in White Muscovado
	<i>England</i>
On <i>Sugars</i> of the <i>English</i> Plantations imported from <i>Great Britain</i> . . .	£0:12:3 ⁷ / ₁₀ £0:7:0 ¹ / ₂ £0:1:7 ⁷ / ₁₀
On <i>Sugars</i> foreign, or imported from any foreign Place	£1:0:7 ³ / ₁₀ £0:3:9 ⁷ / ₁₀

So that in a round Way of reckoning, foreign refined *Sugars* are charged with about Ten Shillings per Hundred Weight more, and foreign *Muscovado Sugars* with about Two Shillings per Hundred more, than is paid

paid for the like Sorts of *British Sugars* imported from *Great Britain*; which higher Duties on foreign *Sugars* imported into *Ireland*, were nearly sufficient to secure to the *British Sugar-Planters*, the supplying of that Kingdom with *Sugar*, so long as they sold it at moderate Prices; but this is what they have not done for Twenty Years past.

It may therefore be reasonably imagined, that the *French* have in a great Measure supplied the People of *Ireland* with *Sugars*, during the Time that *British Sugars* have been kept at immoderate Prices, to the great Detriment of both these Kingdoms; for the annual Consumption of *Sugar* in *Ireland*, above Thirty Years ago, is valued by Mr. *Dobbs* at more than Sixty Thousand Pounds; and as the Consumption of *Tea* is greatly increased since that Time, the Consumption of *Sugar* hath undoubtedly kept Pace with it.

Now though it possibly might have been a Doubt, whether the £80,000, a Year which *Ireland* gained by the *British Sugar-Colonies*, would have been a real Loss to this Kingdom, if it had remained in the other; yet, the *British Sugar-Planters* seem to have made it a Loss to both Kingdoms; for it is well known, that the *British Sugar-Colonies* contain Land enough to produce Twice the Quantity of *Sugar* annually, that hath ever been yearly produced there; and yet no more *Sugar* is brought from thence, than can be sold in *Great Britain* at exorbitant Prices.

From whence it evidently followeth, that all the Losses which the *British Dominions* have suffered by the Consumption of *French* or other foreign *Sugars*, either in *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or the *British North American Colonies*, are chargeable to our *Sugar-Planters*; and therefore I shall place to their Account, till the Matter is better ascertained by proper Authority, the Loss of One Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year to this Kingdom in particular, and to the *British Dominions* in general, by *French*, &c. *Sugars* consumed in *Ireland*, or in the *British North American Colonies*, within Twenty Years past; which comes to Two Millions of Pounds.

The Loss to *Great Britain* by not selling about Twenty Thousand Hogheads of *British Sugar* yearly in foreign Countries, is next to be considered; and this, at the low Price of £7 : 10 : 0 per Hoghead, or £0 : 12 : 6 per 112 lb. will come to One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds per Annum, which amounts in Thirty Years, to Four Millions Five Hundred Thousand Pounds: exclusive of the Loss of Employment for about One Hundred Sail of Ships, and One Thousand *British Seamen*, which were formerly employed in carrying that Quantity of *British Sugar* to foreign Markets, and made a valuable Increase of our Naval Power, at the Expence of other Nations.

But that considerable Supply of Wealth, and those valuable Naval Advantages, have long been lost to *Great Britain*; and it is highly necessary to inquire how so profitable a Trade came to be lost; as there appear some Reasons

Reasons to think it might have been preserved: for though the *French Sugar-Planters* have a few Advantages over the *British Sugar-Planters*, yet, when the Advantages and Disadvantages of each are stated, I am persuaded it will appear, that *British Sugars* may be afforded cheaper in foreign Markets, than *French Sugars* can be sold there.

The Advocates for our *Sugar-Planters*, say, that their Lands are poor and worn out, and that the *French Sugar-Lands* are fresh and fertile:—but these are equivocal Assertions, which may either be proved or disproved, according as the Case is stated, particularly or generally.

It is true that the poorest Land in the *British Sugar-Colonies*, will not yield so much *Sugar*, upon equal Spaces, as the best Land in the *French Colonies*; and it is likewise true, that such Land in the *British Sugar-Colonies* as hath been employed a Hundred Years in producing *Sugar-Canes*, may be said to be worn out, if compared with fresh Land in the *French Sugar-Colonies*: But it is not true, that all or the greatest Part of the cultivated Lands in the *French Sugar-Colonies*, are fertile and fresh; or that all or the greatest Part of the cultivated Lands in the *British Sugar-Colonies*, are poor and worn out.

For according to Mr. *Labat's* Account, the most fertile Lands in the *French Sugar-Colonies* did not yield more *Sugar*, upon equal Spaces, than Mr. *Ligon* first, and Sir *Hans Sloane* afterwards, said were produced upon the good Lands in *Barbadoes* and in *Jamaica*; and as to the Freshness of the *French Sugar-Lands*, it is to be observed, that both the *English* and *French* were taught the Art of making *Sugar*, by *Dutch* Refugees who were driven out of *Brasil* by the *Portuguese*, soon after the Year 1640, and went to *Barbadoes*, *St. Christopher's*, *Guadeloupe*, &c.

The largest Crops of *French Sugar* which I find mentioned in Mr. *Labat's* Account of the *French Sugar-Colonies*, were from Twelve to Sixteen Hogheads of *Muscovado Sugar*, upon a Piece of Land that was One Hundred Paces square; and such Crops were not ordinarily yielded upon the Lands which produced them, but only when the *Sugar-Canes* had been well looked after, when they were cut in a good Season, and at their full Maturity: Of which Circumstances it is necessary to take Notice, as neither Sir *Hans Sloane*, nor Mr. *Ligon*, were so well acquainted with the State of the *British Sugar-Colonies*, as Mr. *Labat* was with those of *France*, and therefore the two former have contented themselves with mentioning what was a great Crop of *Sugar*; for Sir *Hans Sloane* says, that an Acre of Canes [in *Jamaica*] yields sometimes 4,000 [Pounds] of *Sugar*; and Mr. *Ligon* says, that an Acre of good Canes [in *Barbadoes*] would yield 4,000 Pounds Weight of *Sugar*, and that none would yield less than 2,000 Weight. See the Introduction to Sir *H. Sloane's* History of *Jamaica*, Pages 61, 62; and Mr. *Ligon's* History of *Barbadoes*, Page 95.

E. Now

Now in order to make a Comparison between those Crops of *French* and of *British Sugars*, it is necessary to ascertain in *English* Measure, the Quantity of *Land* contained in a Square of 100 *French* Paces, and the Number of *Pounds* that a Hoghead of *French Sugar* weighed; in the doing of which, Regard must be had to what Mr. *Labat* hath mentioned concerning the Extent of the *French* Pace, and the Size of a *French* Sugar-Hoghead; the former of which, he says, contains $3\frac{1}{2}$ Feet in *Martinico*, but only 3 Feet in *Guadeloupe*, and the latter contained 550 *Pounds*.

So that it is easy to determine how much that Crop of *French Sugar* weighed; for 16, the greatest Number of *Hogheads*, being multiplied by 550, the Number of *French Pounds* in each, gives Eight Thousand Eight Hundred of those *Pounds* for the whole Product: but it is not so easy to determine the Quantity of *Land* whereon that *Sugar* was produced, because the nominal *Pace* contains Half a *Foot* more in *Martinico* than in *Guadeloupe*: and as I have taken the greatest Extreme in computing the *Sugar*, I must not do the like in Regard to the *Land*.

I shall therefore rate the *Pace* at Three *Feet* and a Quarter *French* Measure, and I shall consider both the *Foot* and the *Pound*, in this Case, as *English* ones; because I find that they exceed our *Foot* and *Pound*, in nearly the same Proportion, and consequently no material Error can be thereby produced: So that nothing more remains to be done in this Matter, than to ascertain how many *Acres* and what Part of an *Acre* of *Land* are contained in a Square of Three Hundred and Twenty-five *English* Feet, or $108\frac{1}{4}$ *Yards*; and this I make to be Two *Acres* $2,056\frac{1}{4}$ square *Yards*, or somewhat more than Two-Fifth Parts of an *Acre*.

From which Quantity of the best *Lands* in the *French* Sugar-Colonies there were produced, under a Concurrence of all favourable Circumstances, 8,800 *Pounds* of *brown* or *Muscovado Sugar*, according to Mr. *Labat's* Account; but from the like Quantity of the best *Lands* in *Barbadoes*, as well as in *Jamaica*, there were produced Nine Thousand Six Hundred *Pounds* of such *Sugar*, according to the Accounts given by Sir *Hans Sloane* and Mr. *Ligon*, of the Produce of *Sugar* upon an *Acre*.

And from hence it may with good Reason be concluded, that the *British* Sugar-Colonies contain as fertile *Lands* for the Production of *Sugar*, as any which belong to the *French* Sugar-Planters; without reckoning upon the Superiority that here appears in our Favour; for that will serve to answer such Errors as Persons, who are better acquainted with *French* Weights and Measures, may discover in the preceding Reductions; though, according to the Books which I have referred to for Information, those Errors cannot be great.

The next Thing to be inquired into, is, the Freshness of the *Lands* in the *French* Sugar-Colonies; and this depends upon the Time that those Colonies

first became considerable, which the Advocates for our Sugar-Planters have placed about Forty Years later than it was, and thereby misled many Persons; for they date the Rise of the *French* Sugar-Colonies, from the Year 1714, when the *British North American* People first supplied them with *Provisions*, *Lumber*, &c.; and Mr. *Ashley* says, that before the Year 1716, no *French Sugars* were known to be imported into *Hamburg*. See his Memoirs, Part I, Page 77.

But it appears by the first Memorial presented by the Deputies of the Council of Trade in *France*, to the Royal Council, in the Year 1701, that the *French* Sugar-Colonies had been in a powerful and flourishing State, so long ago as the latter Part of the Reign of our King *Charles II*: for at that Time there were above Sixty *French* Ships employed in their *Tobacco* Trade to *St. Domingo*; and the imperfect Account there given of the Numbers of People in their several Sugar-Colonies, contains enough to shew, that they had been very powerful.

I call the Account imperfect, because it mentions the State of some Colonies, in their Prosperity; of others, when they were greatly decayed; and doth not specify what Numbers of Inhabitants there had been in Two of their Sugar-Colonies, which were destroyed by the *English* in King *William's* War: So that I do not know how to give the Reader a better Idea of the former prosperous State of the *French* Sugar-Colony Trade (from what is mentioned in that Memorial) than by saying, it employed a Hundred Sail of Ships in the Year 1701, and yet was called a ruined Trade.

As to what our commercial Writers have said concerning that Trade, I have met with little more than loose Hints, which seem to have proceeded more from Conjecture than certain Information, excepting what is mentioned by Mr. *John Collins*, in his Plea for the Importation of *Irish Cattle*, published in 1680; and he, in speaking of our Sugar-Colonies, says, "How great our Loss of *Negroes*, and Inhabitants was in 1666, off the Islands of *St. Christopher's*, *Montserrat*, and *Antego*, is not so proper to mention as bewail, in regard the *French* have more Islands full manned, and a considerable Fleet commonly abroad in those Parts." Page 20.

To these Accounts I shall add an Extract from a Manuscript that was presented to a great Man in the Reign of King *William*.

"The *French* Sugar-Colonies not only supply *France* with all the *Sugar* it wants, which formerly took off some Thousands of Tons of *English* *Sugar*, but by making *Dunkirk* Custom-free for *Sugars*, had before the War [in the Reign of King *William*] driven the *English* quite out of the *Sugar-Trade* in *Flanders*, which formerly took off great Quantities of *English* *Sugar*, and also supply the Markets of *Holland*, *Hamburg*, and *Germany*; and by Reason of the Nearness of *Marseilles* and *Toulon* to
"Italy,

“ *Italy*, the *French* are able to supply the Markets of *Italy* and the *Streights* cheaper than the *English* can.

From this early Increase of the *French* Sugar-Colonies, it is manifest, that the *British* and *French* Sugar-Planters are nearly upon a Par in regard to the *Freshness* of their *Lands*, excepting such Advantages as the *French* have gained by the bad Husbandry of our Planters; whose Complaints of their *Lands* being worn out, are well answered in a Case that was presented to Parliament on Behalf of the *New Englanders*, wherein it is said, that if the *French Lands* are fresher [than the *English Lands*] 'tis because they don't tear out the Heart of them.

The like Complaints of the *English* Sugar-Lands being worn out, were made by the Inhabitants of *Barbadoes*, so long ago as the Reign of King *William*; and yet their Successors have been able of late Years to export about *Twenty-five Thousand* Hogheads of *Sugar* annually, which I believe is full as much as was yearly exported, 80 or 90 Years ago; for the Duty of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. in that Island was farmed for seven Years from *Christmas* 1670, at £7000 per Annum, and I have good Reason to believe it did not produce near that Sum; whereas the Produce thereof should have been above £10,000 a Year, if 25,000 Hogheads of *Sugar* had been annually exported from thence at that Time.

The following Extract from another printed Paper, that was written in Behalf of the *British North American* People, about the Year 1731, explains how our Sugar-Planters *Lands* came to be worn out

“ The Islanders (chiefly the *Barbadians*) say, that their *Lands* are worn out, and require a greater Charge in the Cultivation, and therefore they cannot afford their *Sugars* as cheap as formerly.—If it be so indeed, whom have they to blame but themselves?—If they had practised the same good Husbandry which all prudent Men do, by letting a competent Part of their *Lands* rest for a Time, they might have kept the whole in good Condition; and though they would not then indeed have reaped so large yearly Crops, yet 'tis evident from the large Estates we have seen raised by them, that even with this provident Abatement and frugal Oeconomy, they might have sufficiently enriched themselves, and perhaps have found their Accounts better in the End, since then they might have managed their Business with a much less Number of *Slaves** than are now requisite for their annual manuring.”

* In one of Mr. *Bennett's* Letters concerning the Sugar-Colonies, it is said, that in the Year 1676, in Sir *Jonathan Atkins's* Government, the Number of white Men in *Barbadoes* alone, was computed to be Twenty Thousand (besides Women and Children) and Eighty Thousand *Negroes*, Page 35 in the 2d Edition; but in the Year 1724, the Number of white Men in that Island, able to bear Arms, was only Four Thousand Eight Hundred and Twelve, according to the Representation from the Board of Trade

Trade, &c. Page 9; and about the Year 1740, the Number of *Negroes* there, was usually Sixty Thousand.—*Ashley's* Memoirs, Part I. Page 71.

So that when the Island of *Barbadoes* contained above Twenty Thousand white People and about Twenty Thousand *Negroes* MORE than it hath done of late Years, the annual Produce of *Sugar* there, was about Twenty-five Thousand Hogheads, which was usually sold at Ten Shillings per 100 lb. by the Planters; and as of late Years, their Successors have produced the same Quantity of *Sugar* annually, with 20,000 *Negroes* less than were employed for the like Product Eighty Years ago, and also with a much less Number of white People, it is evident, that *Sugar* ought to be cheaper now than formerly, on this Account alone.

But as there are other Reasons for expecting such Cheapness, I shall mention what I have to say farther on that Head, in its proper Place, and continue the Comparison between the Advantages and Disadvantages of the *British* and *French* Sugar-Planters.

Concerning the Numbers of white People employed in the *British* and *French* Sugar-Colonies.

The *French* Sugar-Planters employ a much greater Number of white People, in Proportion to the Number of their *Negroes*, than are employed by the *British* Sugar-Planters, and by that Means make their Sugar-Colonies much stronger than our Sugar-Colonies are; for according to the Evidence given by Captain *Fayrer Hall* before a Committee of The Honourable House of Commons, in *April* 1731, and soon after printed by his Direction, the *French* have One white Man to every Three *Negroes*, whereas the *English* have only One white Man to Twenty *Negroes*.

This was not formerly the Case in our Sugar-Colonies, but *Thirst* after Gain hath made it so of late Years; for *Negroes* do not receive either Wages, decent Cloathing, or Christian Treatment, and as *British* Servants must have such Things, the Sugar-Planters keep very few white People; but by so doing, our Planters have a great Advantage over the *French* Sugar-Planters, who employ Six or Seven Times as many of their own Country-People; for even *French* Servants in the *West-Indies* do undoubtedly, one Way or other, cost their *French* Masters Forty Shillings a Year more per Man or Woman, than the Purchase-Money, Maintenance, and Cloathing of a like Number of *Negroes*-Men or Women come to.

But as on the other Hand, *British* Servants in our Colonies are better paid, cloathed, and fed, than *French* Servants are in the *French* Colonies, the increased Charge to the *French* Sugar-Planters, by employing so much greater

greater Numbers of white People, must be lower rated on this Account; and therefore, instead of estimating that increased Charge conformably to the proportional Numbers of white Servants (6 or 7 to 1) I shall compute upon only Thirty Thousand, which, at Forty Shillings annually *per Head*, makes this Disadvantage of the *French Sugar-Planters*, to be *Sixty Thousand Pounds* a Year.

Concerning the Supplies of *Negroes* for the *British* and *French Sugar-Colonies*.

The annual Supply of *Negroes* for the Cultivation of *Sugar*, is the greatest Article of Expence attending the *Sugar-Colonies*, and in this Respect, the *British Sugar-Planters* have all along had a considerable Advantage over the *French Sugar-Planters*; for the great Number of *British* Forts and Factories established on the Coast of *Africa*, have constantly kept the *Slave-Trade* open to our *African* Traders, and enabled them to purchase much greater Numbers of *Negroes* than were wanted for the *British Colonies*.

Inasmuch, that for Forty Years past, the *British* Traders to *Africa*, have not only supplied our *Sugar, Tobacco, &c.* Colonies with sufficient Numbers of *Negroes*, at moderate Prices, but have likewise been able to furnish several Thousands yearly, for the *Spanish Colonies*; while on the other Hand, the *French*, for Want of a proper Number of Forts and Factories upon the *African* Coast, have been very indifferently supplied with *Negroes*, at least, they have not been well supplied by the *African* Traders of their own Nation.

But it seems that *present Gain* induced our *Sugar-Planters* to furnish the *French* with *Negroes*; for the *British North American* People say, that the main Cause of the very great Increase of the *French Sugar-Plantations* on the Island of *Hispaniola* [or *St. Domingo*] was, *their being constantly supplied with Negroes from Jamaica*; and I have not met with any Reply to this Charge, though it was published when there was a great Contest between the *Northern Colonies* and the *Sugar-Colonies*, and when it was the Interest of the *Sugar-Planters* to set forth every Article of national Merit that they could by any Means attribute to themselves.

Concerning the Supplies of *salted Beef, Pork, Butter, Fish, Lumber, Horses, &c.* for the *British* and *French Sugar-Colonies*.

As both the *British* and *French Sugar-Planters* trade to the same Markets, or with the same People, for these Commodities, neither of them can have any material Advantage over the other, at least, I do not know of any such Advantage; and as to the Disadvantage that our *Sugar-Planters* seem

seem to be under, by paying *Money* for Part of their Supplies from the *Northern Colonies*, I have already shewn, that this Loss and many others fall upon their Mother-Country, and not upon them.

Concerning the *Taxes* paid in the *British* and *French Sugar-Colonies*.

The Advocates for the *British Sugar-Planters* say, that *French Sugar* is charged with only *One per Cent.* for Duty in the *French Colonies*; and from thence it may be inferred, that the *French Sugar-Planters* are not charged with any other *Imposts*; but upon looking into some of the commercial Regulations made by the late *French King*, I find there were formerly *Two other Taxes* in the *French Sugar-Colonies*, from which the *French Planters* in *St. Christopher's* were exempted for 4 Years, in Consideration of their Losses by War.

Now though those *Taxes* may have been long since taken off, without laying any others, yet, that may not have been the Case, and therefore I wish that some Person who is well informed of the State of the *French Sugar-Colonies*, would publicly say how that Matter is; for I do not know that there is any *Tax* laid upon *Sugar* in *Jamaica*, either before or on Exportation from thence, and yet the Inhabitants of that Island raise, by *Taxes* on other Things, as much *Money* as defrays the Charges of their civil Government.

Of which *Taxes*, as well as of the Duty of Four and a half *per Cent.* in *Barbadoes*, and in the *British Leeward Islands*, Mr. *Ashley* hath given very particular Accounts in his Memoirs concerning the Trade and Revenues of the *British Colonies* in *America*; and those Accounts, together with what he hath mentioned in relation to the Manner of accounting for the Duty of *4½ per Cent. &c.* give Reason to think, that one Way or other, there is near *Forty Thousand Pounds* a Year raised for public Taxes in all the *British Sugar-Colonies*.

Concerning the Prices for which the *British* and *French Sugar-Planters* sell their *Melasses* and *Rum*.

The Price of *Sugar* depends much upon the Prices of *Melasses* and *Rum*; for as those Three Commodities are all produced from the *Sugar-Cane*, the more *Money* the *Sugar-Planters* receive for the Two latter, the cheaper will they be able to sell the former; but the Advocates for our *Sugar-Planters* would have it be believed, that the *French Sugar-Planters* used to throw away their *Melasses*, before the *British North American* People took it in exchange for the *Provisions, Lumber, Horses, &c.* wherewith they supplied the *French Sugar-Colonies*.

Mr. *Ashley*, in speaking of this Trade between the *British Northern Colonies* and the *French Sugar-Colonies*, says, that by Means thereof, the *French*

French can afford *Sugar* near One-Third cheaper than they could, when they flung away their *Melasses* for Want of a *British* Vent. *Memoirs* Part 1st, Pages 31, 32—But he hath left other People to find out the Time when this was done, and to take that for a Fact which he hath not asserted to be one; for if the *French* never flung away their *Melasses* for Want of a *British* Vent, what he hath seemingly asserted, comes to nothing at all.

And there is even a farther Use in this dextrous Assertion of Mr *Ashley's*; for such Persons as have not inquired into Things of this Sort, may be thereby induced to believe, that *Great Britain* and the *British* Dominions are the only Countries wherein *Melasses* can be sold; but neither of these Things either are, or ever were true in a general Sense; nor can any Person reasonably imagine that the lower Classes of People in other Countries do not use *Treacle*, (*Melasses*) to sweeten some of their Eatables, and to make drinkable Liquors, when he considers that great Quantities of *Treacle* are so used by the poorer Sort of our own People.

In the Reign of King *Charles II.* this Nation was so far from wanting foreign *Melasses*, that there were Three Thousand 334 Tons of that Commodity exported from hence to *Holland*, in One Year ending at *Michaelmas* 1669, as appears by *Dr. Davenant's* Report, Part 2d, Page 6; and the said Export is there valued at Fifty seven Thousand 510 Pounds, which shews that *Melasses* was a considerable Article in *Holland* and other Countries, as well as in *England*; for according to that Valuation thereof, the then Price must have been Seventeen Pounds per Ton, or £8 : 10 : 0 per Hoghead, including Freight to *England*, Port-Charges, and *English* Merchants Profits.

Now as there hath constantly been a great Trade carried on between the *French* and *Dutch*, even when they were at War against each other, it is extremely natural to think that the *French* Sugar-Planters, as well as the *English*, sold a great Part of their *Melasses* in *Holland*, at that Time; and the Treaty of Commerce which was concluded between *France* and *Holland* in the Year 1699, doth in a Manner prove that this was the Case; for though there are only Nine Sorts of *French* Commodities specified in that Treaty, yet is *Melasses* one of them; and the high Duty of Five *Florins* per Hundred Weight [above Eight Pounds Sterling per Ton] is thereby stipulated to be paid upon the Importation of that Commodity from *France* into *Holland*; than which there need not a better Proof of former great Consumption of *French Melasses* there.

And according to Mr. *Labat's* Account, the *French* Sugar-Planters, at that Time, did not only make *Rum*, which he calls very good Merchandize, but had even a more profitable Way of employing their *Melasses*, by making coarse *Sugar* from it: So that upon the Whole, there is great Reason to believe, that the *French* Sugar-Planters did formerly make as much Profit by their *Melasses* and *Rum* as the *British* Sugar-Planters made by theirs, although they have not done so of late Years. For

For the great Consumption of *Rum* in this Kingdom, hath not only raised the Price of *British Rum*, to Double or Treble what it was before, but hath raised the Price of *British Melasses* also, as much greater Quantities thereof are now used for making of *Rum*; and this hath been productive of considerable Advantage to the *French* Sugar-Planters, by causing a great Consumption of *French Melasses* and *Rum* in the *British North American* Colonies, which must necessarily have raised the Prices of those Commodities.

Our Sugar-Planters likewise have another considerable Advantage over the *French* Sugar-Planters, in regard to *Melasses*, which arises from there having been of late Years, about Ten Thousand Hogheads of that Commodity annually distilled in *Great Britain*; whereas all such Distillation of *Melasses* in *France*, as well as the Consumption of *Rum* there, are undoubtedly prevented; as the same cannot be permitted without doing great Prejudice to that Kingdom, by vastly diminishing the Consumption of their *Brandy*.

Nor can the *French*, consistently with the Interest of *France*, encourage the Consumption of *French Rum* preferably to *French Brandy*, either in this Country or in any other Country in *Europe*; and as to importing *French Melasses* into *Great Britain*, excepting what may be fraudulently imported by way of the *British* Sugar-Colonies, that is barred by a Duty of Seven Pounds Ten Shillings per Ton MORE than *British Melasses* is charged with here.

All which Matters being considered, there appears to me good Reason for believing that the increased Advantages which our Sugar-Planters receive by these several Means, in the Articles of *Melasses* and *Rum*, do amount to Seventy-five Thousand Pounds a Year; but from this Sum I shall deduct One-Third Part, on account of the increased Advantages arising to the *French* Sugar-Planters from selling their *Melasses* and *Rum* at better Prices, by Means of the Consumption thereof in the *British North American* Colonies; and that will reduce the Advantages which the *British* Sugar-Planters have over the *French* Sugar-Planters, in the Articles of *Melasses* and *Rum*, to Fifty Thousand Pounds a Year, according to my Computation.

Concerning the Prices of *British* and of *French* FREIGHT from the *British* and *French* Sugar-Colonies to *Europe*.

The Freight of *Sugar* from the *West-India* Colonies makes a very considerable Part of the Price for which it is sold in *Europe*; and in this Respect the *British* Sugar-Planters have constantly had another great Advantage over the *French* Sugar-Planters; for although, according to Mr. *Ashley's* Account, the *French* found Means to lower the Prices of their Freight

for *Sugar*, within a few Years [preceding the Year 1740] from *Ten* and *Twelve* Shillings, to *Five* and *Six* Shillings per Hundred Weight, yet was it still considerably higher than *British* Freight.—Memoirs, Part I. Page 31.

Captain *Fayrer Hall*, whom I have already mentioned, says, that “no People who trade in or to the *West-Indies*, navigate so cheap, or carry any Commodities in, to, or from the *West-Indies*, for so little Money as the *English* do.”—he likewise says, that the Proportion between the Prices of *French* and of *English* Freight, for the same Distances [before the Year 1731] is, as *Five* to *Three and a half*: and as, in the Evidence given by him before a Committee of The Honourable House of Commons, he mentions his having been in every inhabited Island in the *West-Indies*, there cannot be any Doubt of his having known the Prices of foreign *West-India* Freight in general, as well as of *French West-India* Freight in particular.

But I very much doubt Mr. *Ashley's* Sincerity, in regard to *French* Freight being lowered *Five* or *Six* Shillings per Hundred Weight, within a few Years preceding the Year 1740; as Captain *Hall*, who was employed in the *West-India* and *North American* Trades for Twenty Years preceding the Year 1731, doth not take Notice of any such Reduction in the Price of *French* Freight: and when it is considered, that for a Century past, excepting in Times of War, the *French* have had a great Share in the *Newfoundland Fishery*, which depends very much upon the Price of Freight, and have been able to vie, in foreign Markets, with our *Newfoundland* Traders, I do not see how it can be believed that *French* Freight hath at any Time, in Peace, been double the Price of *English* Freight.

