

111-13



0223

R E M A R K S

ON THE  
PRESENT STATE

OF THE

LINNEN-MANUFACTURE

Of this Kingdom.

A N D

Q U E R I E S

RELATING TO THE

Further Improvement thereof.

---

Humbly Addressed to the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> HENRY  
BOYLE, Esq; Speaker to the COMMONS  
of IRELAND.

---

D U B L I N :

Printed for GEORGE FAULKNER, in *Essex-street,*  
M D C C X L V .

0224

S I R,

**A**S I hear there is a Bill relative to the Linnen and Hempen Manufactures of this Kingdom, under the present Consideration of some Gentlemen, in order to be laid before Parliament, I have presumed to make a few observations on the Conduct and Management of the former, and also to add some Queries on that Head which I take the Liberty of addressing to you, and I hope, Sir, that if the Contents are worthy your Attention, or may be serviceable to the Publick, they will meet with your Protection. I expect that the greatest Part of it will be censured by those who are prejudiced at every Thing but what comes from themselves, or in other Words, what may promote their own private Ends; therefore I am the less uneasy at the Objections of such Men, but when I address to you, I speak to a Person well known to be a sincere and true Lover of his Country and an honest Man.

I am your most obedient Servant.

8 Nov. 1745.

W. A. D. U. C.  
JAMES O'NEILL, Esq. Secretary to the Board of Trade and Plantations.  
Whitehall.

# REMARKS

ON THE

## Present State of the LINNEN-MANUFACTURE of Ireland, &c.

**A**S the Linnen Manufacture is the Portion or the Staple Commodity allotted to this Kingdom to improve upon: The writer of this Paper having conceived an Opinion that some of the Measures we are pursuing relating thereto are blameable and destructive of the Good of the Commonwealth, hath with great Freedom undertaken to publish his Sentiments in an Affair of so great Moment; being fully persuaded in his Mind, that all our Thoughts and Endeavours should tend to the Good and Welfare of the Country to which we belong, and that even where Abilities are wanting, the very Intentions are at least commendable, where the View is solely to promote and enlarge Trade which is so great an instrument of publick Happiness.

What led him into this Train of Thought and encouraged him to publish them in Print, is Part of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant's Speech, at the opening of this Parliament, whose memorable Words he humbly takes the Liberty to insert; " My Lords

( 4 )

“ and Gentlemen, It is with the greatest Satisfaction, that I hear of the present flourishing State of your Linnen Manufacture, and I most earnestly recommend to you the Care and Improvement of so valuable a Branch of your Trade, let not its Prosperity produce Negligence, and let it never be supposed to be brought to its utmost Extent or Perfection. Trade has always been the best Support of all Nations, and the principal Care of the Wisest.” For which wholesome Advice, his Excellency is most justly intitled to the hearty Thanks of all those who wish and endeavour to promote the Happiness of this poor Kingdom, distressed by the Luxury of the Great, and almost ruined by the Slothfulness of the Poor. Cou’d we but banish these two reigning Vices, it wou’d certainly be in our Power to make this Country great and flourishing. But it is impossible to procure Credit in Trade, where the Rich are actuated by a selfish mean Spirit, and the Poor indulged in Frauds ; or permitted to live in Indolency and Laziness.

It is the Advantage of a trading Nation, that there are few so dull in it, who may not be placed in Stations of Life, which may give them an Opportunity of making Fortunes, or at least of maintaining themselves. For a well regulated Trade and a free open Commerce is not like Law, Physick or Divinity, to be overstocked with Hands, but on the contrary, flourishes by Multitudes, and gives Employment to all its Professors.

As we then are in Possession of considerable Appointments for encouraging and extending the Linnen Manufactures of this Kingdom, and enjoy his most sacred Majesty’s Royal Countenance and Protection ; and the reiterated Promises of his Excellent Representative to aid and assist us, in whatever may be of Advantage to us, let us in an honest judicious Way, make the most we can, of these Privileges,

( 5 )

Privileges, and not suffer the fordid Interest of a few, to be put in a Ballance with the good of the whole Nation.

It remains a Dispute amongst Men very conversant in Trade and Manufactures, (which was never yet decided) whether the Woollen or the Linnen Manufacture, afforded more Profit to their Professors and Dealers, or employed more Hands to carry them on ; let us therefore cease to be murmuring at or vainly hankering after the Staple Commodity of *England*, which they never will yield us : Nor let it be said, that we act like fordid Misers, who are always coveting and desiring what they have not, and wilfully neglect to make a proper use of what they have.

