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BRIEF OBSERVATIONS *concerning*
the MANAGEMENT of the WAR,
and the MEANS to prevent the RUIN
of Great Britain.

*Most humbly offered to the Consideration of the Parliament,
and People thereof, By J. MASSIE.*

THE SECOND EDITION, with ADDITIONS.

WHEN oppressive Government compelled the Inhabitants of the Seven *Dutch* Provinces to enter into a solemn League and Union for their mutual Defence against *Spain*, it could not be imagined that so inconsiderable a Number of Men would be able to contend Eighty Years with the most formidable Power at that Time in *Europe*; but such was the Courage and good Conduct of those oppressed People, that partly by fighting, and partly by trading for Means to fight, they grew rich as the War continued, and, with a little Assistance, became powerful at the Expence of their Enemies, whose Strength was at last so much impaired, that they relinquished their Sovereignty over the *Dutch*, and acknowledged them to be a free and independent People.

2. Several Lessons of Instruction may be drawn from an Event so contrary to Probability, and so memorable for the Changes thereby wrought in the Affairs of *Europe*; but the Proof it gives, that the Mines of *Peru* and *Mexico* cannot support an injudicious War against an impotent Enemy, is what most concerns *Great Britain* at this Juncture; for since a Handful of oppressed *Dutchmen*, whom the *Spaniards* could soon have subdued by a proper Exertion of their Force, were enabled by a trading War to break the then great Power of *Spain*; there cannot be any Doubt of the *French* being able to break the Power of *Great Britain*, if they expend in War no more than they gain by Trade, and we expend SIX TIMES as much.

3. When potent Nations wage War, it is the Business of each to exert their whole Force, till Battle decides which of them is superior in Strength; and if, when that is done, the routed Nation be so situated or circumstanced, that the Victors cannot immediately obtain a suitable Peace, they must then try to force it by a lingering War; but this cannot be effected by facing the Enemy with Ten Times their Number *here*, by fighting at Ten Times their Expence *there*, and by keeping a Fleet and Army inactive when they might do essential Service *elsewhere*; for such Measures

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do strongly indicate SOMETHING OR OTHER, and instead of procuring a Peace correspondent with the Successes of War, they are more likely to make Victors of the Vanquished, and to undo the Nation that takes them.

4. How far this general Reasoning is applicable to the present War between *Great Britain* and *France*, will best be discovered by considering WHAT *hath been done*, WHAT *might have been undertaken*, and WHAT *is now a doing*, so far as is publicly known, or seems to be generally believed: for such is the Nature of War, that *Reëtitude of Conduct* doth not constantly depend upon either *similar* or *dissimilar* Measures, but upon such an Application and Exertion of national Wealth and Strength, as may soonest or most effectually distress the Enemy, without any unnecessary Expence either of Blood or Treasure; the lavishing whereof, in a lingering War, may at last accomplish more for a routed Enemy, than they could have obtained by being successful in Arms.

5. As to the Outcome of this War, both *British* and *French* exerted their whole Force, in all Quarters of the World, and the Superiority of Strength is decided in our Favour, by a Series of Victories and many valuable Acquisitions, in *Europe*, *Asia*, *Africa*, and *America*; but the *French* still possess some Part of the *North American* Continent, the valuable Island of *Martinico*, half the Island of *St. Domingo*, *Cayenne*, &c. against which no Attempt to conquer hath been HEARD OF for near TWO YEARS; and considering what a great Body of Land Forces were and are in *North America*, as well as the Season proper for acting in the *West Indies*, there is Reason for thinking that all, or most, of those *French* Colonies might have been subdued by a Part of the said Forces, or by others from *Great Britain*.

6. WHY the taking of *Martinico*, and the *French* Part of *St. Domingo*, &c. have not been attempted in all that Time, I can no more tell, than I can tell the Reason WHY I did not hear the Tower and Park Guns fired for our taking the important and valuable Islands of *Guadaloupe* and *Marigalante*; but it is certain that we have had a considerable Fleet in the *West Indies* during that Interval, though the *French* had none to face it; and our great Body of Land Forces are kept Ice-bound in *Canada*, where the *French* neither have Colony nor Army; so that upon the whole, there seems to be something MYSTERIOUS in our *American* Proceedings, and a vast National Expence there continued, without so much as attempting to reap such Fruits from it, as the Length of Time, the Number and Goodness of our Forces, &c. gave and still give, Reason to expect.