Nor can I look upon this Fall of 5 or 6 Shillings per Cent. lb. in the Price of *French* Freight, within a few Years preceding the Year 1740, as any Thing more than an imaginary Fall created by Mr. *Ashley*, to make People believe, that the *British* Sugar-Planters were not able to recover the foreign *European* Sugar-Trade, even after the Legislature had granted them the necessary Privileges for that Purpose; because the same Mr. *Ashley* hath given a different Account of this Matter, in his Observations on a direct Exportation of *Sugar*, published in the Year 1735; for he there says, that “*French* Freight is *Seven* or *Eight* Shillings per Hundred, and was formerly at *Twelve* Shillings per Hundred, before they traded with *New England* and had large *Ships* at first Hand in Return for their *Rum* and *Melasses*.” Page 15—

So that *French* Freight is here said to be 7 or 8 Shillings per Cent. lb. at the Time it should have been 10 or 12 Shillings per Cent. lb. according to Mr. *Ashley's* other Account; and what he called formerly in the Year 1734, he called within these few Years, in the Year 1740.—But this is a dextrous Way of leading People to make false Conclusions, without expressly saying the Thing that is not.—

Now

Now as the *French* Sugar-Planters have traded with the *New England* People ever since the Year 1714, the Reduction which that Trade enabled the *French* to make in the Price of their Freight from the *West-Indies* to *Europe*, must have been made within a very few Years after the Commencement of the said Trade, even according to what Mr. *Ashley* hath said in his Observations on a direct Exportation of *Sugar*; and as we did not wholly lose the foreign *European* Sugar-Trade till the Year 1737, the afore said Reduction in the Price of *French* Freight, neither could be the Cause of that Loss, nor an Obstacle to our regaining the said Trade, since the Contrary is undeniably proved, by a great Re-exportation of *Sugar* from hence, and by the vast Disadvantages under which it was re-exported.

For during the Years 1729, 30, 31 and 32, when *French* Freight was not only at *Five* Shillings per Cent. lb. according to Captain *Hall's* Account, but *French* *Sugar* was permitted to be exported directly from their Sugar-Colonies to foreign Markets, there were annually re-exported from *Great Britain* to foreign Countries, near *Ten Thousand* Hogheads of *Sugar*; although the said *Sugar* was sent to Market with the Charge of a second Freight, which *French* *Sugar* was not then subjected to, and with the farther Charge of *Nine* Pence per Cent. lb. for *British* Duty not drawn back upon Re-exportation; which extraordinary Charges upon our *Sugar*, at that Time, amounted to about *Three* Shillings and *Nine* Pence per Cent. lb.

So that when *British* *Sugar* was loaded with an increased Charge of 3s. 9d. per 112 Pounds, from which *French* *Sugar* was at the same Time exempted, the *British* Sugar-Planters were so far able to preserve the foreign *European* Sugar-Trade, that there were annually, and for Seven Years, re-exported from *Great Britain*, about *Ten Thousand* Hogheads of *Sugar*; but from the Time that the Legislature was pleased, upon the Representations of the *British* Sugar-Planters, to put them in a Capacity of sending their *Sugar* to foreign Markets 3s. 9d. per 112 Pounds CHEAPER than they could when 10,000 Hogheads of *Sugar* were annually re-exported from hence, the said Planters have WHOLLY LOST the foreign *European* Sugar-Trade.

And if it be asked, how this came to pass, the Sugar-Planters probably will say, that in such a Year the *Sugar-Canes* were blighted, in such a Year they were burnt up for want of *Rain*, and in such a Year there was a great *Hurricane*; so that by the alternate Help of those *Three Causes*, it is easy to SHEW why *Great Britain* hath not been in full Possession of the foreign *European* Sugar-Trade ever since the Year 1739: but if any Person would know the TRUE CAUSE of our not having had the said profitable Branch of Trade for Twenty Years past, I must beg Leave to tell him, it hath been occasioned by not permitting foreign *Sugar* to be imported into this Kingdom, upon the Payment of only moderate Duties; for the Want of such a Permission put it in the Power of the *British* Sugar-Planters, to make a Monopoly of *Sugar* here; and the monopolizing of that Commodity at Home

Home being *Five Times* as profitable to them, as selling *Sugar* Abroad, they have taken **CONSTANT CARE** to do the **ONE**, but have left the **FRENCH** to do the **OTHER**.

The Price of *French* Freight being to the Price of *English* Freight in the Proportion of *Five* to *Three and a half*, and *British Sugars* being usually brought from the *British Sugar-Colonies* to *Great Britain*, for *Three Shillings* and *Six Pence* per Hundred Weight, or *Three Pounds Ten Shillings* per Ton; the usual Price of bringing *French Sugars* from their Sugar-Colonies to *France*, must be *Five Shillings* per Hundred Weight, or *Five Pounds* per Ton; which is *Eighteen Pence* a Hundred Weight, or *Thirty Shillings* a Ton **MORE** than is paid for the Freight of *British Sugars*; and this Advantage alone, should secure to *Great Britain* the foreign *European Sugar-Trade*, if it was the only one in our Favour.

For *Eighteen Pence* per *Cent. lb.* comes to *Eighteen Shillings* per Hoghead, and that amounts to *Sixty-three Thousand Pounds* upon *Seventy Thousand Hogheads* of *Sugar*, which is the Quantity usually computed to be annually brought from our Colonies to *Europe*; and to this must be added a farther Sum, on account of the Saving in *British* Freight of *Rum* and *Melasses* to *Europe*, which probably may be *Seventeen Thousand Pounds* more, and will make the whole Advantage to the *British Sugar-Planters*, over the *French Sugar-Planters*, in the Article of *Freight*, to be *Eighty Thousand Pounds* a Year.

An **ABSTRACT** of this comparative Account of the Advantages and Disadvantages which the *British* and the *French Sugar-Planters* have, or are under, with respect to each other.

	The superior Advantages	
	<i>French</i>	<i>British</i>
By the <i>natural Fertility</i> of their <i>Lands</i> . . .	None	None
By the <i>Freshness</i> of their <i>Lands</i>	Some	} <i>Balanced by</i> <i>Negroes</i>
By the <i>disproportional Numbers</i> of <i>white Servants</i>	£ 60,000	
By the Supplies of <i>Negroes</i>	Applied to bal-	} <i>Some</i> <i>lance 2d Article</i>
By the Supplies of <i>Beef, Pork, &c.</i> from <i>Ireland</i>	None	
By the Supplies of <i>Provisions, Lumber, &c.</i> from <i>North America</i>	None	None
By <i>Taxes</i>	£ 40,000	
By <i>Melasses</i> and <i>Rum</i>		£ 50,000
By <i>Freight</i>		£ 80,000
The general Ballance in Favour of the <i>British Sugar-Planters</i> , according to this Account, is, per <i>Annum</i>	£ 150,000	
	£ 190,000	£ 190,000

I do

I do not expect the *British Sugar-Planters* to acknowledge that they have such great Advantages over the *French Sugar-Planters*, or indeed, any Advantage at all; as such an Acknowledgment would be contrary to their former Representations, and be admitting, in other Words, that our Loss of the foreign *European Sugar-Trade* hath been owing to them; but the Re-exportation of great Quantities of *Sugar* from this Kingdom to foreign Countries, for Seven Years after the *French Sugar-Planters* were permitted to export their *Sugar* and other Commodities directly to foreign *European Markets*, doth plainly shew, that the aforesaid Advantages, in favour of our *Sugar-Planters*, must have been as great as I have here represented.

For according to Mr. *Ashley's* Computation, Ten Hogheads of *Sugar* sent from the *British Sugar-Colonies* to *Great Britain* and re-exported from thence to *Hamburg*, do cost *Eighteen Pounds* and *Two Pence* **MORE** for *Freight, Port-Charges, Interest, &c.* than the like Quantity of *Sugar* sent directly from those Colonies to that City, which increased Charges come to *Three Shillings* per *Cent. lb.* of *Sugar*; and as during the said Seven Years, *British Sugar* was not only subjected to such increased Charges, but had a *British* Duty upon it of *Nine Pence* per *Cent. lb.* there could not have been near *Ten Thousand* Hogheads of *Sugar* yearly re-exported from hence to foreign Markets, under such great Disadvantages, if the same had not been ballanced by other Means.

But the preceding Ballance of *One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds* a Year, comes to only *Three Shillings* and *Seven Pence* per Hundred Weight, on *Seventy Thousand* Hogheads of *Sugar*, which doth not quite equal the then increased Charges on *British Sugar* re-exported from hence to *Hamburg*; and according to Mr. *Ashley's* own Shewing, *Three Shillings* and *Seven Pence* per *Cent. lb.* of *Sugar* was much short of the then increased Charges on *British Sugar* re-exported to the Southern Ports [in *Spain, Italy, &c.*] *Memoirs, Part 1st, Pages 99 and 101.*

For in the former of those Pages he rates the Freight of *Sugar* from hence to *Hamburg*, at *Six Shillings* and *Eight Pence* per Hoghead, and after calling that a *medium Price* to all the Northern Ports [in *Russia, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Holland, &c.*] he says, "but the Freight to the Southern Ports is above twice as much."—And when it is farther considered, how frugally the *French Sugar-Planters* live, and how Extravagance prevails in the *British Sugar-Colonies*, there will appear abundant Reason for thinking that the *British Sugar-Planters* have greater Advantages, over the *French Sugar-Planters*, than I have represented.

Our *Sugar-Planters* probably will say, that they cannot afford their *Sugar* so cheap as it was generally sold in this Kingdom, during the Years 1729, 30, 31 and 32; but their saying of this will not signify any thing, unless

unless they can make it appear that the Ballance, by them received from Great Britain in those Four Years, did not amount to Three Hundred Thousand Pounds per Annum: and as, after giving the Sugar-Planters all the Help I fairly can in this Matter (see Page 12) their annual Ballance from this Kingdom, during that Interval, came to Six Hundred Thousand Pounds, out of which they had not more than Two Hundred Thousand Pounds to pay upon all their other lawful Trade, it is in vain for them to pretend that they cannot afford Sugar at such Prices as it was then commonly sold.

For that vast annual Ballance undeniably proves, that the British Sugar-Planters could more than afford to continue selling their Sugar at such Prices; and the said Re-exportation of Sugar from hence to foreign Markets, very clearly shews, that the increased Charges of Three Shillings and Nine Pence per Cent. lb. of Sugar, did not incapacitate them from vying with the French Sugar-Planters: but our Sugar-Planters have been exempted from those increased Charges ever since the Year 1739, and thereby enabled to sell their Sugar Three Shillings and Nine Pence per Cent. lb. cheaper in foreign Markets than they could before.—All which Things being considered, it appears to me very plain, that the said Planters are chargeable with the Loss of the foreign European Sugar-Trade.

And the Commencement of that Loss must be dated at the Time when great Quantities of French, &c. Sugars begun to be fraudulently imported into the British Sugar-Colonies, as all the Sugars re-exported from Great Britain, as well as Part of the Sugar consumed in it, after that Time, are to be considered as foreign Sugars bought in the West-Indies with British Money; for which Reasons, I shall fix upon the Year 1727 for the Time when the said Loss begun, and shall carry it on to the Year 1756, as I have before done the other Losses caused by the Sugar-Colony Trade; but I shall rate that Loss at only One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds per Annum, as already mentioned in Page 16 (although the same may fairly be reckoned at £200,000 a Year); and the former of those annual Sums amounteth, in Thirty Years, to Four Millions Five Hundred Thousand Pounds.

A General

A General ABSTRACT of the LOSSES to Great Britain in particular, and to the British Dominions in general, by Means of the British Sugar-Colony Trade, in Thirty Years from 1727 to 1756.

By East-India and French Manufactures, foreign Sugars, &c. particularized in Page 14	£ 6,150,000
By French Sugars consumed in Ireland, or in the British North American Colonies, mentioned in Page 16	2,000,000
By not supplying, as formerly, foreign European Markets, with 20,000 Hogsheads of British Sugar yearly	4,500,000
The Total general of these Losses, according to my Computations, is Twelve Millions Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds	£ 12,650,000

Exclusive of the Payment of Three Millions of Pounds for Poors Rates, more than would have been to pay, if no other than British Manufactures had been worn or used in the British Sugar-Colonies (see Page 14); and besides the Loss of Employment for One Hundred Sail of British SHIPS and One Thousand British SEAMEN, which would have been employed, if the foreign European Sugar-Trade had been preserved.

Happy it is for the People of England, that their Golden Fleece, Corn-Trade, Linen, Silk, and Metallic Manufactures have produced so much Wealth as to prevent this Kingdom from being brought into a galloping Consumption by the British Sugar-Colonies; but it is very extraordinary that a Branch of Commerce which formerly was, and still might be, profitable, should unhappily have been suffered to bring such amazing Losses upon Great Britain in particular, and upon the British Dominions in general.

For that very Representation from the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, which hath enabled me to fix the principal Articles of Losses caused by our Sugar-Colony Trade, within Thirty Years past, was made so long ago as the Year 1735; and even that Representation, from the then immediate Guardians of the British Commerce and Colonies, contains a Paragraph which is sufficient to establish a Belief that this Kingdom then was a great Gainer by the said Branch of Trade.

Those Right Honourable Gentlemen, after saying that the annual Imports from Jamaica exceeded the British annual Exports to that Island, Three Hundred and Ninety-one Thousand, &c. Pounds, were pleased to account for this vast annual Ballance in the following Manner.

“ But

“ But it must not be imagined, that this Excess is a Debt upon *Great Britain* to the Island of *Jamaica*; a Part of it must be placed to the Account of *Negroes* sent to the *Spanish West-Indies* by our *South-Sea Company*, the Produce of which is returned to *England* by Way of *Jamaica*; another Part of the Debt due to our *African* Traders, from the People of *Jamaica*, for *Negroes*, which are purchased and remain there for the Service of the Island; a Third Proportion must be placed to the Account of our Northern Colonies on the Continent of *America*, who discharge Part of their Ballance with *Great Britain*, by Consignments from *Jamaica*, arising from the *Provisions* and *Lumber* with which they supply that Island, all which will appear more fully in the following Articles*: The remaining Part of the Excess, in our Importations from this Colony [*Jamaica*], is Profit made upon our Trade, whether immediately from *Great Britain*, or by Way of *Africa*; and lastly, it is a Consideration of great Importance in the general Trade of *Great Britain*, that Part of the *Sugar* and other Merchandize which we bring from *Jamaica*, is re-exported from hence, and helps to make good our Ballance in Trade with other Countries in *Europe*.” Page 6.

* The Three Articles referred to, specify the Names of the Commodities exported from the British North American Colonies, from *Africa*, and from *Ireland*, to *Jamaica*; but as neither the Quantities, Numbers, nor Values of the Commodities, so exported, are expressed in the said Articles, I think it needless to insert them.

As to the annual Excess of *One Hundred and Sixty Thousand, &c. Pounds* in our Imports from *Barbadoes*, and the annual Excess of *Five Hundred and Seventy-two Thousand, &c. Pounds* in our Imports from the *Leeward Islands*; those Right Honourable Gentlemen were pleased to account for the same in the following Manner.

“ There is little or no Variation between the Commodities which *Barbadoes* receives from *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or our Northern Colonies in *America*, and those which we have already enumerated to your Lordships, under the Title of *Jamaica*; and the Excess of our Imports from *Barbadoes* must be accounted for in the same Manner, by Money due to *Great Britain* from our *American* Colonies, and for *Slaves* brought to *Barbadoes* by our *African* Traders.” Page 8.

“ Which [annual Excess in our Imports from the *Leeward Islands*] must be accounted for in the same Manner with the Excess of our Imports from *Barbadoes*.” Page 10.

This is the Light in which those Right Honourable Gentlemen were pleased to represent the *British* Sugar-Colony Trade, for Four Years from *Christmas 1728* to *Christmas 1732*; upon which, I shall only say, that I am astonished and concerned to see *LOSS* mistaken for *PROFIT*, in a Case of such vast Importance to the *Trade*, *Wealth* and *Naval Power* of *GREAT BRITAIN*.
Concerning

Concerning the Ability of the present *British* Sugar-Planters to sell *Sugar* at lower Prices than their Predecessors could afford that Commodity.

The first Thing necessary to be ascertained on this Head, is, the common Price of *brown* or *Muscovado* *Sugar* in the *English* Sugar-Colonies, Seventy or Eighty Years ago; and according to the Accounts given thereof, by Sir *Dalby Thomas*, by an *English* Merchant, and by an Advocate for the Sugar-Planters, who all lived at the Time, that Price was *Ten Shillings* Sterling per 100 Pounds Weight of *Sugar*.

The said Merchant farther says, that at *Ten Shillings per Hundred* [for *Sugar* in the *English* Sugar-Plantations] and sometimes lower, as fair Improvements had been made, and as good Estates raised by the Planters in those Plantations, as by any other Business attempted in that Age; and as he doth not only appear to have been extremely well informed of the then State of our Sugar-Colony Trade, as a Profession to live by, but likewise to have been a Man of great Candour and good Sense, I do not make the least Doubt of the Truth of what he hath represented on this Head.

More especially, as he hath not only laid open a Number of gross Misrepresentations in a Pamphlet called “ The Groans of the Plantations,” printed in the Year 1689, to which Pamphlet, his Discourse of the Duties on Merchandize, and particularly of those on *Sugar*, printed in the Year 1695, was an Answer; but hath likewise been so ingenuous as to publish one of those Things concerning the *British* Sugar-Colonies, which are commonly called *Secrets in Trade*; and that is more than I can say of any other Writer on this Branch of Commerce, excepting Captain *Fayrer Hall*, whose Account of that Matter will be mentioned in its proper Place.

So that there is good Authority for saying, that the common Price of *brown* or *Muscovado* *Sugar* in the *British* Sugar-Colonies Seventy or Eighty Years ago, was *Ten Shillings* Sterling per 100 Pounds Weight, and that the Sugar-Planters could well afford it at such Price; the latter of which Things, I believe, is still farther vouched by Governor *Codrington's* Account of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Duty in *Barbadoes* and the *Leeward Islands*, from 1 Jan. 1689 to 7 Dec. 1694; for I have great Reason to think that *Muscovado* *Sugar* is therein said to be sold at only *Nine Shillings per 100 Pounds* Weight.

I shall therefore proceed to consider, what Alterations there have been in those Colonies, or in the Trade, &c. thereof, which have enabled the present Possessors of the same to sell *Sugar* at lower Prices than their Predecessors could afford that Commodity.

K

And

And the first Thing to be taken Notice of, is, a Decrease of late Years in the Number of white People in *Barbadoes*, if not in our other Sugar-Colonies, to a *Third* or *Fourth* Part of the Number that lived there, Seventy or Eighty Years ago, as is already mentioned in Page 20; for all the white People who lived in the *English* Sugar-Colonies at that Time, were undoubtedly maintained by the Produce and Trade thereof; and as *Sugar* could then be well afforded at *Ten Shillings Ster. per 100 Pounds Weight*, it certainly may be sold cheaper now the Number of white People is so much less.

The Decrease in the Number of *Negroes* in *Barbadoes*, if not in our other Sugar-Colonies, is another Reason why *Sugar* should have been cheaper of late Years, than formerly it was in those Colonies; as greater Quantities of *Sugar* are now produced with lesser Numbers of *Negroes*.

For according to a Manuscript Account of the Quantities of *Sugar* imported from the *English* Colonies into the Port of *London*, in Five Years from *Lady-Day 1687* to *Lady-Day 1692*, the medium annual Import was not more than *Two Hundred and Forty Thousand Six Hundred Ninety-six Cent. lb.* and $22\frac{1}{2}$ Pounds; and if the annual Import of *Sugar* into the Out-Ports of *England*, during those Five Years, be rated at the like Quantity, as I have Reason to think it should be, although contrary to a general Rule in such Cases, the whole Importation will then be only *Forty Thousand Hogsheads* of *12 Cent. lb.* yearly.

So that considering how much greater Numbers of white People, as well as of *Negroes*, there were in the Island of *Barbadoes*, if not in our other Sugar-Colonies, about that Time, than there have been of late Years, it is surprizing that the Importation of *Sugar* was not greater; for if One Half of the *Forty Thousand Hogsheads*, then annually imported into *England*, be allotted for the Produce of *Barbadoes*, the remaining *Twenty Thousand Hogsheads* will be only a moderate Proportion for *Jamaica* and our Four principal *Leeward Islands* (*Antigua, St. Christopher's, Nevis, and Montserrat*); and as in the Years 1730, 31, &c. the Island of *Barbadoes* annually produced *Twenty-five Thousand Hogsheads* of *Sugar*, by the Help of a much less Number of People than lived there Seventy or Eighty Years ago, it is very extraordinary that the yearly Crop of *Sugar* in those Times, should be only *Twenty Thousand Hogsheads*.

But Sir *Dalby Thomas* hath explained how it came to pass, that with so great a Number of People there was not such a Quantity of *Sugar* annually produced in the *English* Sugar-Colonies at that Time, as, from greater Crops since produced, one might have expected to hear of; for according to that Gentleman's Account of Sugar-Plantations, as the same were then managed in *Barbadoes*, the *Sugar-Cane* Lands in that Island were not permitted to remain fallow and thereby recover their natural Fertility, but were worn out of Heart by incessant Culture.

Whereas,

Whereas, of late Years, such ill Husbandry hath not been generally practised in our Sugar-Colonies; for Dr. *Douglas*, who was in those Colonies, says, that the Sugar-Planters divide their Cane-Lands into Thirds, one whereof is reaped, another is new planted, and the third lies fallow—*Douglas's History of America*, Vol. I. Page 118. So that after repeated Censures of the *New England* People, for that bad Husbandry, our Sugar-Planters have at last had Recourse to better, by leaving NATURE to restore, *without Expence to them*, that vegetative Force which they could not so well recover, by *expensive Labour and Manure*.

And one of the Advocates for our Sugar-Planters hath carried good Husbandry so far, *upon Paper*, as to plant only Two Hundred Acres yearly out of One Thousand; in which Way of reckoning, Four Hundred of that Thousand Acres must always be fallow Land, allowing Two Hundred Acres for Corn, Pasture, &c.: but that *Paper Husbandry* seems to be intended for no other Use than to bring out only a *small Ballance* for the Sugar-Planter, as the ingenious Calculator hath charged several round Sums for Work, which Captain *Fayrer-Hall* says, is performed, in the *British* Sugar-Colonies, by *Negroes*, who work Five Days and a Half in the Week *without Wages*, and Half a Day to raise Food and buy Cloathing for themselves.

That Calculator hath likewise attributed to Nature, a greater Variation in the Quantity of her Productions, than I believe she commonly makes in the Crops of *Sugar* yearly produced in the *British* Sugar-Colonies; for the Quantities of *Sugar* annually imported into *Great Britain* are a very good Index whereby to discover the Ebbings and Flowings of Nature's Bounty to the Sugar-Planters; and as the Finger of that Index hath pointed to the round Number, *Sixty Thousand Hogsheads*, for Twenty successive Years, without any great Variation either Way, it is a Sort of Proof, that Nature is not so irregular in her Productions of *Sugar*, as to vary them, in Five succeeding Years, so widely as the Numbers 50, 20, 40, 30 and 35 differ from each other.

Favourable Inferences may however be drawn from such Calculations, when accompanied with smooth and gentle Reasoning, as that disputes People to take for granted what they cannot disprove; and the greater Latitude our Sugar-Planters ascribe to Nature, in this Respect, the more Room do they make for themselves; since it is quite reasonable that They who are exposed to such great Risques by extremely variable Crops, should have adequate Premiums of Insurance, *in the Rate of their Profits*; but the regular Importation of about *Sixty Thousand Hogsheads* of *Sugar* annually and for *Twenty Years*, plainly shews, that Crops of *Sugar* are very far from being so variable as the said Calculator hath represented.

And

And if the Variations in the Crops of *Corn* in *England* were to be compared with the Variations in the Crops of *Sugar* in the *British* Sugar-Colonies, I believe it would appear, that the Planters of *Corn* in this Kingdom suffer more by the Uncertainty of Seasons here, than the Planters of *Sugar* in those Colonies suffer by the Uncertainty of Seasons there; for I very much doubt, whether in any *Two* of the *Twenty* Years last past, the annual Importation of *Sugar* into *Great Britain* hath been so low as *Fifty*, or so high as *Seventy* Thousand Hogheads; and I am persuaded that the *Freeholders* and *Farmers* of *England* have had *more* and *greater* Variations in their Crops of *Corn* and *Hay* within that Time.

The several Things mentioned under this Head, shew, that the present *British* Sugar-Planters are not at near so much Expence as their Predecessors were, either for white Servants or for *Negroes*, to produce the like Quantities of *Sugar*; and if I was to estimate the Saving in these Two Articles, conformably to the Decreases which there have been in the Numbers of white People, and of *Negroes*, in the Island of *Barbadoes*, as mentioned in Page 20, it would amount to a vast Sum yearly; but I shall reckon the whole Saving to be no more than the Expence of *Thirty* Thousand *Negroes*, whose little Portions of *Land*, *Medicines*, &c. at *Ten* *Shillings* a Year *per* Head, will be *Fifteen* Thousand *Pounds*; and the annual Supply of *Negroes* requisite to keep up such a Stock, is usually computed to be *One* Thousand *Five* Hundred; which Number, at $\text{£}25$ *ster.* *per* Head, cost *Thirty-seven* Thousand *Five* Hundred *Pounds*, and make the whole Saving to be *Fifty-two* Thousand *Five* Hundred *Pounds* a Year.

The *Prices* of *Negroes* is next to be considered, and these, I believe, have been somewhat lower for *Forty* Years last past, than they were *Seventy* or *Eighty* Years ago; which hath been chiefly occasioned by laying open the *African* Trade, and partly by protecting our Commerce better than formerly: but the present Sugar-Planters would have it be believed, that they pay much higher Prices than their Predecessors paid for *Negroes*; and this may be true in respect to particular Years, but I am persuaded it is not so upon an Average of any *Forty* Years, preceding the *Forty* Years last past.

Anno 1649. *Thirty* *Pounds* *ster.* was a Price for the best *Man-Negro*; 25, 26, or 27 *Pounds*, for a *Woman-Negro*; the Children were at lower Prices.—*Ligon's* History of *Barbadoes*, Page 46.

During the Years 1658, 59, 60 and 61, the medium Price of *Negroes* was *Seventeen* *Pounds* *ster.* *per* Head.—The Royal *African* Company's Answer to the Petition of Sir *Paul Painter* and others, printed in the Year 1667, Page 11.

Anno 1666. The Price of *Negroes* was *Thirty* *Pounds* *ster.* *per* Head.—The same Answer, Page 13.

Anno

Anno 1690. Sir *Dalby Thomas* rates the Cost of *Fifty* *Negroes* at *One* Thousand *two* Hundred and *Fifty* *Pounds*, which comes to *Twenty-five* *Pounds* *per* Head.—Historical Account of the Rise of the *West-India* Colonies, printed in the Year 1690, Page 18.

In the Year 1698, the Trade to *Africa* was so far laid open, that any *English* Subjects might trade there, upon paying a Duty of *Ten* *per* Cent. on their Cargoes outwards and inwards (excepting on *Negroes*), towards the Charge of maintaining the *English* Forts, Garrisons, &c. in *Africa*; and for *Ten* Years after, *Negroes* were said to have been sold in our Sugar-Colonies, from *Fourteen* to *Twenty-three* *Pounds* *per* Head, by the separate *African* Traders.