As Flax then is productive of such great Blessings, and the Parent of our national Improvements, and that Instances might be produced of several Countries who have been relieved out of very great Distresses, and enriched only by raising and manufacturing of this useful Plant, and above all, as it is the product of our own Lands, and that as we are most of us sensible of its great Utility ; let it merit our Attention, and give the Propagators of it, all the Encouragement we can possibly bestow, for from hence, alone, it is hoped we shall in Time rejoice in the plentiful Fruits of smiling Industry.

There are Lands in this Kingdom proper for Flax, more than sufficient to nourish all its inhabitants, the Ground never ceasing to produce her Fruits, if Industry be not wanting ; the Earth like a tender Mother multiplies her Gifts according to the number of her Children, if they deserve her Favours, by their Labour : And the more numerous Men are in a Country, provided they be laborious, and have a vent for their Manufactures the more Plenty they enjoy,

As

( 6 )

As an Instance of the Fertility of the Lands of Ireland, it is a Truth well known and sensibly felt by the Linnen Board, that there were near 18000 Barrels of Flax-Seed received at their Stores in *Waterford, &c.* for the Service of the Year 1745, viz.

At <i>Waterford</i> _____	9158	Barrels
At <i>Limerick</i> _____	3861	
At <i>Carlow</i> _____	1354	
At <i>Cork</i> _____	600	
At <i>Sligo</i> _____	83	
At <i>Dublin</i> _____	2833	
Total		17889

And if the Seed which were rejected at the said Stores, as unmerchantable, was to be included, the Quantity wou'd be above 22,000 Barrels. Now the Produce of Seed, expected by Men skilled in Flax Husbandry, and who regard their Produce of Flax, more than their Crop of Seed, is in a medium three Barrels to an Acre of Land, so that in a round Number 8000 Acres or nearly hath been employed in raising the said Quantity of Seed.

It is likewise computed by Men of Skill, that every Acre of Land properly sown, and carefully managed, will in a medium yield four hundred Weight of braked and scutched Flax, that is, Flax ready prepared for the Market or the Hackle; so that by this Computation 8000 Acres will bring 1600 Tons of Flax: And further, this Quantity of Material, will afford a Year's Employment to 48000 People, according to a Calculation, published by the *Dublin Society*, and printed in the Year 1732.

But now we come to a very disagreeable Scene when we are to enquire and examine, how small a Part of the above mentioned Produce is prepared for Use and how little Flax of native Growth, is to

( 7 )

to be found in any Place or Market in this Kingdom; or what inconsiderable Manufactures are carried on in the afore-mentioned Counties where Flax is chiefly raised, these Enquiries make a lamentable Discovery, and points out to us, how wretchedly careless we are, and have been of the publick Good, to suffer the most valuable and most beneficial Part of our Product in Flax Husbandry, to be carelessly neglected, nay, to perish and rot.

The very worst Flax that grows, provided it is taken Care of, may be wrought into some other Sort of Goods, that will bring Money; and is well known that *Irish* Flax, that grows on good and well prepared Land, and is duly manufactured, far exceeds any Flax imported here, and makes a finer, beautifuller, and a more durable Cloth.

Then what Injustice it is to our Country, nay, what amazing Stupidity and Scandal it is, that we are obliged to purchase this Commodity from Foreigners, to supply our Wants, and to pay as we this Day do, 50*l.* a Tun for Flax, which in general is no better than our own wou'd be, provided our Seed were honestly and judiciously sown, and the Flax properly manufactured. Yet notwithstanding all this in many Parts both of *Munster* and *Leinster* as is credibly reported, this most valuable Material is suffered to rot in the Haggart, or used for Litter for Horses and other Cattle, nay, it is even said that they bake Bread and thatch Houses with it after they have taken off the Seed.

Thus by woful Experience we find that the well concerted Scheme for raising of Flax and thereby enabling us to employ our indolent Poor, and increase our Trade and Manufactures is by artful designing Men, who value not what becomes of the Country provided they can make Money, turned into Jobbs, and entirely defeated; for instead of producing us Flax which would be so beneficial, and what we so much want, hath by wicked sinister Arts,

Arts, overstocked the Nation with Seed, and that of the worst sort; this Redundancy we must sell, and as it is only fit for oyl, there will be a Loss of above two thirds of the prime Cost.