7. In *Europe*, the *French* Naval Force hath been so crippled and mauled, by our Fleets under the Command of the brave Admirals Sir *Edward Hawke*, *Boscawen*, *Osborne*, &c. and so roughly handled in *Asia* by the gallant Admirals *Watson* and *Pocock*, that the *French* have in effect ceased to be a Maritime Power; and though this Nation be not at War with

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with any other Maritime Power, yet hath our Naval Force, or the Expence of it, been greatly augmented ever since *November 1759*, when Sir *Edward Hawke* routed the only considerable *French* Fleet that was left; but whether the 5,000 Marines, &c. then provided for, could be raised, or only the Money is raised, and 130 Commissions granted, I cannot tell; and therefore am in doubt whether the Navy and Victualling Bills might, or might not, have been kept at *par*, or at a much less Discount than Nine or Ten per Cent.

8. The *French* Naval Power, I say is destroyed, and yet we continue in Commission and Pay about Ten Times as many Ships of War as their shattered Remains of a Navy amount to; from whence it might reasonably be expected that our Trade would be safely carried on every where; but according to a printed Abstract of Captures, above ONE THOUSAND of our Merchant Ships were taken in the Years 1759 and 1760; so that the Advantages derived from such a vast Naval Force, and the continuing of it under our present Circumstances, are both WONDERFUL; more especially as there seems to have been a very favourable Opportunity of closely attaching *Spain* to our Interest, by conquering from the *French* and ceding to the *Spaniards*, that Part of the Island of *St. Domingo* which the former have seized and now hold from the latter.

9. So fair an Opportunity of doing essential Service to our natural Friends the *Spaniards*, at the Expence of our perpetual Enemies the *French*, may never again offer to this Kingdom; much less can it be expected when every desirable Circumstance concurs to favour the Undertaking; for a Part of the Naval and Land Forces which during the two last Summers were employed in the Reduction of *Canada*, might, in the Two succeeding Winters, not only have been employed to put *Spain* in full Possession of *St. Domingo*, but to finish our Conquests of the *French* Sugar, &c. Colonies; and when it is considered how vastly our Trade to *Spain* hath been reduced and wasted away, by, or since, the Treaty of *Utrecht*, the not using every Endeavour to restore it, must appear very extraordinary indeed.

10. There is no Truth better known, in relation to *Great Britain* and *Spain*, than that it is their mutual Interest ever to be at Peace; and I am inclined to believe, that this is the true Reason why the *French*, with all their Artifices and cajoling, were not able to induce either the late King of *Spain*, or his present Catholic Majesty to take Part in the War; but if instead of manifesting a due Regard to the real and reciprocal Interest of both Nations, we neglect so signal an Occasion of promoting it, nothing better can be expected from such Conduct, than a Continuation of those Commercial Regulations in *Spain*, which have so long kept most of the *Spanish* Trade in the Hands of the *French*, to the great Loss of this Kingdom and of *Spain* also; for the *French* consume the least, and we the most, of the *Wines* and other Produce of *Spain*.

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11. By thus keeping the Nation at vast continued Expences to maintain so many Forces in *America*, without having either finished or forwarded our Conquest of the *French* Sugar Colonies, or merited well of *Spain* by restoring to her that Part of *St. Domingo* which the *French* have unjustly seized, other and still greater Expences have attended them; in Justification whereof it may be said, that we must keep up a vast Naval Force to prevent any other Maritime Power from taking Part with *France*; but if the Friendship of *Spain* had been secured to this Nation, by doing an essential Piece of Service for her in *America*, our amazingly expensive Naval Armament which may now be called *cautionary*, would in that Case have appeared to be quite *unnecessary*; because *Great Britain* and *Spain* are able to bring to Reason any Disturbers of *Europe*.

12. And our Conduct upon the Continent, appears to me to be attended with far wider and much more dangerous Expences, than the Nation hath been brought into by our *Naval* and *American* Proceedings; since warring at Ten Times the Charge, or with Ten Times the Number of our Enemies, will in the End prove to be one and the same Thing to *Great Britain*; for the *French* still gain more Money by the *Woollens, Linens, Silks, Wines, Brandy, Fruit, Salt*, and other Commodities by them sent to *Spain, Germany, and Italy*, or exported in neutral Ships, than they pay in Subsidies or expend in maintaining a Hundred Thousand Men near the *Rhine*; but supposing that their trading Gain, or the Money that it will enable them to raise Yearly, should not fully answer those Two Purposes, yet will the Service be performed.