But this is denied by an Advocate for the *African* Company, who says, he had seen Petitions from the then Inhabitants of *Barbadoes*, *Montserrat*, and *Nevis*, to The Honourable House of Commons, setting forth, that the said Inhabitants had not been supplied, either by the *African* Company or by the separate Traders to *Africa*, with sufficient Numbers of *Negroes*; and more over had been obliged to pay from *Twenty-five* to *Forty* *Pounds* in *Barbadoes*, and from *Forty* to *Sixty* *Pounds* in *Montserrat*, *per* Head for the *Negroes* brought to those Islands.—Reflections, &c. upon the Trade to *Africa*, printed in the Year 1709, Part 1st, Pages 14 and 15

Nearly the same Account of the then high Prices of *Negroes* in the *British* Sugar-Colonies, was soon after given by a Planter.—Observations shewing the Danger of losing the Trade of the Sugar-Colonies, printed in the Year 1714, Page 8.

Anno 1731. An Advocate for the Sugar-Planters, rates the medium Price of *Negroes*—*Men*, *Women*, *Boys* and *Girls*, of late Years, at *Twenty-two* *Pounds* *ster.* *per* Head.—Detection of the State, &c. of the Sugar-Planters, printed for *J. Wilford* in the Year 1732, Page 42.

Anno 1744. Mr. *Ashley* rates the Price of *Negroes* at *Twenty-five* *Pounds* *ster.* *per* Head, as is already mentioned in the State of Exports to the *British* Sugar-Colonies; and that, I believe, hath been nearly the general Price of *Negroes* there, for *Forty* Years last past; but the Accounts here inserted of the former Prices of *Negroes*, do not give Reason to think that our Sugar-Colonies were either so cheaply or near so regularly and plentifully supplied, in any preceding and like Interval of Time, although *Negroes* have in some Years been cheaper there.

I did intend to have inserted an Account of the *Prices* of *Negroes* on the Coast of *Africa*, at such Times as I have found them mentioned by the commercial Writers of this Kingdom; but I believe it will be sufficient to observe, that the said Prices were from *Two* to *Three* *Pounds* *per* Head till within the last *Sixty* Years, and have since been raised to *Six*,

L

Seven,

Seven, or Eight Pounds per Head: so that though our African Traders have paid above Twice as much per Head for Negroes of late Years, as was paid when the African Trade was carried on by an exclusive Company, yet have the British Colonies been somewhat cheaper and much more plentifully supplied with Negroes, since that Trade hath been laid open to all the Subjects of Great Britain.

And upon the whole, it appears, that the British Sugar-Planters have of late Years been supplied with Negroes at as low Prices, as Negroes were sold in the British Sugar-Colonies Seventy or Eighty Years ago, which is all I mean to shew here; for this Advantage in Favour of the present Sugar-Planters is too inconsiderable to be brought to Account; and yet, I was under a Necessity of stating the Matter, as they have publicly and repeatedly said, that Negroes were formerly much cheaper in our Colonies, than Negroes have been of late.

As to the Articles of Rum and Melasses, scarcely any of the Former was consumed in England, Forty Years ago; and the Quantities annually distilled here of the Latter, have been about Ten Times as great of late Years, as they were in the Reign of King William; before which Reign, I believe there were but very small Quantities of Melasses-Spirits made in this Kingdom; because high Duties were not laid upon French Brandy in England, till after the happy Accession of that great Prince; and it is not likely that many People drank English-made Melasses-Spirits when they could buy French Brandy at moderate Prices; nor doth the great Exportation of Melasses from hence to Holland, in the Year 1669 (see Page 24) give any Reason for thinking so,

These Facts and Circumstances being attended to, there appears good Reason for saying, that the Planters who possessed the British Sugar-Colonies Seventy or Eighty Years ago, received but very little Advantage from England, in the Articles of Rum and Melasses, although they then sold and could afford to sell their Sugar at Ten Shillings per 100 Pounds Weight in those Colonies; but it is at the same Time to be observed, on the other Hand, that neither the British nor the French Sugar-Planters did then throw away their Melasses; for what I have inserted in Pages 23 and 24, concerning that Commodity, shews, it was a profitable Article even at that Time, though not of so much Value as the British and North American Consumption of Rum have made Melasses to be of late Years.

So that after considering as well the one as the other of these Things, I am induced to believe, that the Advantages which the present British Sugar-Planters have in the Articles of Rum and Melasses, MORE than their Predecessors had Seventy or Eighty Years ago, are not greater than the said Advantages have of late Years been with respect to the French Sugar-Planters; for which Reason, I shall in this Case, as I have done in the other, rate the said Advantages at no more than Fifty Thousand Pounds a Year.

As

As to Supplies of Beef, Pork, and Butter from Ireland, those Commodities have been, upon the Whole, somewhat cheaper of late Years, than the like Commodities were Seventy or Eighty Years ago, according to the Accounts given thereof, by Sir Francis Brewster and Arthur Dobbs Esq;—for the Prices of Irish Pork and Butter are considerably fallen, and the Price of Irish salted Beef hath continued at about Eighteen Shillings per Barrel.—Brewster on Trade, Page 106, &c.—Dobbs on the Trade of Ireland. Part 1st Page 19.

But it seems reasonable, on the other Hand, to think that the Supplies of Provisions, Lumber, Horses, &c. from the British North-American Colonies have of late Years been made dearer to the British Sugar-Planters, by the great Consumption of such Commodities in the French Sugar-Colonies; and therefore I shall not bring any Thing to Account for the preceding Article, but consider the present Sugar-Planters Advantage under that Head, as ballanced, by the Disadvantage to them under this Head.

I do not know that there hath been any material Alteration in the Prices of our Woollen Manufactures within Seventy or Eighty Years last past; nor can the Consumption of Woollen Cloathing be considerable in such hot Climates as the British Sugar-Colonies are situated: but the present British Sugar-Planters are supplied with Linen at cheaper Rates than their Predecessors could buy that Commodity.

For the vast Improvements made of late Years in the British and Irish Linen Manufacturies, have considerably lowered the Prices of Linen Cloth, &c.; inasmuch, that foreign Linens are said to be Twenty per Cent. cheaper than formerly; and as the Consumption of Linen in our Sugar-Colonies must be very great, in Proportion to the Number of white People there, a Fall of Twenty or even of Ten per Cent. in the Price of that Commodity, is material to them.

But as there possibly may be an Increase in some other Articles of Expence to the present Sugar-Planters, which do not occur to me, I shall not reckon any Thing for their Saving in the Article of Linen, although it probably amounts to Twenty Thousand Pounds a Year; and as to their increased Charges, by paying higher Wages to their white Servants, I have considered that Matter in estimating the Sugar-Planters Savings, by not employing so many of such Servants, or of Negroes, and have therein made ample Allowance for the said increased Charges.

An

An ABSTRACT of this comparative Account of the Advantages and Disadvantages which have arisen of late Years to the British Sugar-Planters; shewing the Ability of those Planters to sell Sugar at considerably lower Prices than their Predecessors could afford that Commodity, Seventy or Eighty Years ago.

ADVANTAGES.

	Annual Amount.
1. By lesser Numbers of white Servants and of <i>Negroes</i> . . .	£ 52,500
2. By being supplied with <i>Negroes</i> at lower Prices . . .	not reckoned
3. By selling <i>Rum</i> and <i>Melasses</i> at higher Prices . . .	50,000
4. By being cheaper supplied, upon the Whole, with <i>Beef</i> , <i>Pork</i> , and <i>Butter</i> from <i>Ireland</i> —applied to ballance 6th Article . . .	_____
5. By being cheaper supplied with <i>Linens</i> , £20,000 . . .	not reckoned

DISADVANTAGES.

6. From the increased Prices of <i>North American</i> Provisions, <i>Lumber</i> , &c.—ballanced by 4th Article . . .	_____
7. From the increased Wages of white Servants . . .	} allowed for in 1st Article

The Advantages exceed the Disadvantages, according to this Account, per Annum . . . £102,500

From hence I infer, that the present British Sugar-Planters can afford to sell brown or Muscovado Sugar, in the British Sugar-Colonies, at Eight Shillings Ster. per 100 Pounds Weight, AS WELL AS their Predecessors could afford to sell such Sugar there at Ten Shillings Ster. per 100 Pounds Weight, Seventy or Eighty Years ago; for the above Sum of One Hundred and two Thousand Five Hundred Pounds a Year, being divided upon Seventy-five Thousand Hogsheads of Sugar, of 1,500 Pounds nett Weight each, comes to nearly One Shilling Ten Pence per 100 lb. of Sugar, and the least of the Advantages not reckoned in this Account will more than make up the Deficiency of 2 d. per 100 lb.

But it is necessary to know HOW WELL the present British Sugar-Planters can afford to sell their Muscovado Sugar at Eight Shillings Ster. per 100 lb. in the Sugar-Colonies; and, upon this Occasion, I shall refer to Mr. Ashley's own Account, in the Supplement to his Memoirs, Page 11; for according to my State of the Exports to and Imports from those Colonies, 100 lb. of Muscovado Sugar costs the Planter SIX Shillings Sterling; but according to Mr. Ashley's Computations, that Quantity of such Sugar stands the Planter in only FIVE Shillings Sterling.

An ACCOUNT

CALCUL

Made to Supply,

Profits, will be

J. MASSIE.

COMMONS.

BRITAIN.

Duty;

Subjects;

this Kingdom;

Duty,

Hogsheads to Four

and Sugar

The Predecessors of those Planters Sugars at such moderate Prices as enable heads of Sugar yearly in foreign Europe having the least national Merit of this together with several Millions of British exorbitant Prices for Sugar.

The British Sugar-Colonies count which I have stated of the Planters with respect to each other, supplying other Nations with Sugar, recovering the foreign European Sugar and Naval Power of their Mother-Country most ungratefully abused the Protection have amassed vast Fortunes at the Expense

So that considering what a vast Wealth and Naval Power of Great Britain private and exorbitant Lucre, I do Profit per Acre of their Lands, as though an Additional Duty of Twelve Shillings portionably higher Duties on refined Planters should raise their Muscovado Importation of foreign Sugars in Britain.

The same Sort of Bounds have with respect to the Profits of the Subjects thereby supported do undo the Kingdom is indebted for the prosperity of the factories; for the Persons therein consume Linens or Silks to exorbitant Prices, and for that, or other Reasons, the same have enabled our Merchants to vent in open Markets.

But contrary Measures have unhappily arisen from the Smallness of their Number and that Contrariety of Measures hatred of the People of England; for by the Sugar-Trade and Employment for the same; and as the said Wealth and Naval Power the French, those Losses have been the

The Amount of

of this comparative Account of the Advantages which have arisen of late Years to the Planters; shewing the Ability of those Planters to purchase at considerably lower Prices than their Predecessors for the same Commodity, Seventy or Eighty Years ago.

ADVANTAGES.

	Annual Amount.
Cost of white Servants and of Negroes . . .	£ 52,500
with Negroes at lower Prices . . .	not reckoned
and Melasses at higher Prices . . .	50,000
supplied, upon the Whole, with Beef, from Ireland—applied to ballance 6th Article . . .	_____
supplied with Linens, £20,000 . . .	not reckoned

DISADVANTAGES.

Higher Prices of North American Provisions, advanced by 4th Article . . .	_____
Higher Wages of white Servants . . .	} allowed for in 1st Article

Need the Disadvantages, according to the above Account . . . £102,500

that the present British Sugar-Planters can afford to purchase Muscovado Sugar, in the British Sugar-Colonies, at Eight Pounds Weight, AS WELL AS their Predecessors purchased such Sugar there at Ten Shillings Ster. per 100 Pounds Weight Eighty Years ago; for the above Sum of One Hundred and Five Hundred Pounds a Year, being divided upon Fifty Hogsheds of Sugar, of 1,500 Pounds nett Weight each, only One Shilling Ten Pence per 100 lb. of Sugar, and the Advantages not reckoned in this Account will more than amply pay for the Expence of 2 d. per 100 lb.

to know HOW WELL the present British Sugar-Planters can sell their Muscovado Sugar at Eight Shillings Ster. per 100 lb. in the British Colonies; and, upon this Occasion, I shall refer to the Account, in the Supplement to his Memoirs, Page 11; and the State of the Exports to and Imports from those Colonies. Muscovado Sugar costs the Planter SIX Shillings Sterling; and according to Mr. Ashley's Computations, that Quantity of such Sugar will sell for only FIVE Shillings Sterling.

AN ACCOUNT

CALCULATIONS and OBSERVATIONS relating to an Additional Duty upon Sugar.

Made to Supply, in some Measure, the Want of the Remainder of the annexed Treatise, which cannot be completed in less than a Fortnight, or thereabout.

THE Charges of producing Muscovado Sugar in the British Sugar-Colonies, including the Maintenance of the Sugar-Planters, is 6s. Sterling per 100 lb. and the farther Charges thereon, for Duties, Freight, Waste in bringing to Great Britain, &c. do all together amount, per 112 lb. of Sugar, to £0 : 18 : 0
 To which add, for the proposed additional Duty 0 : 12 : 0

 for the British Sugar-Planters Profits, over and above the Maintenance of their Families 0 : 5 : 0

And the whole Amount of those Charges, Duties, and Profits, per 112 lb. of Sugar, will be 1 : 15 : 0

Which Sum of One Pound Fifteen Shillings per Cent. lb. of 112 Pounds, is somewhat less than the common Price of brown or Muscovado Sugar hath been in England for a Number of Years past; and a clear annual Saving to the Sugar-Planters, of Five Shillings per Cent. lb. of Sugar, is much more per Acre of Land, than the Landholders of England can yearly save out of their Estates.

For according to the Sugar-Planters own Calculations, the usual Produce of Muscovado Sugar from an Acre of Canes, upon an Average of Years, is Two Thousand Pounds Weight; so that Fifty-six Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Acres of Sugar-Canes, yield Seventy-five Thousand Hogsheds of Muscovado Sugar, each containing Twelve Cent. lb. after allowing One-Tenth Part for Waste.

But as Sugar-Canes are more than a Year in growing to their full Maturity, Twice 56,250 Acres of Land are requisite to produce 75,000 Hogsheds of Muscovado Sugar annually, even supposing that all such Land was to be constantly employed, which must necessarily wear it out of Heart; and if first One Half and then the other Half of the British Sugar-Cane Land do alternately lie fallow for Two Years after producing their respective Crops, there must then be Two Hundred and Twenty-five Thousand Acres of Land employed to produce Seventy-five Thousand Hogsheds of Sugar yearly.

This is the greatest Number of Acres that can be reckoned upon for Sugar-Cane Lands, to yield such an annual Crop of Sugar; and to this I shall add Seventy-five Thousand Acres of Land for the Production of Ginger, Coffee, Cotton, &c. as also for the growing of Indian Corn, feeding of Cattle, Horses, Sheep, &c.; which will give for the whole Quantity of cultivated or employed Land in Jamaica, Barbadoes, and the Leeward Islands, Three Hundred Thousand Acres; and considering the bad Husbandry of many British Planters, in not giving their Lands Time to recover their Fertility, this Quantity is undoubtedly more than they have at any Time employed.

However, I shall divide the clear annual Saving of Five Shillings per 112 Pounds Weight, or Three Pounds Ster. per Hoghead of 12 Cent. lb. of Muscovado Sugar, upon Three Hundred Thousand Acres of Land, as before appropriated; and as that Saving is to be computed upon Seventy-five Thousand Hogsheds of Sugar annually, the whole Amount thereof will be Two Hundred and Twenty-five Thousand Pounds a Year, which comes to Fifteen Shillings per Acre of Land.

Whereas, the Landholders of England are so far from being in a Capacity of saving Fifteen Shillings per Acre of Land out of their annual Rents, that I much question whether the cultivated or employed Lands in England are, or can be, lett for Fifteen Shillings an Acre per Annum, upon a general Average throughout the Kingdom; but admitting that the said Lands are lett at such Rent, One-Third Part thereof is paid either for Taxes or Repairs; so that the Landholders do not receive more than Ten Shillings per Acre annually for their own proper Uses; and if they are such good Oeconomists as to lay by One Half of the nett Income, their annual Savings will then be only Five Shillings per Acre of Land.

Now I am utterly at a Loss to find out any Reason why the Owners of Lands in the British Colonies

Husbandry of many *British* Planters, in not giving their *Lands* Time to recover their Fertility, this Quantity is undoubtedly more than they have at any Time employed.

However, I shall divide the clear annual Saving of *Five* Shillings *per* 112 Pounds Weight, or *Three* Pounds Ster. *per* Hoghead of 12 Cent. lb. of *Muscovado* Sugar, upon *Three* Hundred Thousand Acres of *Land*, as before appropriated; and as that Saving is to be computed upon Seventy-five Thousand *Hogheads* of *Sugar* annually, the whole Amount thereof will be *Two* Hundred and *Twenty-five* Thousand Pounds a Year, which comes to *Fifteen* Shillings *per* Acre of *Land*.

Whereas, the Landholders of *England* are so far from being in a Capacity of saving *Fifteen* Shillings *per* Acre of *Land* out of their annual Rents, that I much question whether the cultivated or employed *Lands* in *England* are, or can be, lett for *Fifteen* Shillings an Acre *per* Annum, upon a general Average throughout the Kingdom; but admitting that the said *Lands* are lett at such Rent, One-Third Part thereof is paid either for *Taxes* or *Repairs*; so that the Landholders do not receive more than *Ten* Shillings *per* Acre annually for their own proper *Uses*; and if they are such good Oeconomists as to lay by One Half of the nett Income, their annual Savings will then be only *Five* Shillings *per* Acre of *Land*.

Now I am utterly at a Loss to find out any Reason why the Owners of *Lands* in the *British* Colonies should be permitted to make greater Profits by their Estates, than the Landholders of *England* can possibly gain by the like Quantities of *Land*; more especially as the vast Charges of protecting and securing those Colonies are, or must be, all paid by the Landholders, &c. of *England*: for if the Inhabitants of all the *British* Colonies were to gain only *One* Shilling an *Acre* yearly, from this Kingdom, for their *Lands*, the annual Ballance gained by all our foreign Trade would not be sufficient to pay the *Money*; and what the *British* Sugar-Planters have done to merit such a vast Profit as 15 s. *per* Acre of their *Lands*, is to me a perfect Mystery.

The

The Predecessors of those Planters had some national Merit to plead in their behalf, for they sold Sugars at such moderate Prices as enabled the British Merchants to vend about Twenty Thousand Hogheads of Sugar yearly in foreign European Markets; but the present Race of Planters are so far from having the least national Merit of this Sort, that they have caused the Loss of the said profitable Trade, together with several Millions of British Wealth, and have obliged the People of England to pay most exorbitant Prices for Sugar.

The British Sugar-Colonies contain Land enough to supply all Europe with Sugar, and the Account which I have stated of the Advantages and Disadvantages of the British and French Sugar-Planters with respect to each other, shews, that in Time of Peace the Former were in a Capacity of supplying other Nations with Sugar, considerably cheaper than the Latter can afford it; but instead of recovering the foreign European Sugar-Trade from the French, and of thereby increasing the Wealth and Naval Power of their Mother-Country to which they owe all their Riches, our Sugar-Planters have most ungratefully abused the Protection granted to them by the Legislature, and by their Exorbitance have amassed vast Fortunes at the Expence of their Fellow-Subjects.

So that considering what a valuable Addition the British Sugar-Planters might have made to the Wealth and Naval Power of Great Britain, and how greatly they have diminished both, for their own private and exorbitant Lucre, I do not see how the said Planters can expect to be allowed so much Profit per Acre of their Lands, as the Landholders of England receive for their Estates; but in Case an Additional Duty of Twelve Shillings per 112 Pounds should be laid on Muscovado Sugar (and proportionably higher Duties on refined Sugars) imported into this Kingdom, and the British Sugar-Planters should raise their Muscovado Sugar to 35 s. per 112 lb. I most humbly propose, that the Importation of foreign Sugars in British Ships should be permitted, upon paying the like Duties.

The same Sort of Bounds have wisely been set to the Profits of the British and Irish Linen Manufacturers, as also to the Profits of the British silk Manufacturers; although the Number of British Subjects thereby supported do undoubtedly amount to Two Millions; and to those wise Bounds this Kingdom is indebted for the prosperous, vastly increased, and still increasing State of the said Manufactures; for the Persons therein concerned knew very well that if they attempted to raise either their Linens or Silks to exorbitant Prices, the People of this Nation would buy Dutch Linens or Italian Silks; and for that, or other Reasons, the said Persons have contented themselves with such moderate Profits, as have enabled our Merchants to vend great Quantities of British Linens and Silks yearly in foreign and open Markets.

But contrary Measures have unhappily been pursued in regard to the British Sugar-Planters, altho' from the Smallness of their Number an Alteration in this respect might long ago have been expected; and that Contrariety of Measures hath produced diametrically opposite Effects, to the great Detriment of the People of England; for by that Means this Kingdom hath not only lost the foreign European Sugar-Trade and Employment for 100 Ships and 1000 British Seamen, but many Millions of Wealth also; and as the said Wealth and Naval Advantages have been chiefly gained by our inveterate Enemies the French, those Losses have been thereby doubled to England.

The Amount of the proposed additional Duty upon Sugar.

The annual Consumption of Sugar in Great Britain only, is full Sixty Thousand Hogheads of 12 Cent. lb. each; and an additional Duty of Twelve Shillings per 112 Pounds on Muscovado Sugar (and proportionably higher Duties on refined Sugars) will amount, for 60,000 such Hogheads to Four Hundred and Thirty-two Thousand Pounds a Year.

So that near Twelve Millions of Pounds may be raised upon such an additional Duty, Without making Sugar dearer in Great Britain than it hath been of late Years; Without distressing the British Sugar-Planters, or prejudicing any other Class of British Subjects; Without breaking any Treaty of Commerce, or giving Umbrage to any State in Amity with this Kingdom; Without creating a new Sett of Commissioners and Revenue-Officers, to manage the Duty;

And with a Certainty of increasing,

THE TRADE, WEALTH AND NAVAL POWER OF GREAT BRITAIN.

All which is most humbly submitted to THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

By J. MASSIE

An ACCOUNT of the Charges of annually five Thousand Hogheads of Sugar of 1,500, and Fifty Thousand Hogheads of Rum and Lons each, in the British Sugar-Colonies.—as John Ashley, Esq; formerly Deputy-Surveyor at His Majesty's Revenues in Barbadoes.

ANNUAL CHARGE

For Commodities and Manufactures, from Great Britain, and the Madeira Islands
For Six Thousand Negroes from Africa, at £25 each
For salted Fish, Lumber, Timber, Tobacco, Rice, &c. from the British North-American Colonies

For Taxes paid in the Sugar-Colonies, viz. 4½ per Cent Militia, Fortifications, Governors, &c.

The Total of these Charges, as computed by Mr. From which deduct, for an Over-charge, in Taxes And the Charges of making the above mentioned Sugar, Rum, and Melasses, will be

* According to several public Accounts of the 4½ per Cent Leeward Islands, inserted in Mr. Ashley's Memoirs, the greatest was £9,490 Sterling a Year; and Mr. Ashley says, that the public to about £6,000 of their Currency per Annum; which Two Sum ten Thousand Pounds Sterling; so that I have admitted of about a Year for Taxes, more than is here made out; and therefore the public Taxes raised in the British Sugar-Colonies do not amount Sterling per Annum.

An ACCOUNT of the Money which Quantities of Sugar, Rum, and Melasses amount Rates expressed in my State of the Exports to British Sugar-Colonies.

75,000 Hogheads of Sugar, of 1,500 lb. nett Weight 6 s. Sterling per 100 lb.
Add for the Difference of Value between Clayed and Sugars, on 7500 Hogheads
50,000 Hogheads of Rum and Melasses of 100 Gallons at £6 per Hoghead

These Quantities of Sugar, Rum, and Melasses amount Rates, to

But the Charges of producing the same, according to Mr. Ashley's Account, after deducting his Over-charge for Taxes, So that my Account of the Charges of the aforesaid Products exceeds Mr. Ashley's Account of those Charges

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The Amount of the proposed additional Duty upon *sugar*.

The annual Consumption of *Sugar* in *Great Britain* only, is full Sixty Thousand Hogheads of 12 *Cent. lb.* each; and an additional Duty of Twelve Shillings *per* 112 Pounds on *Muscovado Sugar* (and proportionably higher Duties on refined *Sugars*) will amount, for 60,000 such Hogheads to *Four Hundred and Thirty-two Thousand Pounds* a Year.

So that near *Twelve Millions* of *Pounds* may be raised upon such an additional Duty,
 Without making *Sugar* dearer in *Great Britain* than it hath been of late Years;
 Without distressing the *British* Sugar-Planters, or prejudicing any other Class of *British* Subjects;
 Without breaking any Treaty of Commerce, or giving Umbrage to any State in Amity with this Kingdom;
 Without creating a new Sett of Commissioners and Revenue-Officers, to manage the Duty;

And with a Certainty of increasing,
 THE TRADE, WEALTH AND NAVAL POWER OF GREAT BRITAIN.

All which is most humbly submitted to THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WESTMINSTER,
 20th January, 1759.

By J. MASSIE.

Memorandum. The Sugar-Planters Calculations concerning their *Taxes*, *Stock*, and *Profits*, will be explained.