To make good this Charge, and to make these Assertions more obvious, it will be necessary to let you into the secret Practices both of Farmers and Contractors. The Farmers find means to get Flax-seed, but by whose Interest I cannot say. This they sow on poor worn out Lands, consequently with no other View, than getting a great increase of Seed; and Experience has taught them by sowing their Seed thin, on such Lands (for they sow two Acres at least, with a Barrel of Seed) the Produce will be from 8 to 10 Barrels, which is about thrice as much as when sown honestly and judiciously: For the poor Land produces a very short Flax, much forked and full of Seed pods, these consequently ripen early, requires little Care or Labour, and yields great Increase, whereas Seed sown on rich Land duly prepared and with a View of producing Flax, (as was before observed) has the contrary Effect by bringing a fine long well skinned Flax and but few Pods, and of Course but little Seed.

As for the Contractors they are commonly Men of Importance, and have Interest sufficient to engage themselves and to recommend others: As for themselves it is reported, they will enter into Contract with the Linen Board for sowing perhaps 20, 30 or 40 Barrels of Flax-seed, for which they pay in *Leinster* 10 s. and in *Munster* and *Connaught* 5 s. a Barrel, the Board obliging themselves to take back double the Quantity contracted for, and to pay them 22 s. per Barrel on the Delivery thereof at their Stores. It is further said, that some of these Contractors do not sow one Grain of the said Seed themselves, but send for their Farmers and Cotters to whom they deliver out the Seed to sow, who not only engage to do so but likewise to pay the Charge the Contractor

tractor has been at in obtaining the Seed, and to deliver him back such a Quantity of his Produce as they can agree upon, and what will answer to fulfil his Contract: And this he may afford to do, by practising the afore-mentioned artful and fraudulent Methods of procuring a treble Increase. For if he can raise 8 or 10 Barrels for every one that he sows, he is a sufficient Gainer, after he has fulfilled his Agreement with the Contractor who likewise gets the Profit of what Seed is delivered on Contract without a Shilling laid out; and the Farmer has the Advantage of 2 3 s. per Barrel for as much Seed as he delivers in.

It will be no Wonder then that all those who are thus enriched by these scandalous and destructive Practices, should be found to make a Noise and Clamour against the discontinuing the Incouragement hitherto given for Flax-seed, when an Acre of Land not intrinsically worth 6 s. shall by these Managements with one ploughing and two Bushels of Seed, produce a Crop of 4 or 5 Barrels which gives them about 5 l. when an Acre of good Land sown with Wheat, according to Mr. *Pearson's* account in his Treatise of Tillage will not bring 40 s. clear Profit, altho' they have been at the Expence of four Ploughings.

But this is not all the Mischief that accrues from these baneful and selfish Practices, for the Seed thus produced, propagates it's like, and so entails upon us a Succession of bad Seed, and consequently bad Flax.

The *Irish* Flax-seed received by the Linnen Board and sent to the *North*, has already got a very bad Character there, and that very justly, for the Reasons aforesaid, and the various Mixtures it must necessarily consist of, for the chief Aim of the Northern People is to produce fine long Flax, which many of them water green, in order to obtain it; and the Southern People act quite the reverse, for

they mind nothing so much as the great Increase of Seed.

The Linnen Board has ever been endeavouring to promote the Linnen Manufacture in all its Branches, but especially by furnishing as much Flax-feed annually, as their Fund wou'd allow; but since the Parliament was pleased to vote a certain Sum to be appropriated for its further Encouragement, they have distributed 6000 Barrels of said Seed every Year which they imported either from Holland or Muscovy; but meeting with several severe Losses, by Shipwrecks, and many other Disappointments, by contrary Winds, Frosts, &c. in coming from thence, they came to a Resolution to attempt the raising such a Quantity in this Kingdom as to be sufficient to supply all our Demands, and to encourage Flax-Husbandry, they proposed to give 7s. a Bushel, which was equal to the Price foreign Seed stood them in, provided they delivered it at the Ports of Dublin, Waterford, Cork or Limerick; but notwithstanding they had the Seed gratis and 7s. a Bushel, it had but slender Effect, till the Year 1738, and since that Time, there has been an Increase, as under, viz.