13. For the Vicinity of *France* to that Part of *Germany*, will always enable *French* Armies near the *Rhine* to draw a great Part of their Subsistence from home; and what must be had upon the Spot, an Army of 100,000 Men will ever command without Payment, when Money fails, and Promises will not pass current; the Truth whereof, some of the *German* Princes and States know to their Sorrow, and remember too well the Fate of the *Palatinate*, to think of seeking for Security from *French* Power, by any other Means than a Submission to it; so that upon the whole of these Matters, there is abundant Reason for saying, that the *French*, reduced as they are, will not only be able to keep 100,000 Men upon the *Rhine*, Ten Times as long as this Nation can do so, but for a Tenth Part of our Expence.

14. If indeed the *French* could not have continued the War in *Germany* any longer than they could spend Million for Million, or Two Millions for Three, against *Great Britain*; I should have thought that our running into such amazing Expences there, would sooner have brought about a safe and honourable Peace for this Kingdom; and for that Reason I think it right to pay Seven Hundred Thousand Pounds, or a greater Sum, yearly to the King of *Prussia*, so long as the *French* shall be thereby obliged to pay a nearly equal Sum yearly to *Russia, &c.* but when our Enemies cease to pay such Subsidies, or lessen them, we should do so likewise,

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likewise, for if we employ more Wealth to support our Friends, or exert unnecessary Strength to defend ourselves, RUIN must ensue.

15. I know it may be said, that such a Plan of War would not only ruin the King of *Prussia*, but enable the *French* to get Possession of *Hanover*; and supposing it should be attended with both those Consequences, I do not see any Reason why the People of *Great Britain* are to be ruined, to prevent the Ruin of other Nations; but upon due Consideration it will perhaps appear, that both his *Prussian* Majesty and the innocently suffering People of *Hanover*, have more to dread from our Army continuing in *Germany*, than from sending home and disbanding the Forces which compose it, because that Army cannot be longer serviceable to either, than this Nation will be able to pay it, and that will not be a Tenth Part so long as the *French* can keep an Army there.

16. So that whenever our *German* Army shall be withdrawn, and disbanded for Want of Money to pay it any longer, both the King of *Prussia* and the People of *Hanover* must of Necessity come under the Power of the *French*, or of their *Russian, Austrian, &c.* Allies; and the same Want of Money here, that shall prevent our keeping an Army in *Germany*, will not only put it out of our Power to help, by other Means, either *Prussia* or *Hanover*, but will likewise bring this now victorious Nation into the Power of those very Enemies whom they have so often routed in Arms; and this in a Tenth Part of the Time that the puny Republic of *Holland* employed to break the great Power of *Spain*.

17. All which Things being considered, it appears to me very plain, that our present Continental Measures, instead of saving the King of *Prussia* and the Electorate of *Hanover*, as it is said they are intended to do, are much more likely to involve *Great Britain, Prussia* and *Hanover* in one common Ruin; and with respect to his *Prussian* Majesty, we are to remember in the first Place, that, under Providence, this Nation hath not only been a principal Means of hitherto supporting him against his numerous Enemies, but still continues inclined to give him the like powerful Aid; and since the Contest there, is not for any Hereditary Dominions of the Royal House of *Brandenbourg*, His *Prussian* Majesty's Safety seems to depend upon his own Will, and not upon our Power.

18. As to the *French* getting Possession of *Hanover*, they undoubtedly will do so, if the *British* Army that now opposes them in *Germany* be sent home and disbanded before Peace is concluded; but then it is to be considered, that present Possession proves Nothing in Reference to Futurity; and as to any Cruelties or Violences, which the *French* may, in that Case, be for practising upon the Suffering Inhabitants of that Electorate; let the *French* but be assured, that any Cruelties or other Injustice by them practised in *Hanover*, will be fully repaid upon their Maritime Towns by a *British* Fleet, and they will not fail of behaving well; for they confine their Cruelties to such Nations or States, as, at the Time, they think cannot or dare not retaliate.