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had some national Merit to plead in their behalf, for they fold bled the *British* Merchants to vend about *Twenty Thousand* Hogf-*pean* Markets; but the present Race of Planters are so far from s Sort, that they have caused the Los of the said *profitable Trade,* *ish Wealth,* and have obliged the People of *England* to pay most

ain *Land* enough to supply all *Europe* with *Sugar,* and the Ac-
Advantages and Disadvantages of the *British* and *French* Sugar-
shews, that in *Time of Peace* the Former were in a Capacity of
considerably cheaper than the Latter can afford it; but instead of
ar-Trade from the *French,* and of thereby increasing the *Wealth*
untry to which *they owe all their Riches,* our Sugar-Planters have
ion granted to them by the Legislature, and by their Exorbitance
xpence of their Fellow-Subjects.

able Addition the *British* Sugar-Planters *might have made* to the
ritain, and how greatly they have diminished *both,* for their own
not see how the said Planters can expect to be allowed so much
ie Landholders of *England* receive for their Estates; but in Cafe
ings *per 112 Pounds* should be laid on *Muscovado Sugar* (and pro-
d *Sugars*) imported into this Kingdom, and the *British* Sugar-
lo *Sugar* to *35 s. per 112 lb.* I most humbly propose, that the
tish Ships should be permitted, upon paying *the like Duties.*

ifely been set to the Profits of the *British* and *Irish* Linen Manu-
re *British* silk Manufacturers; although the Number of *British*
ubtly amount to *Two Millions;* and to those wise Bounds this
us, vastly increased, and still increasing State of the said Manu-
cerned knew very well that if they attempted to raise either their
he People of this Nation would buy *Dutch Linens* or *Italian Silks;*
aid Persons have contented themselves with such moderate Profits,
ad great Quantities of *British Linens* and *Silks* yearly in *foreign and*

pily been pursued in regard to the *British* Sugar-Planters, altho'
an Alteration in this respect might long ago have been expected;
produced diametrically opposite Effects, to the great Detriment
t Means this Kingdom hath not only lost the foreign *European*
100 *Ships* and 1000 *British Seamen,* but many *Millions of Wealth*
al Advantages have been chiefly gained by our inveterate Enemies
ereby doubled to *England.*

the proposed additional Duty upon *Sugar.*

is full Sixty Thousand Hogheads of 12

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An ACCOUNT of the Charges of annually producing Seventy-
five Thousand Hogheads of *Sugar* of 1,500 *lb.* nett Weight each,
and Fifty Thousand Hogheads of *Rum* and *Melasses* of 100 Gal-
lons each, in the *British* Sugar-Colonies.—as computed by the late
John Ashley, Esq; formerly Deputy-Surveyor and Auditor general of
His Majesty's Revenues in *Barbadoes.*

ANNUAL CHARGES.		Amount.
For Commodities and Manufactures, from <i>Great Britain, Ire-</i> <i>land,</i> and the <i>Madeira Islands</i>	£277,000	
For Six Thousand <i>Negroes</i> from <i>Africa,</i> at £25 each	150,000	
For salted <i>Fish, Lumber, Timber, Tobacco, Rice, Corn, Horses,</i> &c. from the <i>British North-American Colonies</i>	160,000	
	<hr/>	587,000
For <i>Taxes</i> paid in the Sugar-Colonies, viz. 4½ <i>per Cent.</i> and for Militia, Fortifications, Governors, &c.	60,000	
The Total of these Charges, as computed by Mr. <i>Ashley,</i> is	647,000	
From which deduct, for an Over-charge, in <i>Taxes</i> *	20,000	
And the Charges of making the above mentioned Quantities of <i>Sugar, Rum, and Melasses,</i> will be	627,000	

* According to several public Accounts of the 4½ *per Cent.* Duty in *Barbadoes* and the
Leeward Islands, inserted in Mr. *Ashley's* Memoirs, the greatest nett Produce of that Duty
was £9,490 Sterling a Year; and Mr. *Ashley* says, that the public Taxes in *Jamaica* amount
to about £6,000 of their Currency *per Annum;* which Two Sums do not make quite Four-
teen Thousand Pounds Sterling; so that I have admitted of above Twenty Thousand Pounds
a Year for Taxes, more than is here made out; and therefore am inclined to think that all
the public Taxes raised in the *British* Sugar-Colonies do not amount to Forty Thousand Pounds
Sterling *per Annum.*

An ACCOUNT of the Money which the above-mentioned
Quantities of *Sugar, Rum, and Melasses* amount to, at the several
Rates expressed in my State of the Exports to and Imports from the
British Sugar-Colonies.

75,000 Hogheads of <i>Sugar,</i> of 1,500 <i>lb.</i> nett Weight each, at 6 <i>s.</i> Sterling <i>per 100 lb.</i>	£337,500
Add for the Difference of Value between <i>Clayed</i> and <i>Muscovado</i> <i>Sugars,</i> on 7500 Hogheads	45,000
50,000 Hogheads of <i>Rum</i> and <i>Melasses</i> of 100 Gallons each, at £6 <i>per</i> Hoghead	300,000
	<hr/>
These Quantities of <i>Sugar, Rum, and Melasses</i> amount, at the said Rates, to	682,500
But the Charges of producing the same, according to Mr. <i>Ashley's</i> Account, after deducting his Over-charge for <i>Taxes,</i> is only	627,000
So that my Account of the Charges of the aforesaid Production, exceeds Mr. <i>Ashley's</i> Account of those Charges	55,500
	<hr/>
	M Which

Which Sum of Fifty-five Thousand five Hundred Pounds being divided upon Seventy-five Thousand Hogheads of *Sugar* of 1,500 *lb.* each, comes to nearly One Shilling *per 100 lb.* of *Sugar*; and consequently, according to Mr. *Ashley's* Account, the Charge of producing *Muscovado Sugar*, is only Five Shillings *per 100 Pounds Weight*, including for *Taxes* paid in the *British Sugar-Colonies*; whereas in my State of the Exports to and Imports from those Colonies, the said Charge is reckoned at Six Shillings Sterling *per 100 Pounds Weight*, exclusive of *Taxes*; so that upon the Whole, there is a Difference of about One Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year, between Mr. *Ashley's* Account and mine, which makes an Over-Rate on my Part, of near Two Shillings *per 100 Pounds Weight* of *Sugar*.

But it is necessary to acquaint the Reader, that neither the said Account, nor any Part of Mr. *Ashley's* "Memoirs and Considerations concerning the Trade and Revenues of the *British Colonies in America*" are to be looked upon merely as his own Productions; for in the Preface to the first Part of those Memoirs, he says "It is, therefore, at the Request of several eminent Planters and Merchants, I have ushered every Part into the World"—so that his Memoirs have had the Sanction of eminent Planters and Merchants.

This being the Case, I cannot with Propriety avoid acknowledging, that I have over-rated the Charges of making *Sugar*, near Two Shillings *per 100 Pounds Weight*, including for *Taxes* paid in the *British Sugar-Colonies*; and I do it with more Readiness, as I have been obliged to point out Mr. *Ashley's* Mistakes, or Insincerity, in other Matters: though I cannot help observing at the same Time, that I believe he did not expect to have his Account divested of the several Charges which he hath inserted there for *Taxes*; nor did I before 2 Feb. 1759 examine, what the Charges of making *Sugar* come to, according to that Account.

I knew, at the Time of forming my State of the Exports to and Imports from the *British Sugar-Colonies*, that, by charging for all the Exports from *Ireland* to *America*, and only Sixty Thousand Pounds a Year for Merchandize exported to the *Spanish Settlements*, &c. by Way of *Jamaica*, I had much over-charged the *Sugar-Planters*; because the *British North American Traders* must necessarily consume a great Part of those *Irish Exports*; and because 7,644 white People in *Jamaica*, could not want Half so great Quantities of *British Commodities and Manufactures*, as 18,295 white People in *Barbadoes*.—Representation from the Board of Trade, Pages 7 and 9.

I likewise thought that Eighty Thousand Pounds a Year for *Madeira Wines*, was too much for so small a Number of People as the *Sugar-Planters* make; and that I should not have added so much as Fifty Thousand Pounds *per Annum* to Mr. *Ashley's* Charges for *Negroes* and *North American Supplies*.
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But as from the first, it was my Intention, not to give the *Sugar-Planters* any just Cause of Complaint against me for Misrepresentations to their Prejudice, I chose to let those Over-Charges stand, after annexing to the Articles, such Expression as shewed I was apprized thereof, though I could not ascertain the same; and the Over-Charges so made, may now be rectified with some Degree of Authority; since, according to Mr. *Ashley's* Account, as well as from the Circumstances here expressed or referred to, it is in some Measure evident, that I have charged the *British Sugar-Planters* with about One Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year, more than is chargeable to their Account as *Sugar-Planters*.

It is also to be considered, that the Fifty Thousand Hogheads of *Rum* and *Melasses* are here valued at only Six Pounds Sterling *per Hoghead*, in the Places of Production, as Mr. *Ashley* hath rated them, although the *Sugar-Planters* may, for aught I know, sell those Commodities at Seven Pounds *per Hoghead*; and if that should be the Case, the Charges of producing *Muscovado Sugar* will be no more than Four Shillings Sterling *per 100 Pounds Weight*, including for *Taxes* paid in the *British Sugar-Colonies*: but I shall state this Matter according to Mr. *Ashley's* own Shewing, because I would much rather err in Favour of the *Sugar-Planters*, than to their Prejudice.

Now as, after allowing for Colony-Taxes, the aforefaid annual Over-Charge made by me in Favour of the *British Sugar-Planters*, amounts to One Shilling *per 100 Pounds Weight*, upon a yearly Crop of Seventy-five Thousand Hogheads of *Sugar*, containing 1,500 *lb.* nett Weight in the *Sugar-Colonies*; it necessarily followeth, as well from Mr. *Ashley's* Account as from mine, that when the said Planters sell *Muscovado Sugar* in those Colonies, at Eight Shillings Sterling *per 100 lb.* they gain Three Shillings by each Hundred Weight, over and above the Maintenance of their Families.

Which clear Gain and Saving, upon such an annual Crop of *Sugar*, amounts to One Hundred and Sixty-eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Pounds Sterling *per Annum*, and is to be divided upon the Quantity of Land required to annually produce that Quantity of *Sugar*; for when the Landholders, &c. of *England* know how much Money *per Acre* of Land the said clear Gain and Saving of Three Shillings *per 100 Pounds Weight* of *Sugar* comes to, the Money which they save *per Acre* of their Lands, will enable them to judge of the *Sugar-Planters* Profits.

And the first Thing necessary to be ascertained for this Purpose, is, the Quantity of *Muscovado Sugar* produced from an *Acre* of *Canes* in the *British Colonies*, upon a Medium as well in regard to the unequal Fertility of the Land, as the variable Fruitfulness of the Seasons there; but as that medium Produce cannot be determined without knowing what Quantities
of

of *Sugar, per Acre* of *Canes*, have been produced in different Parts of those Colonies, it will be requisite to insert what the Sugar-Planters, their Advocates, and other Writers, have said concerning these Matters.

I have already had Occasion to mention what Mr. *Ligon* hath said of the Quantities of *Sugar* produced from an *Acre* of *Canes* in *Barbadoes*, viz. Four Thousand Pounds Weight from an *Acre* of good *Canes*, and not less than Two Thousand Pounds Weight from any *Acre* of *Canes*; but the greatest of those Quantities is not to be regarded in this Case, as the Inhabitants of that Island did not begin to make *Sugar* till after the Year 1640, and Mr. *Ligon's* Account relates to Crops of *Sugar* produced there before or in the Year 1650, when the *Land* was newly broke up.

Anno 1690. Sir *Dalby Thomas* gives the following Account of the yearly Produce of *Sugar* in *Barbadoes*, from a Plantation of One Hundred *Acres* of *Land*; Twenty of which were set apart for *Pasture*, *Provisions*, and a Nurseries for *Canes* to plant with; so that the Quantity of *Sugar-Cane* Land was Eighty *Acres*.

“ A Plantation of 100 *Acres* well stocked and provided as aforesaid, and managed to its full Height, without those accidental Casualties which often [happen], may probably produce annually Eighty Hogheads of *Sugar*, of One Thousand Pounds Weight each Hoghead; that is, Two Thousand Pounds Weight of *Muscovado Sugar* from each *Acre* [of the reaped *Land*]; and of *Melasses*, Twenty Hogheads of Seven Hundred Pounds Weight each Hoghead.” Page 15.

Anno 1733. An Advocate for the Sugar-Planters, whose Account of great Variations in Crops of *Sugar* I have already taken Notice of, hath managed his Calculations so as to make a Product of Two Thousand One Hundred Pounds Weight of *Sugar* annually per *Acre* of good *Land* in *Barbadoes*, upon an Average of Five Years; but what I have said in Page 35, concerning those Calculations, gives great Reason to believe, that they were intended for no other Use than to bring out only a small Balance for the Sugar-Planter; and no Man can reasonably imagine, that *Land* which hath remained fallow Two Years, will produce only One-Twentieth Part more *Sugar*, *Corn*, &c. upon an Average of many Crops, than such *Land* did produce when it was employed without Intermission in growing Crops of the same Kind.

As to the Quantities of *Sugar, per Acre* of *Land*, produced in *Jamaica*, Sir *Hans Sloane* says, that One *Acre* of *Canes* yields sometimes Four Thousand [Pounds Weight] of *Sugar*, commonly Two Thousand.—Introduction to his Natural History of that Island, Page 62; and as the Crops here spoken of, were such as the *Lands* in *Jamaica* produced after it had been possessed by the *English* about Thirty Years, the lesser of those Quantities may properly enough be taken for a medium Crop per *Acre* of *Land*, upon an Average of Time.

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I do not however imagine that the true medium Produce of *Sugar* there, is so little as Two Thousand Pounds Weight from an *Acre* of *Canes*; for some other Writers give Reason to think it is greater, and they do the like in regard to the *British* Leeward Islands; but the Sugar-Planters, and their Advocates, have generally placed *Barbadoes* in the Front of their Complaints, as a worn-out Island, and mentioned as little as may be of *Jamaica*, or of the *Leeward Islands*; so that I have not been able to meet with much concerning Crops of *Sugar* there.

The Author of a little Tract, called “ A General Survey of that Part of the Island of *St. Christopher's* which formerly belonged to *France*, &c.” published in the Year 1722, says that “ all the Planters and others of that Island with whom he happened to converse, on that subject, seem to agree in this, that Ten Thousand *Acres* of the best Part of the aforesaid *Lands* will, by a moderate Computation, reckoning one *Acre* with another, produce at the Rate of Three Thousand [Pounds] Weight of *Sugar, per Acre, communibus Annis.*” Page 36.

Which several Matters being considered, there appears to me good Reason for believing, that the general medium Produce of *Sugar* per *Acre* of *Land*, in the *British* Colonies, is more than Two Thousand Pounds Weight; but as I have all along endeavoured rather to fall short of than to exceed the Truth, I shall rate the medium Produce of *Muscovado Sugar* in those Colonies, at only Two Thousand Pounds Weight per *Acre*, upon an Average of Crops.

At which Estimation, Fifty-six Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty *Acres* of *Sugar-Canes*, yield Seventy-five Thousand Hogheads of *Muscovado Sugar*, each weighing 1,500 *lb.* nett in the *Sugar-Colonies*, or 1,350 *lb.* nett here, after allowing One-Tenth Part for Waste; but as *Sugar-Canes* are more than a Year in growing to their full Maturity, Twice 56,250 *Acres* of *Land* are requisite to produce 75,000 Hogheads of *Sugar* annually, even supposing that all such *Land* was to be constantly employed, which must necessarily impoverish it very much; and if first One-Half, and then the other Half of the *British* *Sugar-Cane Lands*, are alternately to remain fallow Two Years, after producing their respective Crops, there must then be Two Hundred and Twenty-five Thousand *Acres* of *Land* employed, to produce Seventy-five Thousand such Hogheads of *Sugar* yearly.

This is the greatest Number of *Acres* that can be reckoned upon for *Sugar-Cane Lands*, to yield such an annual Crop of *Sugar*; and to this I shall add Seventy-five Thousand *Acres* of *Land*, for the growing of *Indian Corn*, feeding of *Cattle, Sheep, Horses*, &c. although, according to Sir *Dalby Thomas's* Account of a *Sugar-Plantation*, 56,250 *Acres* of *Land* is as much as the *Sugar-Planters* employ for those several Uses; but I would willingly make ample Allowance in this Case, and therefore shall add 75,000 *Acres* as before mentioned; which will give for the whole Quantity of cultivated

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or employed Land in all the Sugar-Plantations, in Jamaica, Barbadoes, and the British Leeward Islands, Three Hundred Thousand Acres; and considering, as well the Over-Rate of above Eighteen Thousand Acres for Corn, Pasture, &c. Lands, as the bad Husbandry of many of the British Sugar-Planters, in not giving the Sugar-Cane Lands Time to recover their natural Fertility, 300,000 Acres probably are One-Sixth Part more Land than those Planters have at any Time employed in, or on Account of, Sugar-Plantations.

However, I shall divide the clear annual Gain and Saving of Three Shillings Sterling per 100 Pounds Weight, or Two Pounds Five Shillings per Hoghead, of Muscovado Sugar, in the British Sugar-Colonies, upon Three Hundred Thousand Acres of Land, as before appropriated; and as that Gain and Saving is to be computed upon Seventy-five Thousand Hogheads of Sugar annually, the whole Amount thereof will be One Hundred and Sixty-eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Pounds a Year, which comes to Eleven Shillings and Three Pence per Acre of Land.

So that One Shilling per 100 Pounds Weight of Muscovado Sugar, clearly gained and saved by the Sugar-Planters in the British Colonies, makes a clear Gain and Saving of Three Shillings and Nine Pence an Acre yearly, upon all the Lands cultivated or employed there, by or for those Sugar-Planters; and if the said Gain and Saving be computed upon Sugar after it is brought from the British Sugar-Colonies to Great Britain, and hath wasted One-Tenth Part of its Quantity, the Gain will in Reality be just the same, as the Loss by Waste, is made good in the Price of the Sugar that is sold; although the Rate of Profit, upon the Quantity of Sugar sold, will, in that Case, be only Three Shillings per Acre of Land.

These several Facts, Calculations and Observations, will make it easy for the Landholders of England, to compare the British Sugar-Planters Profits with their own, as each Shilling Profit per 100 lb. of Sugar, makes an annual Profit of Three Shillings and Nine Pence per Acre of Land: and since it appears by the Account inserted in Page 40, that those Sugar-Planters can afford to sell Muscovado Sugar for EIGHT Shillings Sterling per 100 lb. in the British Sugar-Colonies, AS WELL AS their Predecessors could afford the like Sugar at TEN Shillings per 100 lb. I cannot see any Reason for their having more than Eight Shillings Sterling per 100 Pounds Weight.

Nor can I help saying, it gives me great Satisfaction to have so clear a Proof, as these Things afford, of the Sincerity and Candour of that English Merchant whose Account of the Price of Sugar, and of the Profits of the Sugar-Planters, preceding the Reign of King William, I have inserted in Page 33: but there is no knowing what to say of the Insincerity of the Sugar-Planters, or their Advocates, at that Time, in venting Groans upon Paper which did not exist in Nature; because those Planters then gained about

about Twice as much Money per Acre of Land, as the Landholders of England gained by their Estates.

For it is well known, that the Lands of this Country, in general, have been lett at considerably higher Rents of late Years, than the same were lett for, Seventy or Eighty Years ago; and yet, I very much doubt, whether all the cultivated or employed Lands in England, either are, or can be, lett for Fifteen Shillings an Acre per Annum, upon a general Average throughout the several Counties thereof; but admitting that the said Lands are lett at such Rent, One-Third Part thereof is paid either for Taxes or Repairs, so that the Landholders do not receive more than Ten Shillings per Acre annually, for their own proper Uses; and if they are such good Oeconomists as to lay by, One Half of the nett Income, their annual Savings will then be only Five Shillings per Acre of Land.

Whereas, at the very Time that the Sugar-Planters, or some Persons in their Behalf, were issuing their Complaints, under the alarming and pathetic Title of "The Groans of the Plantations," they were gaining about Twice as much Money per Acre of Land, as the Landholders of England have at any Time gained by their Estates; and that is all I have to say upon this Head.

Concerning the Manner of carrying on the British Sugar-Colony Trade.

When the Islands of Barbadoes, Antigua, St. Christophers, Nevis, Montserrat, and Jamaica, were first settled by the English, the Persons who went there, confined themselves to their proper Profession of planting Tobacco, Cotton, Indico, and last of all, Sugar; and so long as they, or their Successors, continued to act in their proper Sphere, the Sugar-Colony Trade was carried on in an orderly and profitable Manner with Respect to the People of England, at whose Expence the Sugar-Colonies were from the first, and still continue to be, protected.

For the Merchants of England exported on their proper Account, such English, Irish, and foreign Commodities and Manufactures as were wanted by those Planters, and they paid for the same in Sugar, Cotton, Indico, &c. which Commodities were sold here, by the English Merchants; and the Sugar-Colony Trade being open to all the People of England, the Merchants thereof freely enjoyed their native Privilege of exporting from hence for their Benefit, all such Commodities and Manufactures of English Growth or Fabric, as were wanted by the said Planters.

By which Means, a fair Profit of about Forty Thousand Pounds a Year was formerly gained upon the English or other Commodities and Manufactures which were sent to the English Sugar-Colonies as aforesaid, and so much

much Money was thereby annually added to the Wealth of *England*:—the monopolizing of *Sugar* in this Kingdom, as well as the monopolizing of *English* Commodities in the said Colonies, were likewise prevented by those Means; for the Merchants being a proper Sort of Middle-Men in each Case, and both Markets being free and open, there was not any Room for Monopoly in either.

Whereas of late Years, the *British* Sugar-Planters have seized upon and exercised the Profession of MERCHANT, in Conjunction with that of PLANTER, not only to the great Detriment of this Kingdom, but in Breach of a Privilege to which every *British* Merchant hath an inherent Right; and by so doing, the said Sugar-Planters seem to me to have destroyed much of that Dependance and Subordination, which the Honour as well as the Interest of *Great Britain* require every Colony to be kept in, that is subject to the Imperial Crown of these Realms.

As to the great Detriment which this Kingdom hath suffered by the *British* Sugar-Planters exercising the Profession of MERCHANT, whatever Loss the *British* Merchants sustain by not shipping on their own Account, all the Exports to and Imports from the *British* Sugar-Colonies, just so much do the People of *Great Britain* lose; but the Indignity thereby put upon the REAL *British* Merchants, and even upon the whole Kingdom, seems to me to be a Matter of more Importance; for by that Means, the said Merchants have been dwindled into the diminutive Characters of Agents, Factors, &c. instead of appearing as PRINCIPALS in the TRADE of their OWN COUNTRY.

Certainly it doth not comport with either the Dignity or the Safety of *Great Britain*, to suffer such Misdoings as these; for if the Planters of *Tobacco*, *Rice*, *Indico*, &c. should follow the Example of the Sugar-Planters, this NATION may in Time become the Servants of those who ought to receive LAWS from THEM; and though a seemingly so remote Consideration, may at first be treated with Levity, yet, when the several Parts of these Sugar-Planters Conduct, of late Years, are seriously attended to, I am persuaded there will appear abundant Reason for saying, *it is a Matter of vast Importance, even at this Time.*

For according to the Accounts already stated by me, the *British* Sugar-Planters, within Thirty Years past, have caused the Loss of Eight Millions of *British* Wealth, and have prevented the gaining of Four Millions of Wealth from other Nations, making in all, *Twelve Millions of Pounds*; which vast Loss of Wealth hath been attended, not only with a considerable Diminution of *Naval Power*, but likewise with a great Increase in the Number of *Poor*, and the Whole appears to me to have been brought on, by the Luxury, Exorbitance, and fraudulent trading of the said Planters.

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Those Planters have likewise seized upon the Profession of MERCHANT, making Servants of the Persons to whom of Right that respectable Appellation belongs, and have thereby wrested from them, and this Kingdom also, those just Profits upon *British* Commodities and Manufactures, to which none but BRITONS have any Claim; moreover, the said Planters have by their Exorbitance prevented some Thousands of creditable Families from gaining a living Profit by retailing of *Sugar* in *Great Britain*, and have thereby obliged those Families, either to enhance the Prices of their other Commodities, so that they may make a reasonable Profit upon the Whole, or else to submit to unmerited Distresses.

Sugar is not now, as formerly it was, brought into this Kingdom by *British* Merchants, in Return for *British* or other Commodities and Manufactures, and presently sold by them to the Grocers or the *Sugar-Refiners*, at such Prices as *Peace*, *War*, or different Degrees of Plenty, did from Time to Time make reasonable Prices; for instead of that equitable Course of trading, *Sugars* are now consigned by the Sugar-Planters, to a Set of Men whom they have made Servants, and are not sold to the People of *Great Britain* until the same will fetch such excessive high Prices, as Avarice, or Exorbitance, suggest to the said Planters to fix thereon; infomuch, that *Muscovado Sugar* which might very well be afforded here, for about *Twenty Shillings per Cent. lb.* is now sold at, or near *Two Pounds Four Shillings per Hundred Weight.*

I shall not speak particularly of other Matters which are of too high a Nature for a Man in my Station to dwell upon; and there is the less Occasion for it, as the Misdoings here enumerated are not of a speculative Nature, but such as Six Millions of People have greatly suffered by, though they may not all know the Causes thereof:—I cannot however help saying, that if *Colony-Interest* should be suffered to blend with the great and general Interest of these Kingdoms, the proper Landholders of *England* may, in Process of Time, be bought out of their Freeholds with *English* Money, and be out-numbered upon their own Ground; and I do not see how any Person can say, that those Interests co-incide, for the Sugar-Planters have glaringly proved the contrary.

The said Interests may indeed be made to co-incide, and they did in Reality agree, so long as due Subordination was preserved, and the INTEREST of the SUGAR-COLONIES was prevented from growing any faster than it promoted the Growth of the INTEREST of this KINGDOM, for the Interests of those Colonies and of their Mother-Country, were then ONE and THE SAME; but of late Years, the *Sugar-Colony Interest* hath branched out into all Sorts of Irregularities, and hath thereby acquired so unnatural and mis-shaped an Appearance, that without the Aid of a great deal of pruning, I do not see how any Man can readily distinguish, what Sort of INTEREST it is.

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And

And there is something yet more extraordinary in the present Case; for a Nation stands upon its own Foundation; but these Sugar-Colonies, though founded and supported by the Wealth and Power of Great Britain, have vastly impoverished, and much weakened the very Kingdom that hath done all this: and, as if it was not enough to be thus ungrateful, the Sugar-Planters have, by their Exorbitance, amassed to themselves many Millions of British Wealth, over and above such considerable Profits as raised their Predecessors, from low Circumstances to Affluence, and enabled them to purchase many and great Estates in England, even with the Money which they had gained from the People thereof.—

Are these Proceedings, a suitable Return, for granting an annual Parliamentary Aid to defray the Charges of supporting the British Forts and Factories in Africa, that the Sugar-Planters may be supplied with Negroes at cheaper Rates?

Are these a Return, for granting Liberty to import Rum and other enumerated Goods of our Plantation Produce directly into Ireland, and thereby giving the Sugar-Planters an Advantage, at the Expence of Great Britain?

Are these a Return, for not charging Coffee of the British Plantations with so much Duty by Six-Pence per Pound Weight, as is charged upon Coffee grown in other Countries, and thereby securing to the Planters in the British Sugar-Colonies, a new and profitable Branch of Trade?

Are these a Return, for prohibiting the Importation of any foreign Sugars into Ireland, excepting from the Dominions of the King of Spain, or of Portugal, and thereby preventing, as far as Law can prevent, the French Sugar-Planters from rivalling the British Sugar-Planters, in the Markets of Ireland?

Are these a Return, for laying high Duties upon all foreign Sugars, Rum, and Melasses imported into any of the British American Colonies, and thereby securing, as far as Law can secure, a Preference in those Colonies, to the Sugar, Rum, and Melasses produced by our Sugar-Planters?

Are these a Return, for giving up the British Duty of Nine-Pence per Hundred Weight on Sugar re-exported from this Kingdom, and thereby making the Sugar-Planters Profits 9 d. per Cent. lb. more than they were before, on Sugar so re-exported?

Are these a Return, for granting Liberty to carry British Sugars directly from our Sugar-Colonies to any foreign Part of Europe, and thereby giving up to the Sugar-Planters, those considerable Profits which formerly accrued to the People of Great Britain, from the landing &c. of all such Sugars here, before the same were exportable to foreign Markets?

Are these a Return, for extending that Liberty to Plantation-built Ships, and thereby prejudicing the Owners of British-built Ships, for the Profit of the Sugar-Planters?

Are

Are these a Return, for permitting Rum to be landed in this Kingdom, without paying the Duty of Excise until such Rum be sold, or hath been landed Six Months, and thereby favouring the Sugar-Planters in a Manner that is not general here?

Are these a Return, for in effect prohibiting the Importation of all foreign Sugars into Great Britain, and thereby excluding Foreigners from interfering with the British Sugar-Planters in the Sale of British Sugars here, although there be not any such Exclusion in Favour of the Linen or the Silk Manufacturers of these Kingdoms, and though there probably are One Hundred Times as many of those Manufacturers as there are Sugar-Planters?