	Barrels.
Raised in Anno 1738 for the Service of 1739	1532
Ditto in — 1739 for — 1740 —	3072
Ditto in — 1740 for — 1741 —	3810
Ditto in — 1741 for — 1742 —	3841
Ditto in — 1742 for — 1743 —	8817
Ditto in — 1743 for — 1744 —	14820
Ditto in — 1744 for — 1745 —	17889
<hr/>	
Total received in the above 7 Years is	52249
From which if we subtract the Product of } the first four Years which was only	12265
<hr/>	
The 3 last fatal Years has exceeded the 1st. } four by	39984

N. B. This

N. B. This Account is taken from a Paper given in at the Board by a Rt. Hon. Gentleman, who is a worthy Member and undoubtedly is genuine.

The above-mentioned monstrous Increase of Flax-Seed the 3 last Years, hath loaded the Linnen Board with a heavy Debt, infomuch that they found themselves necessitated to lay 5s. a Barrel on the Seed which used to be given gratis, and to dispose of the Remainder as well as they cou'd: The Sale of such Parcels, as were disposed of in Dublin, with an Estimate of the Loss the Board sustained thereby is as follows, viz.

	l.	s.	d.
To 2500 Barrels sold Mr. Thomas } Finlay the 18th. of Feb. 1743 at } 10s. per Barrel loss	1250	0	0
To 780 Barrels sold Mr. Hugh White } the 25th. of Feb. 1743, at 10s. } per Barrel loss	390	0	0
To 1600 Barrels of old Seed sold Mr. } John Gaven the 18th. of March } 1743, at 22s. per Barrel loss.	1760	0	0
To 223 Barrels sold in Dublin by } Cant in March and April 1744, at } about 14s. 3d. a Barrel loss	158	17	9
To 2000 Barrels sold Mess. Finlay and } Ivery by Cant the 10th Day of Sep. } 1745, at 16s. 1/2 per Barrel loss	1604	0	0
<hr/>			
Total loss	5162	17	9

As there now lies at Newry, Belfast and Derry, upwards of 4000 Barrels more yet to be disposed of, and as a great Part thereof is known to be damaged and therefore can't be expected to sell as well as that which is sold, we may conclude there will be a Loss of at least 18s. a Barrel, which will amount to 3600 l. so that the whole Loss by the said Seed will be 8762 l. and upwards, and if we add the Loss sustained

sustained this Year by the Seed sold at *Waterford, Limerick* and *Carlow*, and the other Expences attending the same, it will certainly amount to upwards of 10,000*l.*

Thus burthened by Losses, and consequently saddled with Debt, we are in a most melancholy Situation, and can expect no Relief but by exporting our Surplus Seed, having no Mills in this Kingdom to work it up for Oyl, which is the only Thing it is fit for; neither if we had, have we a Vent here for as much Oyl as so great Quantities of Seed would produce; Therefore if we proceed in these ruinous Practices we must continue to suffer the above-mentioned Losses: besides loading the Nation with a Premium of 4*s.* a Barrel, which by Act of Parliament is paid out of the Custom-house on Exportation.

Thus much it is hoped may suffice to let us demonstrably see our Errors, and shew us the Necessity of suddenly and seasonably altering our Measures: if the same industrious Arts had been made Use of to procure us Plenty of Flax, as they have been thus surreptitiously to overstock us with Flax-seed, we should have been in a thriving, happy Condition; we should then been enabled to increase and enlarge our Trade; and given Employment to many thousand idle, useless Hands, which now pester us in the Streets, and are noisome and troublesome to us, or starving in the Country for Want of Employment.

I shall beg leave to make one Remark more on this Head, and that is to remind us of a great Oversight, for in the Year 1734, Flax-seed were delivered at the Stores in *Dublin* at 5*s.* per Bushel as good, may probably better than what has been brought in at 7*s.* for then those Arts of designedly raising Short-Seed was not known: hence it will appear that the Country has got upwards of 20,000*l.* within these 7 Years extrayagantly. How much Flax this Sum

Sum would have encouraged the Raifing of, I shall not take Time to calculate: but am of Opinion, it is more than will be paid in Premiums for manufactured Flax, these 20 Years to come, altho' 10*s.* a hundred Premium were to be allowed for it.