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19. This appears to me to be a much more certain and effectual Way of protecting *Hanover* during the War, than continuing 100,000 Men in *British* Pay upon the *Rhine* will be; because the latter cannot be continued near so long as the *French* can there keep another Army to oppose it, and therefore must in a very few Years be rendered ineffectual, by one Means or other; whereas if this Nation only spends nearly equal Sums against the *French* upon the Continent, and doth not exert more than necessary Power elsewhere, *Great Britain* will not only be able to continue that efficacious Protection to *Hanover*, but, by the Blessing of Providence, with wise and faithful Councils, will oblige the *French* to thankfully restore that Country, for the Privilege of carrying on their own Trade in *French* Ships.

20. Vast Expectations were indeed founded upon the Discoveries made by intercepting Marshal *Belleisle's* Letters, and upon the *French* coining their Plate; but we have continued above Twelve Months expecting, WHAT neither their Distress, nor our Conquest of *Canada* have yet brought to pass; for the *French* know, and, if Measures are not speedily and greatly altered, we to our Ruin shall find, that spending Ten or only Two Millions to their One, either in paying Subsidies, or in maintaining Continental Armies, or in keeping up a more than necessary Force at Sea, or in *America*, will sooner or later compel this Nation to restore to *France*, all the Colonies or other Conquests which have been made, or shall be made, by the *British* Fleets and Armies during this War.

21. The *French* likewise know, that the Profit arising from their remaining Trade, will not enable them to keep up a Navy; and therefore they content themselves with giving pompous Accounts of little Fleets in this or that Port, with sending out a few Frigates sometimes, and with equipping all the Privateers they can; but this Sort of Naval War is so far from being any real Charge to the *French*, that on the contrary it greatly enriches them and doubly exhausts this Nation, by the vast Numbers of Merchant Ships they *some how or other* take from us, and by our continuing a vast and superfluous Naval Force; so that we are going on in the same ruinous Road whereby the *Dutch* formerly were enabled to break the great Power of *Spain*, and we travel Ten Times as fast in it as the *Spaniards* did.

22. The Merchant Ships of this Kingdom undoubtedly are worth Two Thousand Pounds *per* Ship, one with another; at which Rate of Estimation the One Thousand Ships which the *French* took from us in the Years 1759 and 1760 were worth Two Millions of Pounds Sterling, or One Million of Pounds a Year; and now that *France* is relieved from the Charge of maintaining a Navy, as well as from the Charge of defending many Colonies, I very much doubt, whether all her other foreign Expences for War do amount to more than one Million of Pounds a Year; so that for any thing which at present occurs to me, the *French* will not only be able to continue the War Fourcore or more Years, upon their present Plan, but even to pay the foreign Expences of it with *British* Merchant Ships.

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23. Or if, by laying up 4 in 5, or 3 in 4. of the Ships of War now in Commission, and by making the best use we can of the Remainder, our vast Naval Expence should not only be confined within safe Bounds, but the Number of Merchant Ships taken from us by the *French* should be reduced from Five Hundred to Fifty a Year; yet, even in that Case, will the keeping of an Army in *British* Pay near the *Rhine*, much contribute towards defraying the *French* Charge of keeping another Army to oppose it; for the distracted State of the most trading Parts of *Germany* doth so far obstruct Manufacturies, Agriculture and Trade, that a considerable Part of the Pay of such a BRITISH Army necessarily must be sent to FRANCE for Wines, Brandies, Woollens, Linens, or other *French* Commodities and Manufactures.

24. And when this Nation shall have done what is so evidently and pressingly necessary, in regard to our Naval, Continental, and American Measures, the *French* will still be in a Capacity of continuing the War for a Number of Years, by the Money arising from their remaining Trade, which we neither can take from them, nor put a Stop to; but then they must make War in such a Manner, as to spend Million for Million against us; for when *Germany* is put out of the Question, *France* will not have any other Way left to act against *Great Britain* than by A SEA WAR; and, with honest Management, our superior Trade will enable this Nation to maintain for any Time, a Naval Force superior to theirs in Number, as our Seamen ever make it superior to any in Goodness.

25. This appears to me to be the only Plan of War that can prevent the Ruin of this Nation, and bring about a safe, honourable, and lasting Peace for *Great Britain*; of which the *French* seem to have been all along very sensible, or otherwise they would not have grown more untractable of late, than they were when we had made fewer Conquests from them; but they know, that a Continuation of ruinous Conduct, must compel this Nation to yield up by Treaty, all that shall have been gained by the Sword: and therefore of late they have spent less Money in or for foreign War, than their foreign Trade doth and will bring in, over and above 1,000,000*l.* yearly gained by taking *British* Merchant Ships; but we have been spending in War, or losing by Captures, SIX TIMES our clear yearly Gain.