I ask, whether the before recited Proceedings of the British Sugar-Planters are suitable Acknowledgements for this long Catalogue of Legislative Favours so granted to them, at the Expence of the People of Great Britain?—Or whether, the said Proceedings are not the most ungrateful, insulting, and oppressive Return, that ever was made by any Class of British Subjects, for so goodly a Train of Privileges and Immunities?—

For my own Part, I cannot help being astonished at seeing Matters of such vast Importance to this Kingdom, in so disorderly, unnatural, and even inverted a State, as the British Sugar-Colony Trade appears to me to have been brought into, by the Misdoings of the Sugar-Planters: but since the various Losses and Oppressions thereby caused, have been fundamentally owing to the Sugar-Planters being suffered to follow various PROFESSIONS, and to their being permitted to exercise a Liberty of CONSCIENCE in putting Prices upon SUGAR, the proper Remedies for those Diseases, are obvious.

Every Person may see the Necessity of restraining the British Sugar-Planters from exercising any other Profession than that of PLANTING, as it is doubly proved by public and general Experience; for so long as the said Planters, or their Predecessors, confined themselves to their proper Business, the British Sugar-Colony Trade was carried on in an orderly and profitable Manner with Respect to the People of England, as both POLICY and EQUITY require it always should be; but since those Sugar-Planters have been suffered to exercise the Profession of MERCHANT, for I am not to say any Thing of the other Characters in which many of them have appeared, the British Sugar-Colony Trade, instead of being carried on in an orderly and profitable Manner as before, hath caused the Loss of many Millions of British Wealth, considerably diminished our Naval Power, and been made an Oppression to this Kingdom.

And as to the said Sugar-Planters being permitted to exercise a Liberty of Conscience in putting Prices upon Sugar, there need not be any Thing more considered on that Head, than the unconscionable Use which those Planters have made of that Liberty; for I believe I shall not wrong them

by

by rating the exorbitant Gain which they have made, during Twenty Years past, at Ten Shillings per 112 lb. of Sugar in this Kingdom, over and above a Profit of Twice as much Money per Acre of Land, as the Landholders of England receive for their Estates.

But the Reader will be better enabled to form a Judgment of that exorbitant Gain, when he hath perused the following re-stated Account of the Charges upon Muscovado Sugar; for as to the Abstract of those Charges already inserted in Page 5, it evidently appears, as well by Mr. Ashley's own Account, as by several Matters mentioned under the preceding Head, that the said Charges are considerably over-rated there; and as I have not in any other Instance knowingly misrepresented to the Prejudice of the Sugar-Planters, neither will I in this Instance knowingly misrepresent to their Favour.

The present Charges and Duties upon <i>British Muscovado Sugar</i> imported into this Kingdom, per 112 Pounds Weight, are computed in that Abstract to be . . .	£0:18:0 ³ / ₈
From which deduct for Over-Charges, and for Subsidy 1747, viz.	
Over-charged in the Charges of Production, exclusive of Colony-Taxes	£0:1:0
Over-charged for the Duty of 4 ¹ / ₂ per Cent. included in those Charges, above	0:0:6 ³ / ₈
Subsidy 1747, (Tax) without Discount	0:1:6
Together	0:3:0 ³ / ₈

The Total of those Charges and Duties to 1 March 1747, per 112 lb. was	0:15:0
To which add, Subsidy 1747, as above	0:1:6
And the Total of those Charges and Duties from 1 March 1747, per 112 lb. will be	0:16:6

But to each of these Two Totals there must be added, Three Shillings and Nine Pence for the Sugar-Planters clear Gain and Saving per 112 lb. of Sugar, amounting to Eleven Shillings and Three Pence per Acre of Land yearly, according to the Computation already made thereof; so that Muscovado Sugar might very well have been sold in Great Britain at Nineteen Shillings per 112 lb. to 1st March 1747, and at Twenty Shillings and Six Pence per 112 lb. since that Time, without reckoning for the Savings which the Sugar-Planters have made by turning Merchants.

Now

Now if the medium Price of Muscovado Sugar in this Kingdom hath been Thirty Shillings per 112 Pounds Weight, for Twenty Years last past, and I believe it hath been so high if not higher, the exorbitant Gain of the Sugar-Planters, during those 20 Years, will then be Ten Shillings per 112 Pounds Weight of Sugar; and the annual Consumption of Sugar in Great Britain, within that Interval, having been full Sixty Thousand Hogheads of 12 Cent. lb. here, the said exorbitant Gain thereon, at 10 s. per Cent. lb. comes to Three Hundred and Sixty Thousand Pounds per Annum, which amounts, in Twenty Years, to Seven Millions Two Hundred Thousand Pounds.

It is likewise to be considered, that the Consumption and the Price of Rum have been much increased within the last Twenty Years; so that upon the Whole, I am inclined to believe I shall not wrong the British Sugar-Planters, in computing the Money they have gained by their Exorbitance, at EIGHT MILLIONS OF POUNDS: but if I have made any material Mistake to their Prejudice, I shall be glad to have it publicly rectified, upon good Authorities; and if I have made any material Mistake on the other Side, I think it will be incumbent on the Merchants, Grocers and Sugar-Refiners to publicly rectify the same; which may be easily done, by referring to their Books for the Price of Muscovado-Sugar in each Year, and by the Help of a Table that is inserted in the following Page.

This being the last Article of Losses that hath been brought upon the People of Great Britain, by the Misdoings of the British Sugar-Planters, within Thirty Years past, it will be necessary to make an Abstract of the several Losses so caused, that the Whole may appear at one View.

LOSSES to the PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN, by the British Sugar-Colony Trade, and by the British Sugar-Planters, within Thirty Years.

By East-India and French Manufactures, foreign Sugars, &c. particularized in Page 14	£6,150,000
By French Sugars consumed in Ireland, or in the British North American Colonies, mentioned in Page 16	2,000,000
By not supplying, as formerly, foreign European Markets with 20,000 Hogheads of British Sugar yearly, mentioned in Pages 16 and 30	4,500,000
By exorbitant Gain which the Sugar-Planters have made, over and above large Profits	8,000,000
The Total general of these LOSSES, according to my Computations, is TWENTY MILLIONS Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand POUNDS	20,650,000

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But

But I must not omit to add *Three Millions of Pounds MORE*, for the Charges which the People of *Great Britain* have been at, in maintaining *Ships of War, Land Forces, &c.* for the Protection and Defence of the *British Sugar-Colonies*, within *Thirty Years* past, as those Charges are so much real Losses to the Persons who have paid the Money.

Nor can I help saying, that of all the Losses and Hardships which have at any Time been brought upon this *NATION*, by any one Branch of Trade, those which have been caused by the *Sugar-Colony Trade*, and the *Sugar-Planters*, do seem to me, *NOT to have been EXCEEDED* by any but the Losses and Hardships which the *PEOPLE of ENGLAND* formerly suffered by a *Ruinous Trade* with *FRANCE*.—

A TABLE for computing the *British Sugar-Planters* annual clear Gain and Saving upon *Sixty Thousand Hogheads of Sugar of Twelve Cent. lb.* each; which is the *Quantity of Sugar* annually consumed in *Great Britain*.

Prices				Clear annual Profit and Saving.				Prices				Clear annual Profit and Saving.			
per 112 lb. S. D.	per 112 lb. Sh.	per Acre	Whole Amt. Pounds Ster.	per 112 lb. S. D.	per 112 lb. Sh.	per Acre	Whole Amt. Pounds Ster.	per 112 lb. S. D.	per 112 lb. Sh.	per Acre	Whole Amt. Pounds Ster.	per 112 lb. S. D.	per 112 lb. Sh.	per Acre	Whole Amt. Pounds Ster.
16:6	31:6	15	45	540,000	32:6	16	48	576,000	33:6	17	51	612,000
17:6	1	3	36,000	34:6	18	54	648,000	35:6	19	57	684,000	36:6	20	60	720,000
18:6	2	6	72,000	37:6	21	63	756,000	38:6	22	66	792,000	39:6	23	69	828,000
19:6	3	9	108,000	40:6	24	72	864,000	41:6	25	75	900,000	42:6	26	78	936,000
20:6	4	12	144,000	43:6	27	81	972,000	44:6	28	84	1,008,000	45:6	29	87	1,044,000
21:6	5	15	180,000												
22:6	6	18	216,000												
23:6	7	21	252,000												
24:6	8	24	288,000												
25:6	9	27	324,000												
26:6	10	30	360,000												
27:6	11	33	396,000												
28:6	12	36	432,000												
29:6	13	39	468,000												
30:6	14	42	504,000												

Note. The Quantity of *Land* computed upon here, is, *Two Hundred and Forty Thousand Acres*; but that being about *One-Sixth Part* too much, see *Pages 45 and 46*, the clear Gain and Saving of *Three Shillings per 112 lb. of Sugar*, really makes above *Ten Shillings per Acre of Land*, although the same be rated at only *Nine Shillings per Acre*, in this Table.

There.

There now remains only one Thing more to be mentioned under this Head, and that is, the Way in which the *British West-India Merchants* charge, or did charge, their Profits; for that is the *Secret in Trade* hinted at in *Page 33*, and it is such a Secret as there are *National Reasons* to speak publicly of; because the *French West-India Merchants* charge their Profits in a different Way, and thereby acquire for their *Mother-Country* very great Gain, which a contrary Manner of reckoning excludes our Merchants from, and is very prejudicial to the *Commerce* of this Kingdom.

The *British Merchants* charge their Profit upon the *Commodities* or *Manufactures* which they *EXPORT*, but the *French Merchants* charge their Profit upon the *Commodities* or *Manufactures* which they *IMPORT*, and this gives the Latter a very great Advantage over the Former, in the Sale of their *EXPORTS*; infomuch, that *French Wines, French Linen and Woollen Manufactures*, and many other *Commodities* of the Produce or *Manufacture of France*, are said, by *Captain Fayer Hall*, to be sold very near as cheap in the *French Sugar-Colonies*, as the like *Commodities* and *Manufactures* are sold in *France*; and that Cheapness is wholly owing to, or at least may be accounted for by, the *French Manner* of charging Profit; for if only *Ten per Cent.* be added to the Cost of a *French Cargo*, it will be brought to Market cheaper, by *Fifteen or Twenty per Cent.* than a *British Cargo* upon which the Merchant hath reckoned his *Charges* and *Profit* also.

I cannot tell when this politic Method of charging Profit was first begun by the Merchants of *France*, but a *Commercial Regulation* that was made by *Lewis the Fourteenth*, in the Year *1698*, gives some Reason for thinking that the said Method was not then practised by the *French West-India Merchants*; because it is therein said, that the Disorders of the then late War, had caused Strangers to introduce themselves so far into the *French West-India Colonies*, and the Trade of the same, that the Merchandizes carried there from *France*, since the Conclusion of the Peace [in *1697*], lay on Hand, and could not find a Vent or Market.

Which authenticated Facts are a Foundation for believing, that the present *French Method* of charging Profit upon their Trade to the *West-Indies*, and probably upon all or most of their other Branches of *Commerce*, was not a *Custom taken up by Chance*, but in consequence of *Ministerial Deliberation*, and in order to gain a Preference in foreign Markets, to the *Commodities* and *Manufactures of France*; nor was even that vast Advantage the only one in View, or at least, not the only Advantage that hath attended the said Method of charging the *French Merchants* Profits; for the same doth at once *INCREASE the Consumption of FRENCH Commodities in OTHER COUNTRIES*, and, *DECREASE the Consumption of*

of OTHER COUNTRY Commodities in FRANCE, which are the very Things that every trading Nation strives to accomplish by Treaties of Commerce.

As to increasing the Consumption of French Commodities and Manufactures in other Countries, a French Merchant may pay Ten per Cent. more for a Cargo, than an English Merchant pays for a Cargo of the like Sort, and yet when those Two Cargoes arrive in the same Port, the French Goods will be sold Five or Ten per Cent. cheaper than the English Goods; because the Latter are, and the Former are not, charged with Fifteen or Twenty per Cent. for the Merchants Profit; so that the dearest bought Cargo, is, by those Means, brought cheapest to Market.

And as to decreasing the Consumption of other Country Commodities in France, a French Merchant who barter his Cargo for One-Tenth Part less of foreign Commodities, than is received in Barter by an English Merchant for a Cargo of the like Value, must necessarily return to France with One-Tenth Part less of such foreign Commodities, than the English Merchant brings back to England; and as the Importation of such Commodities into France, is thereby diminished One-Tenth Part, the French Consumption thereof certainly must be as much decreased.

In this Case, the English Merchant doth indeed seem to have an Advantage over the French Merchant, because he hath One-Tenth Part more of foreign Commodities to sell, than the other received for his Cargo; but this, in general, is far from being any real Advantage, for Merchants sell in Proportion as they buy; and as the French Merchant hath One-Tenth Part less of foreign Commodities for his Cargo, he will not fail to raise the Prices of them accordingly, as in Reason and Equity he may; so that the French Merchants, considered as Men trading for Gain, do not suffer any Loss by such Means.

It must not however be imagined, that this Method of charging Profit is universally advantageous; for where the Goods received in Barter, are either Materials for Manufactures, or necessary Commodities, having less of them is manifestly a Disadvantage to the receiving Nation; and where Goods are sold for Money, the receiving Nation doth likewise suffer a Disadvantage, because less Wealth is brought to them, than another Nation receives for Merchandize of the like Value: but then it is to be considered on the other Hand, that selling cheaper by Two or Three per Cent. than the Merchants of another Nation sell, will always secure a Preference for such cheaper Goods; and that such a diminished Rate of Profit to the Merchant, is wholly, or in a great Measure, made up to him, either by his Business being much sooner dispatched, or by his purchasing another Cargo upon better Terms.

It

It is likewise to be remembered, that by far the greater Part of the Commodities and Manufactures imported into Great Britain, France, and many other Kingdoms or Countries, ARE LUXURIES THERE; so that the said Method of charging Profit, is highly advantageous upon the Whole; and I believe that the French have thereby made themselves the most favoured Nation in FACT, where they are not so by TREATY.

For I cannot help thinking that the great Share which the French have had of late Years in the Trade to Spain and Portugal, was gained and maintained by the French Merchants not charging much of their Profits, upon the Woollen Manufactures, &c. by them exported to those Kingdoms; but it will be improper for me to pursue this Matter any farther here; and as all Things of this Sort are much better known to the British Merchants who trade to Spain, or Portugal, I must beg Leave to recommend to them, the more particular Consideration of this important Affair—

What I have said concerning the French Manner of charging Profit, possibly may be pleaded by the Sugar-Planters, in Defence of their seizing upon the Profession of British Merchant, but their Proceedings are an effectual Bar to any Plea of this Sort; for the said Seizure hath been highly injurious to the People of Great Britain; and those Planters have been so far from making any Compensation for the Loss thereby brought upon this Kingdom, that on the Contrary, they have added Loss to Loss, and Injury to Injury,

Concerning the British Sugar-Planters Valuation of their Land, Negroes, Buildings, and other Stock.

The Two following Calculations of the Value of the Island of Barbadoes, considered as a Sugar-Colony, are inserted in Mr. Bennett's Letters on the British Sugar-Colonies and Trade, Pages 18 and 19 of the 2d Edition, printed for R. Montagu in great Wylde Street, Anno 1738.

The former of these Calculations was made by Mr. Bennett, for the Year 1730; and the latter of them was made by another Person, for the Year 1731; but it is the most particular Calculation of the Two, and therefore the most proper to be taken into Consideration.

Q

Mr.

Mr. Bennett's Valuation of Barbadoes, Anno 1730.

Land 80,000 Acres, manurable in Barbadoes, worth, at an Average, £20 per Acre	£	1,600,000
Negroes 70,000, Men, Women, and Children, worth, one with another, £22 each		1,540,000
Stock, Sugar-Buildings, and Implements to employ the white and black Inhabitants, to the Value of		1,860,000
The Total, is, Five Millions of Pounds.		<u>5,000,000</u>

The other Valuation of Barbadoes, Anno 1731.

Articles		
1—106,000 Acres of Land, with the Crops now growing thereon, at £20 per Acre	£	2,120,000
2—65,000 Negroes at £30 per Head		1,950,000
3—20,000 Head of Cattle, at £10 per Head		200,000
4—6,000 Horses, at £20 per Head		120,000
5—500 Wind-Mills, at £800 each		400,000
6—Boiling-Houses, Still-Houses, Negroe-Houses, Trash-Houses, Smiths, Coopers, and Carpenters Shops, &c. £1200 for each Wind-Mill Estate		600,000
7—Carts, Pots, Drips, and other Utensils, at £150 for each Wind-Mill Estate		75,000
8—26 Pot-Kilns, 80 Cattle-Mills and Works		35,000
The Total, is, Five Millions Five Hundred Thousand Pounds		<u>5,500,000</u>

OBSERVATIONS upon the First Article.

The Maker of this Calculation hath inserted in the Title thereof, the Words—*considered as a Sugar-Colony*—; but I am persuaded that he did not consider Barbadoes as a British Sugar-Colony, when he reckoned Two Millions One Hundred and Twenty Thousand Pounds for the Land in that Island; because I do not know by what Rule of POLICY or of EQUITY, the Inhabitants of Colonies can claim from their Mother-Countries, One Penny an Acre for Lands which the Latter are at the CHARGE OF DEFENDING, and the Former have the BENEFIT OF REAPING; for if such Claims as these were to be admitted, Great Britain would be undone by her Colonies, and France might be ruined by putting her in Possession of all North America.

Certainly there must have been a great Want of Understanding, or of something else, in those Two Calculators; for as Men of Figures and conversant in Trade, they should have considered, that the Quantity of Land in all the British Colonies, may be computed, in a round Way of reckoning,

reckoning, at Two Hundred Millions of Acres; and, that the Owners, or Occupiers, of all those Lands, or at least such Parts thereof as are cultivated or employed, have as good a Right to put the like Sort of Value upon the same, and to expect Payment accordingly, from the People of Great Britain, as the Inhabitants of Barbadoes have, to do and expect the like Things.

But I must beg leave to say, that none of the Owners or Occupiers of the said Lands, have any such Right; and as to the Reasonableness of admitting Claims of this Sort, every Person will be able to judge thereof, when he considers, that One Penny an Acre yearly, for Two Hundred Millions of Acres of Land, amounts to above Eight Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year; or, supposing, that there be but One-Sixth Part of the said Quantity of Land cultivated or employed in all the British Colonies, and that the Owners or Occupiers thereof were to receive only Six-Pence an Acre annually for the same, from this Kingdom, the PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN would have Eight Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year to PAY for the COLONIES, which THEY are at the CHARGE OF DEFENDING!

It would be wasting the Reader's Time, to say more of Things which are so repugnant to Policy, Equity, and even to Common Sense; for the British Sugar-Planters ought, in Justice, to send Sixteen or Eighteen Thousand Hogsheds of Sugar yearly to the People of Great Britain, to repay the Charges which this Kingdom is at for protecting and defending the British Sugar-Colonies; and therefore, not One Penny of the £2,120,000 charged for Lands, by this Calculator, can be admitted to stand in a National Account.

As to the seven other Articles in the preceding Valuation of Sugar-Plantation-Stock in Barbadoes, there is a very shrewd Sort of Fallacy that runs throughout the Whole; for the Calculator, instead of considering the same as a perishable Stock that is constantly yielding Profit in Repayment of the original Cost thereof, hath very dextrously charged the whole Cost; and he hath thereby raised the Capital, upon which the Sugar-Planters Profits are to be computed, to Double the Sum that ought to be reckoned upon; which Matter it is necessary to make appear, before I say any Thing of the several Articles in particular, for that is an after Consideration.

Purchasing of Negroes for Labour, is but another Way of buying Annuities for Lives; because the Negroes so purchased are not otherwise valuable to the Sugar-Planters, than for the Profit which those Planters gain by the Labour of such Negroes, or their Children; and as the nett Gain arising to a Sugar-Planter from each Day's Labour of a Negroe, is so much in Repayment of the Principal and Interest of the Purchase-Money for that Negroe, the unrepaid Part of the Principal and Interest of such Purchase-Money, is all that can be reckoned Stock.

If the medium Time that *Negroes* are capable of working, be *Twenty Years*, those *Negroes* who have laboured *Ten Years* for their Masters, are to be reckoned in the Account of *Stock*, at only *Half* what they cost; because the other *Half*, and the proper Proportion of Interest thereon, are repaid with the Profits of those *Ten Years* Labour: by the same Rule, *Negroes* who have worked *Fifteen Years*, are to be charged at only *One-Fourth Part* of the original Cost; for the seemingly unsatisfied Interest upon the unrepaid Part of the Purchase-Money, is compensated by the greater Value of the *Negroes* Labour, in the Prime, than in the Decline of Life.

I do not say that this is exactly the Case, but any Person who is at all conversant in Things of this Sort may be convinced, without making Calculations, that what I have mentioned here, is founded in Truth; and this is farther proved, by those Rules which the *British* Sugar-Planters observe in the Valuation of *Negroes*; for Dr. *Douglas* says, that *Negroes* of *Ten* or of *Forty Years* old, are of equal Value; that from *20* to *25 Years* of Age, is reckoned their Prime; and, that from *Forty Years* old upwards, the Value of *Negroes* gradually decreases, as it doth from *Ten Years* of Age downwards.—*History of America*, Vol. I. Page 119.

And this Sort of Reasoning may be applied, with equal Justice, to every other Part of the Sugar-Planters *Stock*; for the Value of *Cattle* and of *Horses* for Labour, is continually rising or falling, as their Ages increase; and the Value of *Buildings*, as well as of *Utenfils*, decreases in Proportion as Time or Wear diminish their Utility: so that every Part of the *Stock* considered here, is to be valued as much below the first Cost, or Worth thereof, as the same is impaired by Age, Wear, or Use, at any given Time of Inspection, or Valuation; and such impairing must necessarily be found in various Degrees, throughout every Species of the Sugar-Plantation *Stock*.

There will be *Negroes* of all Ages, from Infancy to the latest Stages of Life; *Cattle* and *Horses*, some young, many fit for Labour, and others worn-out; *Buildings* in a Variety of Conditions, some newly erected, the greatest Number in various Degrees of Repair, and a considerable Proportion of them worth very little; which must likewise be the Case of the Sugar-Planters *Utenfils*: And as, where Things are continually changing their Value, in a regular and natural Course, the *Medium*, between their greatest and least Values, must be the *Rule of Estimation*, that Rule is to be observed in this Case.

I therefore say, that instead of reckoning the Sugar-Planters *Profits*, upon the first Cost of their *Plantation-Stock* as Mr. *Bennett* and the other Calculator have unfairly done, the said *Profits* are to be computed upon only *One-Half* of the first Cost, or Value, of the several Sorts of such *Stock*; for it would be ridiculous to ask as much Money for an old *House*, as it was worth when new; or to put the Price of a young *Cart-Horse*, upon an old one; and yet, Mr. *Bennett* and the other Calculator have been so weak, or something else, as to do those very Things.

OBSERVATIONS

OBSERVATIONS upon the *Second Article*.

These Calculators have not said, *though it be true*, that the Sugar-Planters take Care to have *Negroe Wives* for all or most of their *Negroe-Men*, and deem those *Negroes* to be *unprofitable Slaves* who have not *Children*; nor have they mentioned, that a Sugar-Planter reckons himself to be *Ten Pounds* richer, when a new born *Negroe-Child* is added to his *Plantation-Stock*; for if the Sugar-Planters, or their Advocates, were to *expatiate upon these Things*, and to tell what Numbers of *Negroes* are RETAINED to give Magnificence to Luxury, and to keep up the Parade of theatrical Sovereignty, many Persons in this Kingdom would be apt to suspect, that an annual Supply of *FIVE Negroes* for every HUNDRED, or *SIX THOUSAND Negroes* for all the *British* Sugar-Plantations, are a *Fourth* or a *Fifth Part* MORE than the Planters really buy, to keep up their *Negroe-Stock*.

But it is expedient to mention those Things here, as I intend to reduce this Article of £1,950,000 for *Sixty-five* Thousand *Negroes*, at £30 each . . . to . . . £1,000,000 for *Forty* Thousand *Negroes*, at £25 each; the *Half* of which latter Sum, is all that I can fairly admit in the Account of *Stock*.

For as to *House-Negroes*, or at least such of them as are employed in Family-Services, the Cost, &c. of them hath no more Connection with an Account of *Stock*, than they have Concern in the making of *Sugar*; nor can any Person reasonably think otherwise, when he considers, that those *Negroes* are not Implements or Means of *trading Gain*, but of *domestic Expence*: and as to there being more than *Forty* Thousand *Negroes* employed in or kept for *Plantation-Work* in *Barbadoes*, Sir *Dalby Thomas* reckoned only *One Negroe* for *Two Acres*, when the Sugar-Cane *Lands* were in constant Use or Culture; and therefore, I very much doubt, whether there have been of late Years so many as *Forty Thousand* of such *Negroes* kept in and for that Island, because *One-Third Part* or *more* of the Sugar-Cane *Lands* there, have remained fallow.

However, I shall reckon upon that Number of *Stock-Negroes*, and shall not make any Deduction for those considerable Savings which arise to the Sugar-Planters, from the great Numbers of *Negroes* born in their Plantations; since there ought to be an Allowance for *Negroes* who are employed in the Culture of *Ginger*, *Cotton*, &c. in *Barbadoes*, as I am now speaking of all the *Plantation-Stock* there.

OBSERVATIONS upon the *Third* and *Fourth* Articles.

These Two Articles are for *Cattle* and *Horses*, the rated Prices of which I shall not alter; but as to their Numbers, the same are just Twice as great, as should have been inserted, according to the Account given by Sir *Dalby Thomas*, when the Sugar-Cane *Land* was not permitted to remain fallow;

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for he reckons *Five Horses* and *Eight Bullocks* to a Sugar-Plantation of *One Hundred Acres*; and those Numbers being proportionably increased for *One Hundred Thousand Acres* of *Land*, the Quantity in *Barbadoes*, will give for the Number of *Horses*, *Five Thousand*; and for the Number of *Cattle*, *Eight Thousand*; Half the Cost or rated Price whereof, and no more, is to be admitted for *Plantation-Stock* there; and as to the Impropriety of my varying the Proportion between the Numbers of *Cattle* and of *Horses*, I chuse rather to follow *Sir Dalby Thomas's Account*, than the greatly exaggerated Account which is the Subject of these Observations.

As to the *Fifth, Sixth, Seventh* and *Eighth* Articles, I shall leave the Reader to judge of them as he thinks reasonable, after considering the great Over-Charges which I have discovered in the Four preceding Articles, for I will not take up any more of his Time in Particulars of this Sort.

A Re-Valuation of *Barbadoes*, considered as a Sugar-Colony.

Articles.	First Cost or Value.	Present Value or Planters Stock.
1— <i>Land</i> . . . 106,000 Acres	£ — —	£ — —
2— <i>Negroes</i> . . . 40,000 at £25 each	1,000,000	500,000
3— <i>Cattle</i> 8,000 at 10 per Head	80,000	40,000
4— <i>Horses</i> 5,000 at 20 per Head	100,000	50,000
5— <i>Wind-Mills</i> . . . 500 at 800 each	400,000	200,000
6— <i>Boiling-Houses, Still-Houses, &c.</i>	600,000	300,000
7— <i>Carts, Pots, and other Utensils</i>	75,000	37,500
8— <i>Pot-Kilns 26, Cattle-Mills 80</i>	35,000	17,500
The Total of the First-Cost or Value, is Two Millions Two Hundred and Ninety Thousand Pounds		2,290,000
The Total of the present Value, or Planters-Stock, is One Million One Hundred and Forty-five Thousand Pounds		1,145,000

So that in an Account of *Sugar, Ginger, Cotton, &c.* Plantation-Stock amounting to *Five Millions Five Hundred Thousand Pounds*, there appears to me to be above *Four Millions of Pounds* over-charged; even admitting that the Sugar-Planters *Wind-Mills, Boiling-Houses, Still-Houses, &c.* are as numerous, and as valuable, as the said Calculator hath reckoned: and it is to be remembered that, *Acre for Acre*, Sugar Plantation Stock in *Barbadoes* is more expensive than in any other of the *British Sugar-Colonies*, because the *Barbadians* distil most of their *Melasses*, and clay most of their *Sugar*; but that not being the Case in the other Sugar-Colonies, a less expensive

expensive Stock, or less of such expensive Stock, is sufficient for the Plantations there.