How miserably short-sighted then have we been hitherto who have given such vast Encouragements which tends to our present Loss, and future Ruin, and fatally neglecting that which only would be of Advantage and enlarge our Trade, which will infallibly raise the Price of Land; which will unavoidably bring in Stock; and Stock industriously and judiciously managed, betters and improves Land and makes it more valuable.

In Order to make good this Assertion, there needs only be put this plain Question. Whether is it of more Advantage to the publick, for us to agree to give 10*s.* a hundred, that is 10*l.* a Tun for good Flax, which in a Medium will yield 250*l.* Value in Linnen-Cloath, and give a Year's Employment to 30 Persons; than to give 10*l.* for bad Flax-seed by which we must lose 7 or 8*l.* in the Sale, or disappoint the Person in his Crop of Flax, into whose Hands it may fall. Or further, whether is it more advantageous to give these or larger Premiums for Flax, than to bestow Money as chearfully as we do, for spinning Wheels, Thousands of which lie idle, and are spoiling for Want of Use in the Garrets or Out-houses of Gentlemen, because they have neither material nor proper Persons to employ them; and here we may very reasonably enquire after Spinning-Wheels, there being about 7000 of them given away annually in the three afore-mentioned Provinces; how are they employed? When there is not the least Sign of either Linnen-Cloath or Yarn, especially in *Dublin* Market produced from them; altho' appropriated to the sole Use and Encouragement of the Linnen Manufacture.

This

This is said to shew the Fruitlessnes of the Measures we have hitherto pursued, and to point out to us, what great Necessity there is for us to alter them.

I am fully satisfied that both Flax and Flax-Seed can be raised in *Ireland* to as great Perfection as any where, provided the Seed is sown in Ground well chose and fitly prepared; duly taken Care of, and the Flax properly manufactured, but as this Kind of Husbandry requires more Industry and Labour than we are generally possessed of; and likewise more Expence; takes up more time before it is turned into Money, than our Abilities can afford; we must then if we earnestly intend to bring this Scheme into Execution give great Encouragements ere we can expect to make any great Progress in the Quantity of our Flax, or come to any great Perfection in its Quality or the Goodness of the Seed.

What have we then to do, but unanimously to agree to give such Premiums upon each Hundred Weight of sound, well coloured, ruff Flax, brought into the appointed Stores or Markets as may facilitate all difficulties which lie in the Way; and thereby make it worth the while for Men of Substance, Honesty and Industry to embark in Flax-Husbandry; to allow them proper Utensils and Conveniencies, and to take off their Hands under some Restrictions their Produce of Seed. — Sir *Richard Ford's* Advice to the Merchants belonging to the *African* Company, in my Opinion is very applicable to us at this Juncture, viz. That as they were settling one of the best Trades that belonged to the Nation, they should endeavour to gain their Point, and not differ for small Matters.

It is an old but a just Observation, that we don't follow any Thing heartily, except there are Views of

of Interest to allure us: Publick Spirit is not easily to be met with now a-days: therefore I shall not take upon me to say what may be a sufficient Encouragement. But if due Regard be had to the Advantages which Flax-Husbandry is capable of conferring, 1st, To the extending our Trade by branching it out into several Manufactures we are yet Strangers to; 2dly, To the vast Numbers of additional Hands it will employ; 3dly, To the Money it will keep in the Kingdom, now laid out in foreign Markets in Flax and Flax-Seed; 4th, To the Money it will bring into the Kingdom for the Goods we export; 5th, To the banishing of Idleness, by furnishing such with Material to work upon; 6th, To prevent Abuses committed by Contractors or poor Flax-seed-growers; and 7th, To the multiplying the Number of the Rich by making their landed Estates, infinitely more valuable, if they have but Courage to engage, and Patience to wait the Issue.

This darling Project of raising Flax in this Kingdom is so worthy of our Regard that I shall beg leave to dwell a little longer on so promising a Subject in Order to incite us to this Duty by enumerating some of the good Effects, which Premiums have always had amongst us even in our Memory.

1st. In the Year 1722, the Trustees for the Linnen-Manufacture gave a Premium for fine Linnens made in Imitation of *Dutch* Hollands, which has had such an extraordinary Effect that it is thought we have now too many of them.

2d. The said Trustees in the Years 1734, 1735, and 1736, gave a Premium of only 3*l.* a Tunn for Flax brought to their Stores in *Dublin*, which occasioned about 30 Tuns to come in altho' Flax-Husbandry was but little known at that Time.