26. That this, or something very like it, really is the Case, we most unhappily have but too much Reason to believe; and though the *French* may not know exactly the Year, in which such amazing Conduct will compel this Nation to give up all the Colonies we have taken, or shall take from them; yet, they know, that such an astonishing Desparity of Expence must sooner or later do it, AS SURELY as the like ruinous Conduct formerly compelled *Spain* to relinquish her Sovereignty over the Seven *Dutch* Provinces, and to yield up various Conquests which they had made at her Expence; for like Causes will ever produce similar Effects,
and

and the *French* have only to wait till our Measures *bring about*, WHAT they are not able to *accomplish*.

All which is most humbly submitted to the Parliament and People of Great Britain, by
Westminster, 26 January, 1761. J. MASSIE.

P O S T S C R I P T.

27. The Matters contained in the well known Letter to Two great Men, &c. &c. do induce me to believe, that there are THOSE who want to find out PRUSSIAN or any other Country REASONS, for putting the *French* in Possession of all their *Sugar Colonies*, and the *Newfoundland Fishery*, which in my humble Opinion, would for ever undo *Great Britain*: and therefore I must take the Liberty of exhorting and beseeching all who love our GOOD KING AND COUNTRY, not to be so far discouraged by what hath been done, as to call out for Peace, nor to be cast down, or to murmur, at the new Taxes upon *Malt* and *Beer*; because any one of those Things may be of fatal Consequence at this important Juncture, by giving Advantages to our Enemies.

28. And, to the End that each and every of those Dangers may be more effectually guarded against, I think it highly expedient, upon this Occasion, and in this Place, to once more shew, by what Means a NEW PARLIAMENT (which the *British* Freeholders, Citizens, and Burgeesses are soon to chuse, and they no doubt see and feel how much it concerns them to make a judicious Choice) MAY, not only relieve this Nation from the Hardships and Dangers to which it is most unhappily exposed by the new Taxes upon *Malt* and *Beer*; but MAY likewise continue the War for several Years longer, upon a wise and safe PLAN, without pinching the Stomachs of those, whose Stomach for fighting hath, under Providence, and with good Leaders, raised this Nation to such a Pitch of GLORY.

WAYS and MEANS for relieving this Nation, and for continuing the War.

There may be raised upon the exorbitant Part of the Price of Sugar, without making it dearer, as I have undeniably shewn, by several States, Computations, &c. published in the General Evening Posts, from 13 to 16, 18 to 20, and 20 to 23 of *December*, 1760, and also in the *London Daily Gazetteers* for the 15th, 17th and 25th of *December*, 1760. . . . £20,000,000.

So that such a Tax upon *Sugar* will fully replace the new Taxes upon *Malt* and *Beer*.

And in my State of the *British* Sugar Colony Trade, published almost two Years ago, I have also shewn, that, over and above Twelve Millions of Pounds Sterling which this Kingdom hath been deprived of, by the abominable

Luxury,

Luxury, Exorbitance and fraudulent Trading of the *Sugar* Planters, they had then fleeced this Nation of Eight Millions of Pounds, in the exorbitant Prices of *Sugar*; to which Fleecings there must now be added Two Millions more, making together *Ten Millions of Pounds*; all which Money, they the said *Sugar* Planters have acquired contrary to common Justice, and to that Protection which every *Briton* ought to receive from the Laws of this Land:—the Violation whereof, in the Manner and to the Extent aforesaid, doth give THE PEOPLE a Right to expect, that *Ten Millions of Pounds* Sterling be by Law raised for public Service, upon the *British* or other Estates of the said *Sugar* Planters; the like Justice having been done to this Nation, upon the Estates of the former Directors of the *South-Sea* Company, for what they did in the Year 1720; and therefore I reckon that there will be so raised upon the *Sugar* Planters Estates, and appropriated to and for carrying on the present just and necessary War £10,000,000

Making together, *Thirty Millions of Pounds* Sterling . . . £30,000,000

So that over and above replacing the new Taxes upon *Malt* and *Beer*, Ten Millions of Pounds may be raised for carrying on the War, after the present Year 1761; and I hope that by taking proper Measures, *Two* or *Three* Millions of Pounds may be saved out of the TWELVE Millions granted for this Year; but if these Sums should not prove sufficient to continue a wise and well managed War, until a safe, honourable, and lasting Peace can be obtained for *Great Britain*; I can point out other large Resources for War, without laying any pinch Belly Taxes, or injuring any Branch of *British* Manufactory or Trade.