And I have in my Possession a Manuscript, of good Authority, which gives Reason to believe that most of the *Sugar* produced in *Barbadoes*, is clayed there, although *Mr. Abley* reckons upon only 7,500 Hogheads of clayed *Sugar*, when the whole Product of *Sugar* is 75,000 Hogheads: which Matters I think it necessary to mention here, as, in Page 3, I have inserted only £45,000 a Year for the increased Value of clayed *Sugar*; whereas if the *Barbadoes* Planters annually export 25,000 Hogheads of clayed *Sugar*, I should have reckoned £150,000 instead of £45,000; or if, as that Manuscript gives Reason to believe, those Planters clay, at least, *Two Thirds* of their *Sugar*, I ought in that Case to have charged £100,000 for the increased Value of such *Two-Thirds*.

I did intend to have supported this Re-Valuation of Sugar-Plantation Stock, by Extracts from what other Writers have said upon that Head, or in Cases of a similar Nature; but as every Person of common Understanding may easily comprehend whether the Principles I have proceeded upon, are Right or Wrong, I think that such Extracts are not necessary.

And therefore I shall only acquaint the Reader, that partly by the Help of the Two preceding extravagant Valuations of Sugar-Plantation Stock, and partly by an extravagant Valuation of annual Supplies to keep up that Stock, &c. *Mr. Bennett* contrived to bring the Inhabitants of *Barbadoes* in Debt, no less than *Three Hundred Thousand Pounds* a Year; but by proving *too much* for the Sugar-Planters, he hath only exposed them and himself likewise; for at the very Time that he figured away so as to make a Balance against *Barbadoes*, of £300,000 a Year upon PAPER, the Planters of that Island received from *Great Britain*, a Balance of £200,000 a Year in MONEY.

Concerning the TAXES which are said to be paid by the *British Sugar-Planters*.

A TAX was no sooner laid upon the LANDS of *ENGLAND*, than the *English* Sugar-Planters begun to fancy themselves in a similar Situation to that of the Land-holders of this Kingdom; and, in consequence of that fancied Similitude, those Planters, or some Person for them, made an imaginary Removal, from *England* to *Jamaica, Barbadoes* and the *Leeward Islands*, of those Taxes which were at that Time laid upon *Sugar* here.

That Author who groaned for the Plantations, when they were not in a distressed Condition, reckons, that Duties amounting to *Two Shillings per 112 Pounds Weight* of *Muscovado-Sugar*, are as a *Land-Tax* of a Noble in the

the Pound; and, to say the Truth, he hath made a noble Reckoning of it: for if a Duty of *Two Shillings per Hundred Weight* of such *Sugar*, be as a *Land-Tax* of *Six Shillings and Eight Pence* in the *Pound*, the present *British* and *Colony-Duties*, of nearly *Five Shillings and Four Pence, per Cent. lb.* of *Muscovado Sugar*, must be as a *Land-Tax* of *Seventeen Shillings and Nine Pence* in the *Pound*; and consequently there remains, in that *Way of Reckoning*, only *Two Shillings and Three Pence* in the *Pound*, for the *Sugar-Planters*.

It would be losing Time to say more, of so ridiculously extravagant a Calculation, and therefore I shall proceed to examine Mr. *Ashley's* Account of the *Taxes* which he hath thought proper to lay upon the *British Sugar-Planters*, as it is very moderate in comparison of the other; for he hath been so reasonable as to rate all the *British* and *Colony-Duties* which were laid upon *British Muscovado Sugar* before the Year 1747, at only *Six Shillings and Ten Pence* in the *Pound* "on the nett Profits of their *Negroes* and *Utensils*, as well as their *Land*."

But before Mr. *Ashley* laid those *Taxes* upon the *Sugar-Planters*, he prudently provided a Fund for Payment of the same, out of the *Purses* and *Pockets* of the People of *Great Britain*; and upon that Fund there is a Surplus of *Three Hundred and Fifty-four Thousand Pounds* a Year for the *Sugar-Planters*, over and above the Maintenance of their Families; which Surplus makes an annual clear Gain and Saving to them, of about *Twenty-five Shillings per Acre* of their *Lands*; and this is what Mr. *Ashley* calls paying of *TAXES*.

Pity it is, that so ingenious a *Ways and Means* Man did not point out to the People of this Kingdom, a Method of paying *Taxes* without parting from *Money*, and contrive a Scheme to discharge the *National Debt* without *Money's Worth* or *Breach of public Faith*; for as the Case now stands, both Landholders and Householders find to their Cost, that the more Money they pay for *Taxes*, the less Money they have for their own Uses; whereas, according to Mr. *Ashley's* Method, they might pay *Taxes* with other People's *Money*.

It is really very extraordinary that the *Sugar-Planters*, or any other Persons in their Behalf, should be so totally devoid of that Respect which is due to the People of *Great Britain*, and hold their Understandings so cheap, as to think of imposing upon them by such wretched Sophistry; for by this Sort of Logic it may be proved, that the Receivers general of the *Land-Tax, Customs, Excise, &c.* pay all the Monies which arise from those Branches of the public Revenue; since they issue with one Hand what they receive in the other, and that in Reality is the *Sugar-Planters* Case.

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But Mr. *Ashley* very CONSCIENTIOUSLY assumes for the *British Sugar-Planters*, a clear Gain and Saving of *Five Hundred and Forty Thousand Pounds* a Year, which amounts to full *Forty Shillings an Acre* for all the *Land*; by them employed in *Sugar-Plantations*, to annually produce *Seventy-five Thousand Hogheads of Sugar*; and after deducting from that exorbitant Gain, *One Hundred and Eighty-six Thousand Pounds* a Year for *British* and *Colony-Duties*, he as MODESTLY reckons, that those *Taxes* amount to *Six Shillings and Ten Pence* in the *Pound* "on the nett Profits of their *Negroes* and *Utensils*, as well as their *Land, without any Deduction or Abatement*."—Supplement to his Memoirs, Pages 10 and 11.

Now as, after making the said Deduction from that exorbitant Gain, there remains for the *Sugar-Planters*, an annual clear Profit and Saving of *Three Hundred and Fifty-four Thousand Pounds* a Year, and that Sum comes to about *Twenty-five Shillings per Acre* of their *Lands*; nothing more is necessary to being convinced that the said Planters DO NOT PAY ANY TAXES at all, as *Planters*, than to recollect, that *Twenty-five Shillings per Acre* of *Land* yearly, is FIVE TIMES AS MUCH MONEY as the Landholders of *England* clearly save per Acre of their Estates.

And even the *Sugar-Planters* own Conduct for near *Twenty Years*, is Evidence against them in this Matter; for ever since the Year 1739, they have had the Liberty of exporting directly from the *British Sugar-Colonies*, whatever Quantities of *Sugar* they thought proper to send to foreign *European Markets*; and as *British Sugar* so exported, is not chargeable with any other Duty than $4\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. in those Colonies, which comes to only *Three Pence per 100 lb.* of *Muscovado Sugar*, at the first Cost, the *British Sugar-Planters* might have avoided paying any greater Duty, upon *Twenty, Thirty, or Forty Thousand Hogheads of Sugar* yearly.

But so far have those Planters been from embracing such constant Opportunity of AVOIDING THE PAYMENT of *British Duties* upon *Sugar*, and of selling great Quantities thereof in foreign and open Markets, as Multitudes of BRITONS must submit to have their Commodities and Manufactures sold, or else become PAUPERS; that, on the contrary, they the said Planters, to their great SHAME and this Kingdom's vast LOSS, have left the *French, Dutch, Danes, &c.* to sell *Sugars* in fair and open Markets; preferring, for their own private and exorbitant Lucre, an inclosed Market to an open one, and a *sophistical Payment of Taxes* to a legal Exemption from them.

Such hath been the *British Sugar-Planters* logical WAY of paying *TAXES*, from the first even to this Time; and so long as they are permitted to gain and save *Three Shillings per 100 Pounds Weight of Sugar*, which comes to *Ten Shillings per Acre* of their *Plantation-Lands* annually, so long will the said Planters, considered as *British Subjects*, be exempted from paying any *Taxes* at all.

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For there is a *Rate of Profit* in TRADE, as well as a *Rate of Interest* upon MONEY, in every civilized and trading Kingdom or State; and I do not know of any other *Standard* whereby to regulate the *Profits* of *British* Subjects, than the *Gain* that arises to the Landholders of *England* from their Estates; allowing in such Cases as require it, for the *Labour*, *Ingenuity*, *Skill*, *Expence*, or *Risque* of the Persons concerned; and such Allowances are not only made here for the Sugar-Planters, but a *double Quota* of clear Gain and Saving is likewise proposed for them; although I cannot see any good Reason, why their clear Gain and Saving should not be reduced to the *British Standard*; and I am of Opinion, that the Want of such a Regulation hath, one Way or other, caused the Loss of near *Twenty Millions* of *Pounds Sterling* to the People of *Great Britain*.

As to *Labour*, the Sugar-Planters perform it by their Proxies the *Negroes*; the *Ingenuity*, is that of *British* Artificers; the *Skill* is exercised by white Servants, and paid for in Wages; the *Expence* is included in the Charges of Production; the mercantile *Risque* is allowed for in those Charges, under the Name of *Insurance*; and there likewise is an Allowance for the *Disagreeableness of the Climate*; but that is consumed in such excessive Luxury, as would bring to Ruin the most flourishing Kingdom; and must long ago have brought our Sugar-Planters to Poverty, if they had been obliged to sell *Sugar* at the Prices which that Commodity hath been sold by foreign Sugar-Planters.

But the *BRITISH* Freeholders, Farmers, *Woollen Manufacturers*, *Silk Manufacturers*, *Metallic Manufacturers*, &c. are the People who must sell their Goods at such Prices as the like Sorts of Goods bear in other Countries, and a Handful of *Sugar-Planters* are pampered at the Expence of those industrious *BRITONS*: for though by *Profession* the said Planters are only upon a Level with *English* Farmers, and were formerly so in *Fact*, as appears by what *Sir Josiah Child*, *Sir Dalby Thomas*, and *Mr. Ligon* have written; yet, are Things so far turned Top-sy-Turvy of late Years, that those *West-India* Farmers mount into *Coaches*, and mate in *Equipage* THE *BRITISH NOBILITY*.

Certainly this is the most superlative Instance of *Folly*, and the greatest Burlesque upon *Husbandry*, that any Age or Country hath yet produced.—And so marvellously have such *Coaches* thriven in Number, of late Years, that *Forty* or *Fifty* of them are said to have paraded at *Noon-Day* in the Face of the PEOPLE.

But I have shewn how many *Millions of Wealth* it hath cost the People of *Great Britain*, to feed the *Folly*, *Extravagance*, and *Exorbitance* of those *Sugar-Planters*, within *Thirty Years* past; and as the said PEOPLE have gained their WEALTH and POWER by INDUSTRY and FRUGALITY, I am persuaded it will not be thought Right, that their *Privileges*,
Property,

Property, and *Power*, should be devoured by *Presumption*, *Exorbitance*, and *Luxury*.

More especially upon considering, how ridiculous it is, for *Tillers of the Earth* by *Profession* to keep any other *Coaches* than such as carry their Goods to Market; and upon remembering, that EACH *Coach*, which is kept by the *Profits of Sugar Planting*, hath caused the Loss of ONE *British Ship*, and TEN *British Seamen*, at the least; for the foreign *European* Sugar-Trade used to employ *One Hundred* of the *Ships*, and *One Thousand* of the *Seamen* of this KINGDOM, and might have employed double those Numbers; but the *Ships* have been exchanged for *Coaches*, and the *Seamen* for *Lacqueys*, which certainly is the most miserable Exchange that any Class of *Colony-Subjects* ever made to the Detriment of the PUBLIC WEAL.—But surely the *English Oak* will maintain its DIGNITY, and not dishonourably bend to that paltry Reed a *Sugar-Cane*.—

The Sugar-Planters probably will say, it is enough for them to superintend the Management of their Plantations, and that their *Profits* ought to be the greater upon this Account; but they should remember, that the Landholders of *England* are under a like Necessity of superintending the Management of their Estates: and as a Judgment may be formed of the CARE and PAINS which the Sugar-Planters take in *Plantation Work*, by the great Number of ABSENTEE-PLANTERS, who reside for the most Part in this Kingdom, or in other Parts of *Europe*; there is good Reason for believing, that the Care and Pains so taken, are not greater than the principal Landholders of *England* are subjected to; and those Planters would do well to consider, how improper it is for them to be talking Year after Year about *extraordinary Profits*, in this Kingdom, instead of minding their proper Business of *Sugar-Planting* in *Jamaica*, *Barbadoes*, and the *Leeward-Islands*, as all other *British* Colony-People mind their Plantations, and as all *English* Farmers are obliged to mind their Farms, or starve.

Those Sugar-Planters ought likewise to bear in Mind, how CONSISTENT it is with *Policy*, or with *Justice*, for the People of *Great Britain* to pay the Charges of protecting and defending *Colonies*, any longer than the same are a *common Good* to those People, and not for a few Families to amass vast Fortunes by, at the Expence of *Eight Millions* of *Britons*: I wish also, that those Planters would shew the Public, how many Pence less than *One Million* of *Pounds* a Year they have had from the People of *Great Britain*, at the Prices which *Sugar*, *Rum*, and *Melasses* have been sold for here, during *Three Years* last past; because my Table for computing the Sugar-Planters *Profits*, inserted in Page 54, &c. induce me to believe, that they have had *One Million* of *Pounds* annually and for those *Three Years*, from the People of this Kingdom.—

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But the Sugar-Planters lay another Claim to extraordinary Profit, and this they found upon the great Capital or Stock employed by them in their Plantations; it will therefore be necessary to inquire in the next Place, whether they HAVE or HAVE NOT a Claim to extraordinary Profit, on account of their Plantation-Stock.

Concerning the Annual PROFIT per Cent. arising from MONEY employed for making of Sugar in the British Colonies.

As to Land, I cannot tell how many Acres a Penny those Planters had, to whom the Lands in the British Sugar-Colonies were first granted; though what Mr. Ashley hath said concerning His Majesty's Quit-Rents in Jamaica, gives Reason to imagine that the Owners of Lands there, have Half a Dozen Acres for their Penny worth; and therefore I shall pass over the Article of Land, without allowing any Thing on that Account.

For as to valuable Considerations, which may have been given by some private Persons to others, for Lands in the British Sugar-Colonies, the People of Great Britain have not the least Concern as a Nation with such Bargains; nor would there have been any Occasion to pay valuable Considerations for such Lands, if no more Land had been granted in Jamaica than is properly cultivated or employed there.

But some how or other, a few Planters in that Island formerly obtained Grants of prodigious Quantities of the most fertile and best situated Lands in Jamaica, for a Penny or a Pepper-Corn, &c. per Acre, annual Quit-Rent; and as those monopolizing Grants have been highly instrumental in bringing upon the People of Great Britain those vast Losses and several Hardships, which I have pointed out in this Treatise; many Persons probably will be of Opinion, that it is not only just but expedient, that all such Lands in the said Island, as have been so granted and still remain uncultivated, should be re-assumed; for which Reason I shall insert what the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations thought proper to say of these Matters, in their Representation to The Right Honourable The House of Lords, bearing Date 14 Jan. 1733.

“ —In the Island of Jamaica there are very large Tracts of Lands proper for bearing Sugar-Canes, and capable of most other American Productions, which have not yet been cultivated; and we are sorry to observe to your Lordships, that the most fertile and best situated Lands in this Colony have been formerly granted in such exorbitant Quantities, that at present there remains very little or no Land for the Reception of new Comers, unless they purchase it at a very high Price, except in such Parts of the Island as are very much exposed, and lie under such Disadvantages as may justly deter Men from settling upon them.”

“ We

“ We conceive the Means of promoting the Prosperity of Jamaica, and of securing the Possession of it to Great Britain, would be to take all possible Methods to people it with white Inhabitants, and to encourage every kind of Agriculture proper for the Soil, and capable of being carried on by People of small Substance; but though we have long understood this to be the principal Interest of Jamaica, we conceive it impossible to invent Methods of attracting new Inhabitants thither, whilst the LANDS of the Country remain CONFINED, as they are at present, in the Possession of a FEW wealthy Planters.

“ The People of Jamaica have appeared so sensible of these Truths, and of the ill Consequences that might arise from them, that in the Year 1722 they made a Law for vesting all such Lands in the CROWN, for which the Proprietors had paid no Quit-Rents, within a certain Time, upon Condition that the Lands so forfeited, should be Re-granted in small Parcels to new Inhabitants, under certain Conditions mentioned in the Act.

“ Four other Acts were afterwards passed; for purchasing more Land to the Public; for the Use and Encouragement of New-Comers; for building a Town to be called by the Name of Portland; and for forming a Settlement at Port Antonio, which is a Port of Consequence in the North-East Part of Jamaica.

“ But either these Acts were insufficient to effectuate the Purposes for which they were designed, OR the Execution of them hath been evaded, OR the Intention of them weakened by subsequent Laws; because those Lands have not been purchased by new Inhabitants, but for the most Part lie still uncultivated, and the Island is more destitute THAN EVER of white Inhabitants.

“ We are humbly of Opinion therefore, that if the People of Jamaica will not be induced to frame an Act, which may DIVEST particular Persons of those EXTENSIVE TRACTS which now lie uncultivated, this may be a proper Subject for the Consideration of the BRITISH PARLIAMENT; by whose Authority an effectual Method may be taken, to RE-ASSUME those antient GRANTS that have hitherto been useless, even to their Owners, as well as the Public; or otherwise, to put the Proprietors under a Necessity of cultivating them.” Pages 14 and 15.

This authoritative Representation of these Matters, makes it quite unnecessary for me to say more concerning Land in the British Sugar-Colonies; and therefore I shall proceed to consider those other Articles of real Expence, wherein Sugar-Plantation Stock properly consists; for I have before observed,

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observed, that not *One Penny an Acre* can be allowed for *Plantation-Land*, in A NATIONAL ACCOUNT of *Colonies*.

Nor do I imagine that the Persons who now possess vast Tracts of Land in *Jamaica*, pay so much as ONE FARTHING per ACRE annual Quit Rent for the same; nay, it appears by the preceding Extract from the Representation of the Board of Trade, that many Years Quit-Rent for Part of the said Lands were not paid at all, though they were, and are, only small Tokens of Tenure due to the SOVEREIGN Proprietor: And yet there is Reason to believe, that those Persons, or their Predecessors, have received very large Sums of Money for Portions of the said Lands by them sold to other Subjects of *Great Britain*; which *Bargains*, as well as the *Re-Assumption* of those Lands in *Jamaica*, &c. which have been granted but are not cultivated, do seem to be Matters of National Concern; for though a Man may legally sell his Property, yet are not all Sales of vendible Property legal.—

According to my Re-Valuation of the Plantation-Stock in *Barbadoes*, P. 62, the same amounts to *One Million One Hundred and Forty-five Thousand Pounds*; but as I have therein admitted of above *Five Hundred Thousand Pounds* for *Wind-Mills, Boiling-Houses, Carts, Pot-Kilns, &c.* without making any Reduction; and as in the Article for *Negroes* there is included for *Cotton, Ginger, &c. Plantation-Stock*; I shall consider the *Sugar Plantation-Stock* in that Island, when *Twenty-five Thousand Hogheads of Sugar* are annually produced there, as being worth *One Million of Pounds Sterling*.

At which Estimation, the *Sugar Plantation-Stock* requisite to annually produce *Seventy-five Thousand Hogheads of Sugar*, containing *1,500 lb.* nett Weight each in the *Sugar-Colonies*, will amount in present Value, to *Three Millions of Pounds Sterling*; and as the *present Value* of such Stock, after the same hath been used for many Years and from Time to Time replenished or repaired, doth amount to only *One-Half of the original Cost* thereof, the whole *Stock or Capital* would be *Six Millions of Pounds*, if new *Lands* were to be planted.

But then it is to be considered on the other Hand, that the extraordinary Charges of making new *Sugar-Plantations*, are compensated by the extraordinary great Crops of *Sugar* which newly broke-up *Lands* yield, more than are produced upon long cultivated *Lands* of the like natural Goodness.

Those Men who first planted the good *Lands* in *Barbadoes* with *Sugar-Canes*, were repaid in Crops of *Four Thousand Pounds Weight of Muscovado Sugar per Acre*; whereas now those *Lands* have been long employed in the Production of *Sugar-Canes*, the Crops of *Sugar* are, or at least I have reckoned

reckoned them to be, only *Two Thousand Pounds Weight per Acre*: And yet the *Sugar-Planters* will not admit that the Charges of producing *Sugar* are at all diminished, but on the contrary say, that their *Lands* require more *Labour and Manure* to produce such lesser Crops of *Sugar*; so that a Crop of *Four Thousand Pounds Weight of Sugar per Acre* of newly planted *Land*, may properly be called a *Triple or Three-fold Crop* in Regard to the Expences of Production, which is the Point to be considered here, although the same be only a *Double Crop* in Quantity.

And as, according to *Mr. Labat's Account*, the extraordinary great Productions of *Sugar* from newly planted and good *Lands*, do continue for *Seven, Ten, or more, successive Crops*, without any sensible Diminution either in Quantity or Quality; there appears to me good Reason for believing, that the *Capital Sum* employed for settling and carrying on new *Sugar-Plantations*, together with Interest for the same, are wholly repaid in less than *Twenty Years*, by only the extraordinary Profits of such Plantations, exclusive of ordinary Profit: and indeed, the many and great Estates which have been bought in *England*, by Men who went to the *English Sugar-Colonies* in low Circumstances, are to me a Proof of that Matter; more especially as those *Sugar-Plantations* are still Retained, and have by Monopoly and Exorbitance, within *Twenty Years* past, been made to bring more *ENGLISH MONEY* into a small Number of *Sugar-Planters COFFERS*, than all the *LANDS* in a *COUNTY* are WORTH.—

From hence it appears, that the Profits arising from *Sugar-Plantations* keep Pace with the Charges attending them; or at least, that the Profits gained by such Plantations when newly settled, are above *Twice as great*, as arise from the like Sort of Plantations after the same have been long established; and consequently, by computing the *British Sugar-Planters Profits per Cent. per Annum* upon the *present Value*, or *One-Half the First Cost*, of their *Plantation-Stock*, I shall not reckon unfairly; but, on the contrary, more favourably for the Planters, than if I was to reckon their Profits, upon new Plantations and the *First Cost* of their *Plantation-Stock*; for though in the latter Case, their Charges would be double what they are in the Former, yet, their Profits would be more than double, and make a greater Profit in Proportion to the *Capital* employed.

These Matters being premised, I shall now inquire, what annual Rate of Profit or Interest per Cent. is gained, upon a Capital of *Three Millions of Pounds Sterling* employed for making of *Sugar*, upon long established Plantations in the *British Colonies*; and the first Thing to be taken Notice of, is, that Part of the Profit or Interest which the *Sugar-Planters* receive in Provisions, &c. produced on their Plantations, and consumed or used by them,

them, their Families, menial Servants, or by *Cattle, Horses, &c.* kept for domestic or personal Uses.

In order to which, it will be necessary to shew, what Numbers of white Inhabitants there are, or have been of late Years, in the *British* Sugar-Colonies; and this I shall do, by the following Extract from the Representation of the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations.

The Numbers of White Inhabitants in the *British* Sugar-Colonies.

In <i>Jamaica</i>	Anno 1730	7,644	Persons	Page 7
<i>Barbadoes</i>	1724	18,295		9
The <i>Leeward Islands</i>	1724	12,420		10
Total— <i>Thirty-eight</i> Thousand <i>Three</i> Hundred				
and <i>Fifty-nine</i>		38,359		

Of which Number, I shall reckon *Five Thousand* for the Sugar-Planters Families, and add *Ten Thousand* for the Number of *Negroes, Mulattoes,* and some white Servants, employed in providing for, or attending on the Sugar-Planters, their Families, *Coaches, Horses, &c.*

Though it is said, that the Sugar-Planters are so frugal of *Regard for their Children,* as to have them suckled by *Negroe-Women;* and if, as Mr. *Addison* hath observed, Children suck in the good or bad Qualities of their Nurfses, savage *African Women* reduced to Slavery, cannot be proper Nurfses for the Children of *British* Subjects.

But to compensate, as it were, for such *unparental Frugality,* it seems that when a Sugar-Planter rides out, he hath a *Foot-Negroe* to run alongside with his great Coat, though he hath a stronger *Slave* under him; and Captain *Fayrer-Hall* says, there are more *Coaches* in *Barbadoes* than in all the *French* Islands put together, and that he knew of only *Two* in *Martinico.*

Which small Number of *Coaches* in the greatest of the *French* Sugar-Colonies, clearly proves, that *French* Colony-Farmers are wisely obliged to live LIKE FARMERS, even as *English* Farmers are wisely obliged to live, and must continue to live so, or the Land-holders of *England* cannot be paid their *Rents.*

Now as there were but *Two Coaches* in the most powerful of the *French* Sugar-Colonies, it is extremely reasonable to imagine, that there was not more than *One Coach* in any of their other Sugar-Colonies, and that the said *Two Coaches* were kept by the Governor and the next principal Officer in *Martinico.*

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I do not know that our Sugar-Planters, or their Advocates, have so much as hinted at this Part of *French* Wisdom in the GOVERNING OF COLONIES, although they have spoke at large about the Policy of the *French,* in exempting their Sugar-Colonies from TAXES, and permitting a direct Exportation of SUGAR: For during the Years 1731, 32, 33, &c. while those Sugar-Planters were humbly supplicating the LEGISLATURE to grant unto them, that goodly Train of Privileges and Immunities which are recited in Pages 50 and 51, they, the said Planters, mightily extolled *French* Wisdom, and gave all possible Reason to imagine, that so soon as similar Measures were taken here, they would drive the *French* quite out of the foreign European Sugar-Trade.

But what our Sugar-Planters have since done, most plainly shews, that their former Professions were only *Paper-Patriotism;* though even this hath its USE, as well as *Paper-Money,* when issued in proper Seasons and Quantities; and the Sugar-Planters seem to have been as adroit in giving Currency to the Former, as the *Rhode-Islanders* were in circulating the Latter.

Attributing to the *French* Sugar-Planters a Superiority of Advantages, which the annual Re-Exportation of near Ten Thousand Hogheads of Sugar from this Kingdom, PROVES, they had not.

Complaining of Distress, when they received a Ballance of Six Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year from the PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Pretending a Resolution to crush the *French* Sugar-Colonies, and at the same Time promoting the Increase of those Colonies, by supplying them with *Negroes,* and by fraudulently buying *French* Sugars, Manufactures, &c.

Amusing the People of *Great Britain* with an Expectation of all the foreign European Sugar-Trade being recovered, and soon after resigning to the *French,* that Part of the said Trade which our Sugar-Planters had preserved Four Years, without Complaint of Distress, under increased Charges of near Four Shillings a Hundred Weight, but most shamefully gave it up to the *French,* when in a Capacity of driving them quite out of the foreign European Sugar-Trade.