3d. The *Dublin* Society's and Doctor *Madden's* Premiums have had surprizing Effects: And yet all the several Improvements in Agriculture and Manufactures are not comparable to the Scheme of procuring



curing Plenty of Flax, which I recommend having already taken Notice of the Fertility of our Lands, and how capable they are for raising excellent Flax and Flax-Seed, when duly chose and fitly prepared : it cannot possibly be understood that I am against continuing the encouraging of them in this Kingdom, but what I am chiefly against is giving the Undertakers so great a Latitude, and also for restraining them from turning those Encouragements which was designed for a general Good into selfish, scandalous Jobbs : We are (Thanks to his most sacred Majesty) in Possession of such Appointments that we are able to carry on and bring to bear both these Articles, if it is not our own Faults ; but however I must needs say, that Flax deserves our greatest Attention, as it is productive of most good, and greater Encouragement, as it requires more Skill, more Labour and more Expence.

I own myself very incapable to form a Scheme proper to effectuate this, it being of so great Consequence that it requires the Wisdom of the Legislature, to consider of Ways and Means, as well as their Countenance and Encouragement to carry it on, To whom therefore I heartily recommend it.

There are also several other Matters which relate to the Improvement of the Linnen-Manufacture, which I shall take upon me to remind you of by Way of Quere, *viz.*

First. Whether it will not be for the Advantage of this Kingdom to distribute annually amongst the poor Natives 6000 Barrels of Flax-Seed, and to encourage the raising of 2000 Barrels, and no more on Contract, the Contractors engaging to manufacture their Produce on such Premiums as are hereafter mentioned, under proper Restrictions and Regulations ?

Secondly. Whether it will not be a sovereign Good to this Kingdom to allow a Premium of 10*s.* per Hundred or 10*s.* per Tunn for as much of the

best

best Sort of Flax, and another Premium of 8*s.* for the second best, and also another Premium of 5*s.* for the 3d Sort, for as much Flax of the different Sortments aforesaid, as can be procured of the Growth of this Kingdom. Since there is not a Possibility that we can be over-stocked with ruff Material? Memorandum, This Article to be maturely considered.

Thirdly. The Act made the 1st of his present Majesty to regulate the Breadths of Linnens and Diapers, hath not any Penalty to inforce it, therefore hitherto been eluded.

*Qu.* Whither this Law ought not to be amended since there are great Complaints and just Grievances against this Practice ?

Fourthly. The Act of the 13th. of his said Majesty against narrow Linnens is not extensive enough: for it is calculated only for the City and Liberties of *Dublin* : so that all Linnens made contrary to this Act may be shipped off at other Ports with Impunity. *Qu.* Should not this be amended ?

Fifthly. The last mentioned Act takes no Notice of Linnens being narrow under 14 hundred, which is the main Bulk of the Linnen Trade, therefore coarse Linnens are abominably faulty. *Qu.* Considering how much greater Quantity of coarse Linnens than the Fine is vended, which is the greater Abuse ?

6th *Qu.* Why the Acts of Parliament require five Members of the Linnen Board to decide Matters of Complaint, when the said Laws give a Power to one Justice of the Peace to hear and finally to determine in all such Cases.

7th *Qu.* Whether there is not a Necessity for a Law against Manufacturers shooting down or mixing fine Linnen Cloth with Tow Yarn, this is of late much practised, and seems to be owing to the Scarcity of Flax : But if not put a stop to, will most certainly ruin that Branch of Trade, the Cloth being

so

to weak by this Practice that it cannot stand the Bleaching.

8th. Black Soap paying 8 s. 6 d. a Hundred Duty and Excise, and *French* and *Spanish* Reeds, 8 s. 2 d. a Thousand on Importation, and both these Articles exceedingly useful in the Linnen Manufacture. *Qu.* Whether we should not endeavour to have those Duties taken off?

9th. As much Time is spent idly by Linnen Weavers at Fairs, Patterns, Races, Cock-Fightings and Holy Days observed in the *Popish* Church, which is a Means to enhance the Price of our Linnens. *Qu.* Whether is it not adviseable to make an Act to restrain that Liberty? Because the Time of labouring Men is the greatest Native Commodity of every Country where Manufactures are carried on.