J. MASSIE.

Remember, O People, that the Wisdom and Goodness of your most gracious SOVEREIGN, teach him to glory in the Name of BRITON: fail not to preserve the Peace of his Kingdoms, and render Obedience to the Laws of this Realm; but exert yourselves in the Pursuit of every lawful and safe Means to redress and rectify whatever is WRONG; and zealously co-operate with the pious and exalted Endeavours of MAJESTY, to strengthen the Constitution both in CHURCH AND STATE;

Always remembering,

That, RELIGION AND JUSTICE are the main Pillars of GOVERNMENT and the Barriers of your LIBERTY.

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To the Freeholders, Citizens, Burgeſſes, and other good People of Great Britain.

GENTLEMEN,

THE Sugar Planters are ſo accuſtomed from their Infancy to exerciſe TYRANNY and lawleſs CRUELTY over miſerable *Negroe-Slaves*, that it is ſurpriſing any among ye ſhould be ſo inattentive to the *Preſervation of LIBERTY* as to think of them for your Representatives; becauſe ye all know the Proverb ſays, *What is bred in the BONE will never out of the FLESH*; and that ye may know what hath been bred in the *Bones of Sugar Planters*, I think it expedient at this important Juncture to preſent ye with the following Extract from the Tenth Chapter of a Diſcourſe on Trade, written by the judicious Sir *Jofiah Child*, who was an eminent Merchant in the laſt Century, and knew *what Sort of Men* the Sugar-Planters were.

“*Virginia and Barbadoes* were firſt peopled by a Sort of *loofe vagrant People*, *wicked and deſtitute of Means* to live at home (being either unfit for Labour, or ſuch as could find none to employ themſelves about, or had ſo miſbehaved themſelves by *Whoring, Thieving, or other Debauchery*, that none would ſet them on work) which Merchants and Maſters of Ships, by their Agents (or *Spirits as they were called*) gathered up about the Streets of *London*, and other Places, *cloathed and transported* to be employed upon *Plantations*; and theſe I ſay were ſuch, as had there been no *Engliſh foreign Plantation* in the World, could probably never have lived at home to do Service for their Country, but muſt have come to be *hanged or ſtarved*, or died untimely of ſome *miſerable Diſeaſes*, that proceed from *Want and Vice*—

“But the principal Growth and Increate of the aforeſaid Plantations of *Virginia and Barbadoes* happened in, or immediately after our late Civil Wars, when the worſted Party by the Fate of War, being deprived of their Eſtates, and having ſome of them never been bred to Labour, and others made unfit for it by the lazy Habit of a Soldier's Life, there wanting Means to maintain themſelves all abroad with his Majeſty, many of them betook themſelves to the aforeſaid Plantations, and great Numbers of *Scotch Soldiers* of His Majeſty's Army, after *Worceſter* Fight, were by the then prevailing Powers voluntarily ſent thither.

“Another great Swarm, or Acceſſion of new Inhabitants to the aforeſaid Plantations, as alſo to *New-England, Jamaica*, and all other His Majeſty's Plantations in the *West-Indies*, enſued upon His Majeſty's Reſtauration, when the former prevailing Party being by a Divine Hand of Providence brought under, the Army diſbanded, many Officers diſplaced, and all the new Purchaſers of public Titles, diſpoſſeſſed of their pretended Lands, Eſtates, &c. many became impoverished, deſtitute of Employment; and therefore ſuch as could find no Way of living at home, and ſome which feared the Re-Eſtabliſhment of the Eccleſiaſtical Laws, under which they could not live, were forced to transport themſelves, or ſell themſelves for a few Years, to be transported by others to the foreign *Engliſh Plantations*:—The conſtant Supply that the ſaid Plantations have ſince had, hath been ſuch *vagrant loofe People*, as I have before mentioned, picked up, eſpecially about the Streets and Suburbs of *London and Weſtmiſter*, and by *Malſaſtors* condemned for Crimes, for which by the Law they *deſerved to die*—