Haranguing upon the Liberty of *England;* while they were making Servants of *English* Merchants; and seizing upon the Privilege and Profit of exporting *British* Commodities and Manufactures, while they were speaking in Defence of the *British* Commerce.

Exclaiming against Penfions and Quarterings, and at the same Time holding by Monopoly and Exorbitance, such Penfions and Quarterings as abash Corruption, and are an Abomination to JUSTICE.

Such have been the POLITICS of our Sugar-Planters!

Patriotism in Shew,
Hypocrisy in Substance.—

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The next Thing to be considered, is, the Value of that Part of the Suftenance of the Sugar-Planters, their Families, Servants, &c. which arifeth from the *Lands* in the *British* Sugar-Colonies, and it is to be reckoned for *Fifteen Thousand* Perfons; but fuch Value muft be rated at the Prices which are common for very good Fare in this Kingdom, and not at the high Prices really paid in the *West-Indies* for Commodities of the like Sorts, becaufe that would be an unfair Valuation in regard to the Sugar-Planters Profits; I fhall therefore rate the faid Suftenance at only *Twenty Pounds* each Perfon *per Annum*, for the Sugar-Planters, their Families, and menial Servants, including for the Keep of *Cattle, Horses, &c.* at which Eftimation, this Part of the faid Profit will come to *Three Hundred Thousand Pounds* a Year.

The fecond Part of the Sugar-Planters Profit or Interest, is confumed by them, their Families, menial Servants, &c. in *British, Irish, North American,* and foreign Commodities, Manufactures, *Coaches, &c.* which are, or *fhould be,* all included in the *lawful* Exports to the *British* Sugar-Colonies; but as in the Account of thofe Exports, there is included for the Value of Supplies to keep up the Sugar-Plantation Stock, &c. as well as for the Value of the Commodities and Manufactures confumed by the Sugar-Planters Families, &c. it will be neceffary to divide that Account of the faid Exports; and I fhall make this Division, upon Mr. *Afbley's* Account of the annual Supplies for the *British* Sugar-Colonies; but as that Account is already inferted in Page 41, it will be needlefs to mention in this Place, the Whole that is faid there.

Annual Supplies for the *British* Sugar-Colonies.

	For the Sugar-Planters	For Plantation Stock, &c.	Total of both
From <i>Great Britain, Ireland, and Madeira</i>	£200,000	£ 77,000	£277,000
From the <i>British North American</i> Co- lonies	40,000	120,000	160,000
From <i>Africa</i>	10,000	140,000	150,000
The Totals	£250,000	£337,000	£587,000

I do not expect the Sugar-Planters to allow that this is a fair Distribution of the annual Exports to the *British* Sugar-Colonies; but when their luxurious and magnificent Way of living is confidered, I believe it will be thought, that I have not appropriated too much to their perfonal or family Expences; for in the Article of *Madeira Wine* only, they confume, or *say they confume,* to the Value of *Eighty Thousand* Pounds yearly; but I fhall reckon their Confumption of fuch *Wine* at only *Sixty Thousand* Pounds a Year,

Year, which will be deeming them One-Fourth Part *lefs* luxurious than they own themfelves to be.

As to other Liquors, it appears in an Account of Sugar-Colony Supplies, inferted by an Advocate for the Planters, in a Pamphlet called "A De-
" rection of the State, &c. of the Sugar-Planters," printed in the Year 1732, that neither *French, Rbinifh, &c. Wines,* nor *Arrack,* or *French Brandy,* are Novelties in thofe Colonies; nor doth Captain *Fayrer Hall* fpeak of thofe *coftly Liquors* as Things feldom to be met with among our *Barbadoes, &c. Farmers;* for he fays, that if the *French* Sugar-Planters were as luxurious as our People upon the neighbour Iflands, they [the *French*] would drink *Brandy* and *Arrack,* as they [the *British* Sugar-Planters] do.

So that while ABSENTEE Sugar-Planters are recommending with *pa-
triotic Zeal,* the Confumption of *British Rum* in this Kingdom, their Bre-theren in the Colonies are drinking *Arrack* and *Brandy,* for the Benefit of *East-India* and *France;* and therefore their whole Expence for imported Liquors may well be reckoned at *One Hundred Thousand Pounds per Annum;* which Sum being deducted from their perfonal or domestic Expences as before rated, there will remain *One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds* a Year, to provide the Sugar-Planters, their Families, Servants, &c. with various Sorts of *Eatables, Apparel, Furniture, Coaches,* other *Equi-
pages, Jewels, Toys, &c. &c.* which comes to *Ten Pounds* a Head for *Fifteen Thousand* Perfons.

Now if the annual Expences of the Sugar-Planters and their Families, in the feveral Articles laft mentioned, be rated at *Twenty Pounds* per Head, taking *Men, Women,* and *Children* upon an Average, and I do not fee how it can be *lefs,* there will then remain only *Fifty Thousand* Pounds a Year for the *Ten Thousand* Servants; and as all of thofe Servants muft not only be cloathed, and fed, but many of them be treated as upper Servants, who fare well and receive Gratuities, I think that no Perfon can reasonably doubt of the Sugar-Planters Profits under this Head, being *Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds* a Year.

As to the Third and laft Part of the Sugar-Planters Profit, which confifts in the Money they clearly gain and fave, after paying the Charges of their Plantations and for the Maintenance of their Families, that Part of the faid Profit is already fixed, under the Denomination of *annual clear Gain and Saving;* fo that nothing more remains to be done on this Head than to determine, how many *per Cent. per Annum* thefe Three Sorts of Profit amount to, upon a Capital of *Three Millions* of Pounds Sterling; which is the *prefent Value* of the *Sugar-Plantation Stock* required to produce the faid feveral Profits, and *Seventy-five Thousand* Hogheads of *Sugar,* annually.

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An ABSTRACT of the Annual PROFIT per Cent. upon
Three Millions of Pounds Sterling employed for making of Sugar,
upon long established Plantations in the British Colonies,

	Amount per Annum.	Rate per Cent. on £3,000,000.
Profit in Provisions, &c. produced on the Plantation-Land, and consumed by the Sugar-Planters, their Families, menial Ser- vants, &c.	£300,000	Ten
Profit in Commodities, Manufactures, &c. imported into the Sugar-Colonies, from Great Britain, Ireland, and other Countries, consumed as aforesaid	250,000	Eight $\frac{1}{3}$
Profit in clear Gain and Saving of Money, being Three Shillings Sterling for every 100 Pounds Weight of Muscovado Sugar, in 75,000 Hogheads of 1,500 lb. each. (£168,750)	160,000	Five $\frac{1}{3}$
The Totals	710,000	Twenty-three $\frac{2}{3}$

So that, according to my Computations, the annual Profit arising from
Money employed for Sugar-planting in the British Colonies, is about
TWENTY-FOUR per Cent. when the Sugar-Planters sell Muscovado Sugar
at only Eight Shillings Sterling per 100 Pounds Weight in those Colonies;
and this computed Rate of Profit doth so well correspond with the common
Rate of Interest upon Money in the said Colonies, that I am not under much
Apprehension of seeing any considerable Reduction made in my Compu-
tation; and as to Accuracy, it is not to be expected.

What I mean by Correspondence in this Case, is, that the Rate of Profit
in Trade is THREE TIMES as much as the Rate of Interest upon Money;
for the Rate of Profit upon Sugar-planting is Twenty-four per Cent. and
the Rate of Interest upon Money in the British Sugar-Colonies is only Eight
per Cent. per Annum: for though some particular Planters may borrow
Money at less than Eight per Cent. Interest, yet, this doth not prove any
Thing against the general Course of Interest there; and those Planters who
borrow at Six per Cent. probably consign their Sugars to the Lenders here,
as I have been told that some Planters did, to the late Mr. L——s, a
considerable Merchant in London.

But some Persons possibly may ask, What Connection there is, between
the Rate of Profit in TRADE and the Rate of Interest upon MONEY?—
And therefore it will be necessary for me to say something of that Con-
nection.

Every

Every Person in Trade knows, that he cannot carry on Business without
Money, or its Substitute Credit; and as Men in general do not carry on
Trade for Pleasure but for Profit, their own Reason tells them, that who-
ever lends for a Time the necessary Means of gaining Profit, such Person
hath a Right to Part of it; and their own Reason doth likewise discover
to them, the EQUITY of such Lender's Part of that Profit being more
or less in Proportion as the whole Profit gained by the use of the Money so
lent, is higher or lower; or at least, in Proportion as the general Rate of
Profit in the same Country is greater or smaller.

These Things must be obvious to every Person of ordinary Capacity:
And as to the Rate of Profit in TRADE being high in one Country, mode-
rate in another, and low in a third; those different Rates of Profit are prin-
cipally caused, either by the various Degrees of Discouragement or En-
couragement which different Governments, or Princes, give to Industry
and Trade; or by the various Degrees of Necessity which the Inhabitants
of different Countries are under, to work or trade for their Maintenance; or
by the various Degrees of Risque, to which People expose their Persons or
their Property, by residing in or trading to Countries where both or either
are more than commonly exposed to Danger.

Under arbitrary Governments, the Rate of Profit in Trade is generally
high, because the Subjects Property is not well secured to them; so that
they rather chuse to live only from Hand to Mouth, than to labour for what
they expect not to enjoy: And yet, when a wise and good Prince ruleth in
such a Government, his Subjects will for a Time be industrious; because
they have a present Security for reaping the Fruits of their Labour; but
when such Security dies, Oppression soon crushes Industry and puts an End
to Trade.

In Countries where but little Cloathing is wanted, and where the spon-
taneous Productions of the Earth are in a Manner sufficient to support
Life, there will the Rate of Profit in Trade be high; because the Poor need
not, and therefore will not, labour much; so that those Persons who
employ themselves in Labour or in Trade, will be well paid for their
Trouble.

People who live under a free Government, who are exempted from
Extremes of Heat and Cold, and who are possessed of great natural Ad-
vantages for Trade, will be contented with moderate Profit; because the
happy Temperament of their Climate makes bodily Exercise a Pleasure,
and Labour is sweetened by a Certainty of enjoying the Fruits of it.

People who live under a free Government, but in a wretched Country,
must either take up with a small Rate of Profit in Trade, or they cannot
carry on much; because the natural Disadvantages of their Country enable

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other People, who likewise live under free Governments and have great natural Advantages for Trade, to sell cheaper; and therefore the Former must either reduce their Rate of Profit so low as to put themselves upon a Par with the Latter, or they will lose their Trade.

People who were born in temperate Climates, and are not under a Necessity of leaving them, will have a higher Rate of Profit in Trade if they are to carry it on in disagreeable Climates, than other People who were born in the same temperate Climates will be contented with if they carry on Trade in their native Country; because the Former must live less agreeably than the Latter so far as depends upon Climate, and therefore expect to be paid in Profit what they lose of Pleasure: for which Reason, the Rate of Interest upon Money is higher in the British Sugar-Colonies, than it is in Great Britain.

These several Matters do account for the various Rates of Profit in TRADE, and by consequence, for the as various Rates of Interest upon MONEY, in different Countries; without having Recourse to the Quantities of MONEY in Proportion to the Quantities of TRADE within such Countries: and as to the Proportion that there is, between the Rate of Profit in Trade and the Rate of Interest upon Money, it will be needless to enter any farther into those Matters here, than to shew what Proportion the Rate of Profit in Trade bears to the Rate of Interest upon Money in the British Dominions.

In England, it is commonly said, that a Farmer ought to make Three Rents by his Farm, viz. One for his Landlord—One to maintain his Family—and One to lay by for his Children; which Distribution of the Profits arising from farmed Land certainly is a most equitable one.

For in such Cases, Land is the Means of gaining Profit, as Money is in other Cases; so that the Land-Holder is in a similar Situation to the Money-Lender, excepting as to very different Degrees of Risque; and as to the Farmer, he hath a Right to One Rent for his Stock, and to another Rent for his Labour; so that a more equitable Distribution of the Profits arising from farmed Land cannot possibly be made.

Now as by far the greatest Part of the Property of the People of England consists in LAND, the Rule observed in dividing the Profits arising from that Sort of Property, naturally took Place in dividing the Profits arising from MONEY employed in Trade; which Rule doth of Course govern the Rate of Interest upon Money lent to supply personal Wants: and as the present Rate of Interest for Money lent upon personal Security in this Kingdom, may properly be called FIVE per Cent. per Annum; so may the Rate of Profit in Trade be as properly called FIFTEEN per Cent.; for as to particular Instances of higher or lower Rates, they signify but little.

I could

I could not well avoid explaining these Matters, as a great deal depends upon them in the present Case; for if I had not supported my Computations of the Sugar-Planters annual Profits per Cent. upon their Plantation-Stock, by the Rate of Interest in the Sugar-Colonies, and by the Fundamental Principles whereon that and other Rates of Interest are founded, much more would have depended upon my Judgment, than it is fitting should so depend; and many Readers, besides the Sugar-Planters, would have been ill satisfied with those Computations; whereas now, every Person of common Understanding may judge for himself, as I have pointed out, what I take to be the Guides of Judgment in this Case.

There now remains only one Thing more to be shewn under this Head, and that is, the Rate of Profit per Cent. per Annum arising to English Landholders, from Money laid out in the Purchase of Land; for as I have already shewn how much greater the Sugar-Planters Profits are per Acre of Land when they sell Muscovado Sugar at only Eight Shillings Ster. per 100 lb. in the Sugar-Colonies than the Landholders of England receive per Acre of their Estates; I would willingly do the like in Regard to the Rate of Profit upon the Capital Money employed.

And in order to avoid Objections which might otherwise be made, I shall compute the English Landholders Profits, upon Land that is not only improved as far as it can be, but assessed at the full legal Rate of Land-Tax; and I shall reckon such Land, at only Twenty-five Years Purchase; for if I was to compute upon Land that may be vastly improved, and is greatly under-rated for Land-Tax, I must value the same at Thirty, Thirty-five, or more Years Purchase; and then the Degrees of such Improvement and Under-Rate, would create unnecessary Trouble, Difficulties, &c.

I have before rated the Lands of England, at Fifteen Shillings per Acre annual Rent, upon a general Average throughout the several Counties thereof; and that supposed Average Rent will be as proper as any other, to compute upon in the present Case; for if either a higher or a lower Rate of Rent was to be fixed on, the Purchase-Money for, and the Tax upon, the Land bought, would be proportionably higher or lower; and therefore I shall compute how much Land of the before-specified Value, &c. may be purchased with Three Millions of Pounds Sterling.

The Cost of One Acre of Land, at Fifteen Shillings annual Rent, and at Twenty-five Years Purchase, will be Eighteen Pounds Fifteen Shillings; and One Hundred and Sixty Thousand Times £18:15:0 is exactly Three Millions of Pounds; so that such a Capital Sum laid out in English Land, under the before-mentioned Circumstances, would purchase One Hundred and Sixty Thousand Acres; the annual gross and nett Rent whereof to the Landholders, probably might be as followeth, upon a Medium, for a long Course of Years.

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The gross or full annual Rent of 160,000 Acres of Land, at 15 s. per Acre, is	£120,000
From which deduct, for Land-Tax 2 s. 9 d. in the Pound, upon an Average of Time, as well in War as in Peace; and for Repairs, Losses by Tenants, &c. 2 s. 3 d. in the Pound; making in all, Five Shillings in the Pound	30,000
And the nett Annual Rent received by the Landholders will be	90,000

Out of which annual Income of Ninety Thousand Pounds, there are to be paid all other Taxes but the Land-Tax; and the Pound-Rate of those other Taxes must necessarily vary, conformably to the Landholders Rank in Life and Manner of living; for according to my Calculations of Taxes published in the Year 1756, the Nobility and superior Gentry pay, from 2 s. 5 d. to 2 s. 9 d. in the Pound of their gross Rents, for all Taxes excepting the Land-Tax; the lesser Gentry pay, from 2 s. 9 d. to 3 s. 3 d. in the Pound; but the Freeholders pay only 2 s. 2 d. or 2 s. 3 d. in the Pound; which different Rates of Taxes are caused by different Rates of Living, in Proportion to the Incomes of the several Ranks or Classes of People.

Now as Ninety Thousand Pounds a Year makes exactly Three per Cent. per Annum, upon Three Millions of Pounds, and all Taxes excepting that upon Land, are to be paid out of the said nett annual Rent or Income; it is plain that the English Landholders receive only Two and a Half, but I will call it THREE PER CENT. for their MONEY: and as in computing the Profits gained by Sugar-making in the British Colonies, I have reckoned Ten per Cent. Profit to the Sugar-Planter, for what he, his Family, Servants, Cattle, Horses, &c. consume or use of the Produce of his Plantation, I shall do the like in regard to the English Landholder; though he must constantly reside upon his Estate, or he cannot have that Ten per Cent. Profit from it;

But such constant Residence is not to be expected from the Nobility, or from the superior Gentry of England; for if national Business doth not require them to reside in London some Months of each Year, they may with the greatest Propriety be some Months absent from their Estates; whereas the Sugar-Planters neither are under an Obligation of coming annually or at all to this Kingdom; nor can they with any Sort of Propriety as Men in Trade be long or frequently absent from their Plantations, any more than English Farmers can be absent from their Farms; for which Reasons, the PROFIT under this Head cannot fairly be rated at more than EIGHT PER CENT. per Annum to the ENGLISH LANDHOLDERS; and I am persuaded that the principal Landholders do not receive more than Five per Cent. yearly in this Sort of Profit, upon a general Average throughout the Kingdom.

So

So that in a round Way of reckoning, MONEY laid out in purchasing of LAND in ENGLAND, brings only ELEVEN PER CENT. per Annum to the LANDHOLDER, at the highest Computation; of which Profit, not more than ONE and One-Third per Cent. is clear annual Gain and Saving.

Whereas, MONEY employed for Sugar-Planting, brings TWENTY-FOUR PER CENT. per Annum to the SUGAR-PLANTER, when Muscovado Sugar is sold at only Eight Shillings Sterling per 100 Pounds Weight in the Sugar-Colonies, and leaves a clear annual Gain and Saving of FIVE and One-Third per Cent. after feeding such excessive Luxury as ought to have been suppressed long ago.

And consequently,

When Muscovado Sugar is sold at the said low Price, the British SUGAR-PLANTERS do clearly gain and save FOUR TIMES AS MUCH MONEY per Cent. per Annum upon the Capital Sum employed, as is clearly gained and saved by the LANDHOLDERS of ENGLAND, upon a like Capital.

So that though an annual clear Gain and Saving of Three Shillings Ster. per 100 Pounds Weight of Muscovado Sugar in the British Sugar-Colonies, is only DOUBLE what the English Landholder clearly gains and saves per Acre of Land, and per Cent. per Annum upon the Capital employed; yet are those Profits of the Sugar-Planters QUADRUPLE the Profits of the English Landholders, when the same are measured by the Scale of Human Affairs: for those Sons or Daughters of a Sugar-Planter, who have Four Times as much Money for their Portions, as an English Landholder can save out of his Estate, for a like Number of Sons or Daughters, in the same Number of Years, and from as great an original Capital as the Sugar-Planter begun with, are to all Intents and Purposes Four Times as well provided for, as the Landholder's Children are; and therefore Sugar-Planting considered as a Means of making Provision for Families, and at the Rate of Profit before mentioned, is FOUR TIMES as beneficial as ENGLISH Land-holding.

As to what the Sugar-Planters say of the vast Stock required for Sugar-Planting, it appears by the Matters here mentioned, that Acre for Acre, English Land without either Cow, Horse, or Sheep upon it, costs the Buyer almost Twice as much Money, as the Stock upon a Sugar Plantation is worth; for according to the Estimate and Observations already made by me, of or concerning the present Value of Sugar-Plantation Stock, it comes to only One Thousand Pounds for a Plantation of One Hundred Acres; whereas the bare Purchase-Money of 100 Acres of English Land as before valued, is £1875; so that such Land costs the Landholder near if not full

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as much *Money* without *Stock*, as a Sugar-Planter lays out in completely stocking new *Plantation-Land*.

I have now computed the *British* Sugar-Planters *Profits*, by those Three Rules of Estimation whereby the same are computable; and I have reckoned upon such a *Rate of Profit* as would not only have enabled them to make QUADRUPLE *Provision* for their CHILDREN, but to have driven the *French* quite out of the foreign *European* Sugar-Trade; instead of their shamefully giving up that Trade to the *French*, as they have done for Twenty Years past.

But that Abuse of the fairest Train of LEGISLATIVE FAVOURS which I know of, in the whole Circle of BRITISH COMMERCE, and the said Planters Seizure upon the Profession of BRITISH MERCHANT, in Breach of a Privilege to which every BRITON hath an inherent Right, were only Preludes to that grievous Monopoly of Sugar, whereby, according to my Computations, those Planters have most exorbitantly amassed to themselves EIGHT MILLIONS OF BRITISH WEALTH.

Concerning what the *British* Sugar-Planters say of their DEBTS in this Kingdom, and of their PROFITS centring here.

When *Colony-Farmers* live like BRITISH NOBLEMEN, it cannot be a Wonder that such of them as do so, should contract vast Debts; and therefore no Man can be surprized at hearing that the unparalleled Extravagances of our *Sugar-Planters*, have generally kept some of them in Debt to Money-Lenders here: for if *Husbandmen* who might live well according to their Station, and make extraordinary good Provision for their Children, out of a clear Profit of Three Shillings per 100 lb. of Sugar, will set up Coaches and live as sumptuously as Men of Quality, vast Debts or vast Exorbitance must be the Consequence of a Manner of Life, and Rate of Expence, so highly reproachable in them.

There is no other Way than this, of accounting for some of the Sugar-Planters being indebted to People here; and yet those Debts, though a Shame to the Men who contracted them under such Circumstances, are artfully brought in, to create a Belief, that the Profits of Sugar-Planting are very small; but the great Profit gained by those Planters, when Sugar is sold for less Money than they will own to be a living Price, most plainly shews, that the Debts which some of them owe here, are the Effects of excessive Luxury, and not brought on by small Gain; as they would have People to believe.

Nor doth the Evil stop there; for such Money-Lenders, here, as crave higher Interest for their Money than can safely be taken in Great Britain, may lend to the Sugar-Planters, at EIGHT per Cent. without going beyond

yond the Limits of the *British* Sugar-Colony Laws, for that *Rate of Interest* is warranted by them: So that usurious Money-Lenders have found their Account in feeding and nursing the excessive Luxury which hath not only caused the Loss of our foreign *European* Sugar-Trade, but of many Millions of *British* Wealth also; and they may be expected to argue for a Continuance of those NATIONAL LOSSES, which they have profited so much by promoting.

As to what the other Part of the Sugar-Planters say, of their PROFITS CENTRING in Great Britain, the Forefallers, Ingrossers and Regrators of Corn may very well say, that their Profits centre here, and I am persuaded that Ninety-nine out of a Hundred People will believe them upon their bare Word; but surely those Sugar-Planters will not say, that their buying of many great Estates in this Kingdom, is any Sort of Recompence or Consolation to the People thereof, for the Twenty Millions of Wealth which the said Planters have either gained from them by Exorbitance, or prevented their gaining, or caused them to lose.

However, I think it expedient to say,

First . . . That every Penny of Money which either hath been sent out of this Kingdom for *East-India* Manufactures consumed by our Sugar-Planters, or laid out in *French*, &c. Manufactures by those Planters, is so much Wealth taken from the People of Great Britain; for if, instead of consuming those foreign Manufactures, BRITISH MANUFACTURES had been worn or used, the Money so sent abroad would have remained in this Kingdom, and have continued to be the personal Property of the proper Inhabitants thereof.

Second . . . That all the Money which hath been sent abroad to pay for foreign Sugars consumed in the *British* Dominions, and also, the foreign Money which the Loss of our foreign *European* Sugar-Trade hath prevented from being brought into this Kingdom, are so much real Loss to the People thereof; for if sufficient Quantities of Sugar had been produced in the *British* Colonies, to supply the said Consumption and that Trade, such Sugars would have been purchased with *British* Manufactures, Commodities, &c. and the Money received for those Sugars must have remained, or have become, *British* Property.

Third . . . As to the EIGHT MILLIONS of Pounds, which, according to my Computations, the Sugar-Planters have gained by Exorbitance from the People of Great Britain, both Landholders and Householders know very well, that all they have paid above a fair Price for Sugar, is real Loss to them; and as to that Gain centring in this Kingdom, it doth not centre in those Purfes or Pockets from whence Exorbitance fetched

fetch'd it; and looking at the many vast Estates which the Sugar-Planters now possess in *England*, will not bring that *Money* back again, but may make *Englishmen* sigh.

For that Centring of Profits, is, in *plain English*, buying the Landholders of *England* out of their *Freeholds*, with *English Money* acquired by Monopoly, and not with *foreign Wealth* gained by those Sugar-Planters, in a fair Course of Sugar-Trade with other Nations: but this is a Matter which all Persons are not apprized of, and therefore it is not to be wonder'd, that many People have understood this *Centring of Profit* to be, a bringing Home of *foreign Wealth*, and not a *scraping together of English Money by Exorbitance*.

Concerning the Reasons given by the *British* Sugar-Planters, for their not planting the *uncultivated Lands* which are in the *British* Sugar-Colonies, and especially in *Jamaica*.

If you ask the Sugar-Planters, why they do not establish *new Plantations* upon their *uncultivated Lands*, you will be answer'd with a long Detail of the *vast Charges* of making such Establishments, and told how *unwholesome* it is, to live upon those *Lands*; and as such an Answer is not only consonant to Reason, but is in some Measure supported by Experience of a similar Nature in this Part of the World, no Person who is unacquainted with Sugar-Planting, and with the Sugar-Planters Writings, can well be dissatisfied with that Reply.

Nor should I have animadverted upon those Reasons for not establishing *new Sugar-Plantations* in the *British* Colonies, if the Sugar-Planters own Writings, and the Writings of their Advocates, had not furnish'd me with just and evident Grounds for animadverting thereon; but since they, the said Planters, or their Advocates, have publicly and repeatedly assigned contrary Reasons in another Case, where it suited their present Purpose to do so, it is expedient for the PUBLIC, that those Time-serving Reasons be brought together and confronted.

Whenever our Sugar-Planters have found it necessary for their Interest, to make a Stalking-Horse in this Kingdom, of the superior Advantages which they pretend the *French* Sugar-Planters have over them, great Strefs hath been laid upon the FRESHNESS of the *French* Sugar-Cane Lands, and in order to more firmly establish a Belief, that the *French* Sugar-Planters really have a great Advantage, by the Freshness of their Lands, over our Sugar-Planters, the already named Mr. Bennett hath cook'd up Two

Accounts,

Accounts, the one for a *British* the other for a *French* Sugar-Plantation of 1,000 Acres.

He hath valued the *British* Sugar-Plantation of a Thousand Acres, together with the *Stock* thereon, at *Fifty Thousand Pounds*; which Sum is just *Five Times* as much *Money* as should have been reckon'd, according to my Re-Valuation, &c. of *Sugar-Plantation Stock*: but he hath been so moderate as to compute the *Stock and Block* of a *French* Sugar-Plantation of a Thousand Acres, at only *Eight Thousand Five Hundred Pounds*; and hath reckon'd no more than *One Hundred and Fifty Pounds* for the *Charges of taking up One Thousand Acres of fresh Land*.