10th. The Act of the 13th. of his present Majesty King *George*, which orders all Reeds made use of by Linnen Weavers in making Yard-wide Linnens shall be forty Inches, which is found by Experience to be too narrow, to produce Cloth 36 Inches when bleached. *Qu.* Whether ought not this to be amended and made 41 Inches?

11th. As *Drogheda* is a weekly Market for Coarse Linnens of three Quarters, and three Quarters and a Half wide, and very great Quantities of said Linnens vended there which are much complained of for want of Breadth: *Qu.* Whether that Market which is so considerable should not be inspected into and a sworn Measurer, and a Seal Master appointed there?

12th. As all Tickens, Chequers, striped Linnens of all Kinds, Diapers, Huckabacks, both Tabling and Napkening, and Sheetings, are all made too narrow, and great complained of both by Buyers and Sellers, and therefore stands in great need of Redrefs. *Qu.* Whether all Frauds in these Manufactures which the Laws in Force can't prevent, ought

ought not to be punished with great Severity, by making publick Example of those that transgress?

13th. As it manifestly appears, that the Fines imposed on the Lappers are but few of them paid. *Qu.* Whether the Cloth so fined, should not be detained till the Fine is paid, as the Lapper is at so great a Distance, and not to be come at, because the Owner is the greatest Gainer, and must know of the Fraud.

14th. Whether after the Distribution of the Bounty Flax Seed, the Names of the respective Persons to whom such Seeds are granted, with their Counties and the Places of their Abode respectively, shou'd not to be annually printed, so as to give such People Notice, in Order to prevent Seed being procured under fictitious Names, and to procure an equal Distribution.

To conclude, if this small undigested Undertaking meets with any Countenance, it will give Encouragement to offer some Thoughts in relation to the Hempen Manufacture which ought not to be neglected.

F I N I S.

( 21 )

The first of these is the fact that the  
 number of cases of this disease has  
 increased in the last few years. This  
 is due to the fact that the disease  
 is now being spread by the  
 mosquito. The second is the fact  
 that the disease is now being spread  
 by the water. The third is the fact  
 that the disease is now being spread  
 by the air. The fourth is the fact  
 that the disease is now being spread  
 by the soil. The fifth is the fact  
 that the disease is now being spread  
 by the food. The sixth is the fact  
 that the disease is now being spread  
 by the clothing. The seventh is the  
 fact that the disease is now being  
 spread by the furniture. The eighth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the walls. The ninth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the ceiling. The tenth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the floor. The eleventh  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the windows. The  
 twelfth is the fact that the disease  
 is now being spread by the doors. The  
 thirteenth is the fact that the disease  
 is now being spread by the stairs. The  
 fourteenth is the fact that the disease  
 is now being spread by the roof. The  
 fifteenth is the fact that the disease  
 is now being spread by the garden.  
 The sixteenth is the fact that the  
 disease is now being spread by the  
 trees. The seventeenth is the fact  
 that the disease is now being spread  
 by the bushes. The eighteenth is the  
 fact that the disease is now being  
 spread by the flowers. The nineteenth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the leaves. The  
 twentieth is the fact that the disease  
 is now being spread by the roots. The  
 twenty-first is the fact that the  
 disease is now being spread by the  
 stems. The twenty-second is the fact  
 that the disease is now being spread  
 by the branches. The twenty-third is  
 the fact that the disease is now being  
 spread by the twigs. The twenty-fourth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the bark. The twenty-fifth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the sap. The twenty-sixth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the resin. The twenty-seventh  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the latex. The twenty-eighth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the cambium. The twenty-ninth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the pith. The thirtieth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the heartwood. The thirty-first  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the sapwood. The thirty-second  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the bark. The thirty-third  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the cambium. The thirty-fourth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the pith. The thirty-fifth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the heartwood. The thirty-sixth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the sapwood. The thirty-seventh  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the bark. The thirty-eighth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the cambium. The thirty-ninth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the pith. The fortieth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the heartwood. The forty-first  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the sapwood. The forty-second  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the bark. The forty-third  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the cambium. The forty-fourth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the pith. The forty-fifth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the heartwood. The forty-sixth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the sapwood. The forty-seventh  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the bark. The forty-eighth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the cambium. The forty-ninth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the pith. The fiftieth  
 is the fact that the disease is now  
 being spread by the heartwood.

R. I. W. V.