For according to that unconscionable Calculator's Reckoning, the *British* Sugar-Planter is to charge *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for 1,000 Acres of *Land*, but the *French* Sugar-Planter must not charge *One Penny* for his 1,000 Acres; and there are some other unconscionable Differences of a like Sort; which Matters being consider'd, no Man can be surpriz'd to find, that the *cook'd up* annual Ballance for the *French* Planter is so much as *£1,555*, although his *Sugar* be rated at only *8 s. per 100 lb.*; and that the *British* Planter should have but *£1,000* a Year, though his *Sugar* be rated so high as *15 s. per 100 lb.*

Certainly no Man ever run through *Thick* and *Thin* for our Sugar-Planters, so fearlessly and so rapidly as that same Mr. Bennett hath done; but I will venture to say, that the *Jamaica* Sugar-Planters never gave him Thanks for estimating the *Stock* of a *new Plantation* at so moderate a Sum; because he hath thereby shewn, that the pretended *great Charge* of settling such Plantations, is only hung out by Way of *Scare-Crow*, to deter those People from going to settle on the *uncultivated Lands* in that Island, who otherwise might be dispos'd to go there.

But such *Shewing*, was so far from being disadvantageous to *Barbadoes*, as a *worn-out Island*, that it was quite the Contrary; since the greater the supposed Disadvantages of the *Barbadians* were, the higher Prices might they expect to be paid for their *Sugars* in this Kingdom; and as Mr. Bennett was their Advocate in particular, his Business was, to suit his Calculations to the Meridian of *BARBADOES*; for as to *JAMAICA*, it lies under another Meridian, and therefore the Planters in that Island rest their Defence, upon the *great Charge* and *Unwholesomeness* of new Plantations.

Now these Matters shew, that the *British* Sugar-Planters understand the ART of *veering* and *tacking*, extremely well; for when you ask, *why they do not plant new Lands?*—the Answer is, *new Plantations are very chargeable:*

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chargeable:—and if you would know why the French Planters sell Sugar so cheap, it is, because their Lands are fresh: so that our Sugar-Planters do not reason upon the old fashioned Foundation of FIXED PRINCIPLES, but TRIM their Sails according to the Course they want to steer, TACK about to any Point of the Compass from whence the Wind blows upon their INTEREST, and take Care to keep out of Trade-Wind Latitudes.—

I am persuaded that no TRUE BRITON will be desirous of reading much more concerning the Misdoings of our Sugar-Planters; and therefore I shall most humbly propose such Things as this State of the British Sugar-Colony Trade, and the Matters therein contained, do appear to me to be a proper Foundation for proposing.

In order to which, it is necessary to observe in the first Place, that AT THE PRICES for which Sugar, Rum, and Melasses have lately been sold here, the British Sugar-Planters RAISE about Eight Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year upon the PEOPLE of GREAT BRITAIN, over and above much greater Profits than either the Landholders or the Householders therein do gain, per Acre of their Land, or per Cent. upon their Money: and as, in my humble Opinion, the said Sugar-Planters have not the least Shadow of Pretence to a greater, if so great a Rate of Profit upon their Sugar, as 3 s. per 100 lb. in the Sugar-Colonies, or 3 s. 9 d. per 112 lb. in this Kingdom; their receiving more than the said Rate of Profit, seems to me to be, a PREYING upon the PROPERTY of the said PEOPLE, against THE RULES OF GOOD GOVERNMENT AND COMMON EQUITY.

For the Prevention whereof, as well as to render burthensome Taxes unnecessary, I do most humbly propose, that all the extraordinary Supplies of Money which are, or shall be wanted, to carry on the present just and necessary WAR, be borrowed upon, and the Interest thereof paid by Additional Duties on SUGARS imported into GREAT BRITAIN: and in Case the WAR should unhappily continue so long, as to require extraordinary Supplies in Money to the Amount of TWENTY MILLIONS or POUNDS, I do most humbly apprehend, that such a vast Sum may be raised, and the Interest of it paid, by the EXORBITANT PART of those Prices which the People of this Kingdom are obliged to pay for Sugars.

The

The present Price of brown or Muscovado Sugar per 112 lb. here, is about	£2 : 4 : 0
From which deduct, for the Charges of Production including for Maintenance of the Sugar-Planter's Family, and for Colony Taxes, Freight, Insurance, Loss by Waste, British Duties, Port-Charges, Warehouse-Rent, &c. as particularized in Pages 4 and 5, and re-stated in Page 52	0 : 16 : 6
And there will remain	1 : 7 : 6
From which there is to be deducted,	
For the Sugar-Planter's clear Gain and Saving £0 : 3 : 9	
In Consideration of variable Crops and bad Markets	0 : 1 : 3
Together	0 : 5 : 0
So that the exorbitant Part of the present Price of brown or Muscovado Sugar per 112 lb. is full	£1 : 2 : 6

Now as One Pound Two Shillings and Six Pence per 112 Pounds Weight of such Sugar, amounts to Eight Hundred and Ten Thousand Pounds, for Sixty Thousand Hogheads of Sugar containing 12 Cent. lb. each, and that is the Quantity of Sugar which the People of Great Britain have annually consumed of late Years; it is plain, that Eight Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year might certainly be raised by an Additional Duty upon SUGAR, without raising the Price of that Commodity here, and the Sugar-Planters be assured of a much greater clear Profit, than either the Landed or the Trading People of this Kingdom do gain, per Acre of their Land, or per Cent. upon their Money.

I have said, without raising the Price of Sugar here, because it could not justly be sold for more than £2 : 4 : 0 per 112 lb. if this proposed Additional Duty was now laid and paid; but as the Sugar-Planters have long practised Monopoly and Exorbitance, it is expedient that they be effectually prevented from continuing their shameful Proceedings; and therefore I most humbly propose, that Liberty should be granted to import foreign Sugars into Great Britain, in British Ships, upon Payment of such Duties as British Sugars shall be subjected to, when, and as often as, the Price of British Muscovado Sugar in this Kingdom shall be more than Five Shillings per 112 lb. above the Cost, Duties, and Charges thereon, at the Time.

For Example—the said Cost, present Duties, &c. amounts to 16 s. 6 d. per 112 lb. of Sugar, to which add 5 s. for the Sugar-Planter, &c. as just now mentioned, and the Whole will make £1 : 1 : 6; but if more than that good Price be required for British Muscovado Sugar, I propose in such Case, that foreign Sugars may be imported in British Ships, upon paying such Duties for the same, as British Sugars of the like Sorts are now charged with

with here: or, supposing that the proposed Additional Duty of £1 : 2 : 6 per 112 lb. of *Muscovado Sugar* (and proportionably higher Duties upon *Sugars* refined before imported into this Kingdom) were to be laid; I should then propose, that foreign *Sugars* might be imported upon Payment of the like Duties, whenever our Sugar-Planters, &c. raised *Muscovado Sugar* to more than £2 : 4 : 0 per 112 lb.—and the like for any other Rate of Duty.

If within a few Years after the *British Sugar-Planters Rate of Profit* shall be so bounded, there are not ANNUALLY EXPORTED, to foreign *European Markets*, THIRTY or at least TWENTY THOUSAND Hogheads of BRITISH SUGAR, over and above supplying *Great Britain* and all the *British Dominions* therewith, it will be a Proof that *Five Shillings per 112 lb. of Sugar*, is a greater Extent of Profit, &c. than ought to be allowed; and in that Case, I do most humbly propose, that the said Extent of Profit, &c. be reduced to *Four Shillings per 112 lb. of Sugar*, by permitting the Importation of foreign *Sugars*, whenever the Price of *British Muscovado Sugar* shall be more than *Four Shillings per 112 lb.* above the Cost, Charges, and Duties thereon; for the superior Advantages which our Sugar-Planters have, by *cheap Freight*, and by the *high Prices* at which they sell their *Rum*, DO ENABLE THEM to secure that Trade, and THEREFORE it ought to be secured.

So that if *Four Shillings per 112 lb. of Sugar* should prove to be too great an Extent of Profit, &c. to put our Sugar-Planters into a Course of such Moderation as is requisite for keeping the said Trade, I most humbly propose, that their Extent of Profit, &c. be then reduced to *Three Shillings per 112 lb. of Sugar*, by allowing the Importation of foreign *Sugars*, &c. as aforesaid; because our Recovery of the foreign *European Sugar-Trade*, is the true Criterion whereby to determine, when the said *Boundary of Profit* is rightly fixed for the WEAL OF ENGLAND.

And if the *French*, or any other Nation, should have Recourse to *Bounties*, in order to deprive *Great Britain* of that Trade, when the same shall be so recovered, as most certainly it may, there is Money enough in this Kingdom to counter-act any such Measures, by allowing a *Bounty* for *British Muscovado Sugar* exported to foreign Markets; but the superior Advantages which our Sugar-Planters have over the *French Sugar-Planters*, as stated in Pages 28, 29, &c. are more than equal to a *Bounty* of *Three Shillings per 112 lb. of Sugar*; and therefore I cannot see any Reason for allowing *One Penny* of *Bounty* on *British Muscovado Sugar* so exported, until the *French* allow a *Bounty* nearly equal to *Three Shillings per Hundred Weight* on their *Muscovado Sugar*.

Nor do I think that an Increase of white People in the *British Sugar-Colonies*, to *Twice, or Three Times the Number of such People now there*, would

would be any Sort of Reason for allowing a *Bounty* on *British Muscovado Sugar* exported to foreign *European Markets*; because there would not then be a greater Proportion of white People employed in making our *Sugars*, than the *French* employ in making their *Sugars*, and the superior Advantages which our Sugar-Planters have, by *cheap Freight* and by the *high Price of Rum*, would still remain.

But such an Increase of white People in the *British Sugar-Colonies*, most certainly would be of great Advantage to this Kingdom, as well by making those Colonies strong *which Monopoly and Exorbitance have reduced to extreme Weakness*, as by increasing the Consumption of *British Commodities* and Manufactures; for partly by our princely Planters wearing *East-India* and *French* Manufactures, and partly by most of their *Negroes* wearing only a little *Ozenbrigs*, or no *Brigs* at all, the *Sugar-Colony* Consumption of wearable *British* Manufactures hath been so much reduced of late Years, as to make a very contemptible Figure in a National Account of Exports.

When these Things are effected, the People of *Great Britain* will find their Account in being at the Charge of protecting and defending the *British Sugar-Colonies*; for the same will then answer as much of the true End and Design of Colonies, as the torrid Zone will admit of being received by a Nation situated in the cooler Part of a temperate Zone: but there is something so unnatural in putting a Nation to great and constant Charges for Colonies, while the same do not only diminish the *Strength*, but prodigiously waste the *Wealth* of their MOTHER-COUNTRY, and enrich a few Men at the Expence of Millions of their fellow Subjects, that there is no knowing what to say of such extraordinary Affairs.

However, I will venture to say, that if the *British Woollen Manufacturers* had possessed as great a Superiority of Advantages over the *French Woollen Manufacturers*, as our *Sugar-Planters* have over theirs, the *French* would not have had much Share in the foreign *Woollen Trade*; but their having had a considerable Share of that Trade for many Years, doth strongly indicate, that our *Woollen Manufacturers* are under some small Disadvantage; and yet, their Industry and Frugality have happily rendered unnecessary, a Grant of SUCH PRIVILEGES, as are A MONUMENT OF SHAME to our Sugar-Planters.—

Thus if wanted may TWENTY MILLIONS OF POUNDS be raised;
Without raising the Price of *Sugar* in this Kingdom;
Without taking just Profit from, or laying a Tax upon, the *Sugar-Planters*;
Without increasing the Expences, or decreasing the Incomes, of any other Class of *British* Subjects;
Without prejudicing any one Branch of *British* Manufacture;
Without breaking our Treaties of Commerce with foreign Powers;

A a Without.

Without giving Umbrage to any State in Amity with this Nation;
Without creating a new Sett of Commissioners and Revenue-Officers;
And with a Certainty of increasing,
The TRADE, WEALTH, and NAVAL POWER of GREAT BRITAIN.

So that by laying this proposed Tax of £1 : 2 : 6 per 112 lb. of Sugar, the WAR may be carried on THREE YEARS, if necessary for the SAFETY, HONOUR, or INTEREST of this KINGDOM, without prejudicially affecting any one Class of BRITONS, so far as depends upon the Payment of TAXES; because every Penny of the Money that would be thereby raised, is included in the exorbitant Part of those Prices which the People of Great Britain are obliged to give for Sugars, and therefore they would not have more Money to pay, or less to receive, if the said Tax was laid.

For partly by War in most Parts of Germany, and partly by general Distress in France, the European Consumption of Sugar is at present so much diminished, that there cannot in the common Course of Things be a Scarcity of Sugar in this Kingdom, if proper Measures are taken for preventing it: and as to a Scarcity of Sugar in Time of Peace, nothing more is necessary for the Prevention thereof, or at least to hinder our Sugar-Planters from causing any, than to permit the Importation of foreign Sugars, &c. as before mentioned, whenever British Sugars shall be sold for more than reasonable Prices here.

But as Affairs are now circumstanced, our Sugar-Planters possibly may, either discontinue the Cultivation of a considerable Part of their Sugar-Cane Lands, OR keep great Quantities of Sugar in the Colonies, OR export many Thousand Hogsheds of Sugar to foreign Markets, in order to make a Scarcity of Sugar in this Kingdom; and as it is not only possible, but highly probable, that one or more of these Things would be done, if proper Measures should not be taken for the Prevention thereof, I do most humbly propose.

First . . . That all such Lands as now are, or at any Time within Ten Years last past have been cultivated or used for the Production of Sugar-Canes, either in Jamaica, Barbadoes, or any of the British Leewards Islands, and shall not continue to be so cultivated or used, during this present War, the Accidents thereof excepted, and for Three Years after it, according to the Course of Husbandry commonly practised there, should be RE-ASSUMED to the CROWN, as LANDS held to the Prejudice of the PUBLIC WEAL:—Saving to the Owners of such Lands, the Buildings or other Stock thereon, which should be sold to the best Bidder, for the Benefit of those Owners; and the Lands so re-assumed should be re-granted to such Persons as shall bid most Money for the said Buildings or other Stock:—But those Lands should not be saleable, neither should they be any longer
tenable

tenable by those Persons, their Heirs, &c. than Seven Years after he, she, or they shall cause the same to be cultivated.

Second . . . That a Fine of Ten Shillings Sterling per 100 Pounds Weight, should be laid upon each Sugar-Planter or other Person, for all Sugar more than Five Hogsheds or 7,500 lb. which he, she, or any Servant of his or hers shall keep, or cause to be kept, either in Jamaica, Barbadoes, or any of the British Leeward Islands, after the usual Time of shipping each Year's Crop of Sugar, or after the Departure of such Ships from any of those Islands, as the Sugar that shall be so kept, might have been shipped on board for Great Britain, without paying an exorbitant Price for Freight of the same, according to the Rates which shall then and there be customary:—That One-Half of every such Fine, should be applied towards defraying the Charges of Civil Government, or other public Service, in that Island where the same shall be levied: that the other Half thereof should be paid to the Governor, his Lieutenant, or such other Person as shall at the Time act as Governor in the said Island:—That keeping of Sugar as aforesaid, either before the End of the War, or within Three Years after it, should subject the Planter, or other Proprietor thereof, to the said Fine of 10 s. per 100 lb.; and that the same should be leviable by Distress.

Third . . . That during the Continuance of this present War, and for One Year after, it should not be lawful to export Sugar from any of the British Sugar-Colonies to any other Kingdom or Country than to Great Britain; nor to export such Sugar in any other than British Ships.

4th. That during the like Time, it should not be lawful to re-export out of this Kingdom, either British or foreign Sugars for Sale in other Countries, without a License from the Right Honourable The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, or from the Commissioners of the Customs, expressing the Quantity of Sugar exportable by Virtue of each such License, and all other necessary Particulars relative thereto:—That the granting of such Licenses, and the Quantities of Sugar thereby permitted to be re-exported, should be regulated by the Prices of Sugars in Great Britain at the Time; and that no such License should be granted whenever the common Price of Muscovado Sugar in London shall be more than £2 : 4 : 0 per 112 Pounds Weight, (supposing the Duty of £1 : 2 : 6 per 112 lb. to be laid).

By these or some such temporary Measures, I most humbly apprehend, our Sugar-Planters may be kept within the RULES of REASON and MODERATION, until Peace shall be restored to this Kingdom, and during a convenient Time after; for in this Case, it is not enough, to provide against what might be done while the War continues; and as to Restrictions
of

of the like Sort in future Wars, they may be rendered unnecessary, by some such Regulations, as are mentioned under the next Head: so that *Three Years* Extraordinary Supplies for War, undoubtedly may be raised by this proposed Tax, without *increasing the EXPENCES* or *decreasing the INCOMES* of any Clafs of People in *Great Britain*; and therefore I need not say more of this Matter.

Nor can I tell what to say, of such a Handful of Men as the Sugar-Planters *forcing their Way through the LAWS* against MONOPOLY, and *out-stripping the NECESSITIES* of WAR; for in *Three Years* Time they have raised *more Money* by their *Exorbitance*, than hath been paid in *new Taxes* for the Support of *Three Campaigns* and a *powerful Navy*!

Can those Sugar-Planters be so far lost to all Sense of what is just and right, as to think of PREYING *any longer upon the PROPERTY* of the PEOPLE of *GREAT BRITAIN*, under Colour of pretended *Hurricanes, Blights, Droughts, vast Expences, &c.*?

Hath any one of these Sugar-Planters so fortified a Countenance, as to declare in the Faces of those PEOPLE, that each Family in this Kingdom ought to pay *Twenty Shillings* a Year, towards the Expences of a *Coach* for every Sugar-planting *Farmer*, and to support them in living as *expensively* as *British Noblemen*?

Will any Sugar-Planter have the Boldness to say, that those very LAWS which protect the *Sugar-Planters* in the Possession of their *Property*, ought not at the same Time to *equally protect* the *Property* of the People of *Great Britain*, from the doubly fierce Canker of *Monopoly* and *Exorbitance*, as well as from exterior *Dispoliation*?

Or can any Sugar-Planter have the Hardiness to tell the People of this Kingdom, that the proposed TAX, *if laid*, would not be paid out of their *just* and *lawful* PROPERTY, to the Possession and Use whereof they have as good a Right, as any Sugar-Planter hath to keep and wear a *Hat, Wig, or Coat*, after he hath honestly paid for it?

Certainly if the World was to be searched, for a Clafs of Subjects who had received the greatest *Protection* and *Favour* from the Government they live under, and yet had done the greatest *Injuries* to their Protectors, there would not be found between *Nova Zembla* and *Terra del Fuego*, any Clafs of Subjects to vie with our Sugar-Planters.

And yet, injurious, insulting, and oppressive as their Treatment of the People of *Great Britain* hath been, I cannot believe that any one of those Sugar-Planters will be so profligate as to think of justifying such abominable Proceedings; much less can I imagine, that any TRUE BRITON will attempt to support or countenance them.

Some

Some Weeks ago, there was a Rumour, that the Extraordinary Supplies for the Service of the current Year, were to be raised by an *additional Duty* on TOBACCO; at which I could not help being very much surprized, upon considering what vast Duties are already laid on that Commodity; and imagining that so dangerous a Scheme could not be contrived by any People but the *Sugar-Planters*, I began to contrast their Pretensions as *British Subjects*, with the Pretensions of the *Tobacco-Planters*, that I might the more easily discover the true Complexion of that Scheme.

For as to the Ferment which a Scheme of the like Sort caused in this Kingdom, about Twenty-six Years ago, and the Practicability of our being deprived of the foreign *European Tobacco-Trade*, as our *Sugar-Planters* have deprived us of the foreign *European Sugar-Trade*, those important Matters are extremely well known; but I do not recollect to have met with any Thing of the Sort here mentioned; and as the Difference between the Conduct of the *Tobacco-Planters*, and the Conduct of the *Sugar-Planters*, appears to me to be very striking; the Publication of it, possibly may help to *serve the best*, if not *reform the worst*, of all the *Colony-Subjects* belonging to *GREAT BRITAIN*.

The Tobacco-Planters are industrious and frugal People;
The Sugar-Planters are unworking and extravagant People:

The Tobacco-Planters are contented with *British* Manufactures;
The Sugar-Planters wear *East-India* and *French* Manufactures:

The Tobacco-Planters add £200,000 a Year to the Wealth of this Nation;
The Sugar-Planters raise Five Times £200,000 a Year upon this Nation:

The Tobacco-Planters employ 100 *Ships* & 1,000 *Seamen* in our foreign Trade;
The Sugar-Planters have lost Employment for 100 *Ships* and 1,000 *Seamen*:

The *British* Duties on *Tobacco* are ELEVEN Half-pennies *per Pound*;
The *British* Duties on *Sugar* are only ONE Half-penny *per Pound*.

Under these Circumstances, was an additional Duty upon *Tobacco* talked of, preferably to an additional Duty upon *Sugar*; but this Sort of Talk hath subsided, and there is Reason to hope, that TRUTH AND JUSTICE will prevail over *Monopoly* and *Exorbitance*.

For if such Proceedings go on, People may fancy that the EVIL GENIUS OF ENGLAND haunts us in the Form of *Sugar-Planters*.

PROPOSITIONS relative to the future ORDERING AND GOVERNING of the BRITISH SUGAR-COLONIES and the TRADE, &c. thereof.

First . . . That all such LANDS either in *Jamaica, Barbadoes*, or any of the *British* Leeward Islands, as have been granted from the CROWN, and are not cultivated, should be RE-ASSUMED.

Second . . . That all the Lands which shall be so Re-assumed, should be Re-granted to *British* Protestant Subjects, in Quantities not exceeding *Two Hundred Acres*, nor less than *Twenty Acres*, to any One Person.

Third . . . That no Part of the Lands so Re-granted, should be Saleable, neither should the same be any longer Tenable by those Persons, their Heirs, &c. than Seven Years after he, she, or they shall cause at least a Moiety of his, her, or their respective Shares thereof, to be cultivated.

Fourth . . . That no Person should be capable of holding at the same Time, any *Two Shares* of the said Lands, nor any *One Share* thereof with any other Portion of Land in any of the aforesaid Islands.

Fifth . . . That such of those Lands as shall revert to the CROWN, and every other Portion of Land in any of the said Islands, or other *British* Sugar-Colony, which shall so revert, should be Re-granted as aforesaid, in Shares or Portions not exceeding *200 Acres*, nor less than *20 Acres* to any One Person.

Sixth . . . That the Buildings or other Stock upon any such Lands at the Time of Reversion to the CROWN, should be publicly sold to the best Bidder, for the Benefit of the Owners thereof; and the Lands be Re-granted to such best Bidder, upon the Conditions before mentioned.

Seventh . . . That there should not be any collusive holding of Lands in the *British* Sugar-Colonies; and that the Persons to whom Lands shall be so granted there, should not be ejectable from the same, excepting for Non-Cultivation; nor should any Part of the Profits arising therefrom, be recoverable from those Persons, by any Deed of Conveyance, or other Instrument whatever.

Eighth . . . That the Fees for Grants, and the Quit-Rents for all such Lands, should be ascertained, and both be made as small as possible.

Ninth . . . That for every *Two Hundred Acres* of the Lands which are at present cultivated, either in *Jamaica, Barbadoes*, or any of the *British* Leeward Islands, there should be One Dwelling-House with such Store-Houses or other Buildings thereunto belonging, as are or shall be requisite for carrying on that Sort of Plantation-Work wherein such Lands shall be employed at the Time, excepting Mills for pressing *Sugar-Canes*, and Buildings, Implements, &c. for the Distillation of *Melasses* or other Materials whereof *Rum* is made:—That every such *200 Acres* of Land together with

with the House and other Buildings thereunto belonging, should be lett to a *British* Protestant, at such Rent as the Owner and he or she can agree upon; and that no such Owner should keep more than *Two Hundred Acres* of Land in his or her own Occupation, within any one or more of the said Islands.

Tenth . . . That no Person who is or shall be Owner of more than *Two Hundred Acres* of Land in any One or more of those Islands, should, during the Time of such Owning, be capable of possessing any other Mills for pressing *Sugar-Canes*, or Buildings, &c. for Distilleries, than such as shall be necessary for his or her own Plantations.

Eleventh . . . That no other Person should be capable of possessing more than *TWO Mills* for pressing *Sugar-Canes*, and *ONE Distillery* for making *Rum*, in any of the aforesaid Islands.

Twelfth . . . That no Sugar-Planter, or other Owner of a Plantation, in any of the *British* Sugar-Colonies, should be capable of shipping from thence as Merchandize on his or her own Account, any *Sugar, Rum, Melasses*, &c.; but that those and all the other Commodities produced there, should be bartered for Commodities, Manufactures, Negroes, &c. brought to those Colonies in *British* or *British-Plantation* Ships, or should be sold to the Commanders thereof, at such Prices as shall be agreed upon, between them and the Sugar-Planters, or other Planters.

Thirteenth . . . That no Sugar-Planter, or other Owner of a Plantation in any of those Colonies, should be capable of exporting, or causing to be exported, on his or her own Account, any *British*, &c. Commodities or Manufactures, which are or shall be exportable from *Great Britain*, or from *Ireland*, to the said Colonies.

Fourteenth . . . That no Sugar-Planter, or other Owner of a Plantation in any of the aforesaid Colonies, should be capable of carrying on any Trade to *Africa*, or of exercising the Profession of a *BRITISH MERCHANT*, in any Shape or Manner whatever.

Fifteenth . . . That no Sugar-Planter, or other Owner of a Plantation in any of the before-mentioned Colonies, nor any Agent or other Substitute by him or her appointed, should be capable of buying, selling, or otherwise dealing in *Commodities, Manufactures*, or *Negroes*, any farther than shall be necessary for the Plantation which shall at that Time be occupied by him or her.

Sixteenth . . . That all *East-Indian* and other *Commodities* and *Manufactures* which are prohibited to be worn or used in *Great Britain*, should likewise be prohibited to be worn or used in, or exported to, either the *British* Sugar-Colonies, or any other Colony belonging to this Kingdom:—and that no Draw-back of *British* Duty should be allowed on any Sort

of *Silk, Linen* or other *Stuff-Manufacture* of foreign Fabric, which may and shall be exported from *Great Britain* to the *British Colonies*.

Seventeenth . . . That the Distillation of *Melasses* in this Kingdom, should be prohibited; that a *Bounty* should be allowed for *British* made *Melasses* exported from hence to any of the *British North American Colonies*; and that such *Bounty* should be sufficient to pay the Charge of *Freight* for *Melasses* so exported.

By these or some such Means, I most humbly apprehend, the *British* Sugar-Colonies, and the Trade thereof, may be brought into such a Course of *Subordination* and *Regularity*, as comport with the DIGNITY OF THE *BRITISH CROWN*, and the PUBLIC WEAL OF THIS KINGDOM.

When that is effected, it will be easy to find a sound Reason for the People of *Great Britain* being at the Charge of protecting and defending the *British* Sugar-Colonies; but as the Case now stands, I do not believe that *Solon, Lycurgus, Demosthenes, and Cicero*, if they were living and here, would be able to find out such a Reason.—

I cannot conclude this Treatise without observing, that the proposed *Tax* of £1 : 2 : 6 per 112 lb. of *Sugar*, probably would be sufficient to raise all the Extraordinary Supplies for the *War*, and to replace that Part of the public Revenue which ariseth from the *Duties* upon *Spirituous Liquors*; the vast Consumption whereof in this Kingdom, hath long been lamented by the Great and Good, as an Evil which calls loudly for Redress; and it is said, that this Evil would have been redressed a few Years ago, if a Fund could have been thought of to make up the Loss of Revenue which would have been thereby caused.

Unhappily for this Nation, and to the great Grief of many real Patriots who nobly exerted themselves upon that Occasion, no such Fund was then found; but the Fund here pointed out, will in all Probability be sufficient for that great Purpose, and likewise to carry on the *War*; so that it may be hoped, the Great and Good will again exert themselves.

T H E E N D.