By this Extract, Gentlemen, ye may ſee, *What* hath been bred in the *Bones of SUGAR &c. PLANTERS*, beſides the Principles of TYRANNY and CRUELTY, which deſcend from *Father to Son* along with their *Sugar-Plantations*; and ſo true is the OLD PROVERB; that thoſe former Breedings in the *Bone* are not yet come out of the *Fleſh*; for our preſent Sugar Planters continue acquiring Money againſt the Laws of COMMON JUSTICE: but in Lieu of ſuch Twelve Penny *Pilſerings* as formerly peopled *Barbadoes, &c.* inſtead of garniſhing *Tyburn*, our preſent Sugar-Planters fleece ye at the Rate of ONE MILLION OF POUNDS a Year, by which ye may ſee to your Sorrow and Shame, what it is to *ſave THIEVES from the GALLOWS*, and PEOPLE *your Colonies with FELONS*.

But it is impoſſible to keep our Sugar Colonies peopled with ſuch Miſcreants; for though a Change of Air be very efficacious in reſtoring ſick Men to Health, it never can make *honeſt Men* of thoſe who are *Rogues in Grain*, of which the Iſland of *Barbadoes* is a melancholy Proof; for in the Year 1650 there were Twenty Thouſand *Engliſhmen*, beſides Women and Children, living and ſettled in that Iſland; but Mr. *Ligon*, who wrote a Hiſtory

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of it, and was there at the Time, foreſaw that a few of thoſe SHARKS *would devour the FREEHOLDS* of the greater Part of the *Engliſh Families* ſettled there, and drive them out of that Iſland to make room for *Negroe-Slaves*, to till the Lands which thoſe *Engliſhmen* had planted and ſettled.

Mr. *Ligon* had the good Senſe to foreſee that ſuch Ruin and Deſolation would come to paſs; and thoſe *Sharks* did according to their Nature ſet about it ſo voraciouſly, that I much queſtion whether there were Seven Thouſand *Engliſhmen*, or white Men, remaining upon that Iſland at the End of Thirty Years from the Year 1650; nor hath the Exirpation ſtopped even at rooting out Two Thirds of the *Engliſhmen*, for of late Years the Number of white Men in that Iſland hath ſcarcely been Five Thouſand; and thoſe diabolical Politics do ſo rage in *Jamaica*, that for many Years there ſcarcely have been Three Thouſand white Men in that Iſland, though it is capable of maintaining One Hundred Thouſand Families of *Free Britiſh People*.

By ſuch infernal Machinations as theſe, the *Britiſh Sugar Colonies*, inſtead of continuing in a State of *Freedom and Equality* according to the happy CONSTITUTION of their MOTHER COUNTRY, have been moſt horribly depopulated of *free Inhabitants*, and reduced to a State of *petty Tyranny and miſerable Slavery*; which, in a leſs Degree, is alſo the Condition of moſt of the *Britiſh North American Colonies*; inſomuch, that of late Years *Negroe-Population* hath got footing in the cold Climate of NEW ENGLAND; which ſhews that it is not naturally impoſſible for OLD ENGLAND to be depopulated of the greater Part of the *free Inhabitants*, and reepeople with *Negroe-Slaves*, in the ſame Manner, and by ſuch Sort of Men, as have long ſince ſo depopulated and reepeople *Barbadoes, Jamaica, &c.*

To effect this, muſt undoubtedly be a Work of Time; but when I conſider, WHAT the *Sugar Planters* have long ſince done in the Sugar Colonies, WHAT other Planters are doing of the ſame Sort in *North America*; WHAT Numbers of thoſe *Sugar &c. Planters* have of late Years come and ſettled in *Great Britain*; WHAT vaſt Numbers of *Britiſh Freeholders* have been bought out of their Eſtates by *Sugar Planters*, with Money which thoſe Planters have fleeced from the *Britiſh Nation*, beſides unknown Wealth in the Public Funds; WHAT a Stand thoſe *Sugar Planters* have for ſeveral Years made againſt the Laws of COMMON JUSTICE, by *daring* notoriously to fleece this Nation of £ 1,000,000 yearly; and WHAT Multitudes of *Men, Women and Children* have been deſtroyed, or ruined, by *encouraging Debauchery*.

I ſay, GENTLEMEN, when I conſider ALL THESE THINGS, I cannot help being of Opinion, that the LIBERTY OF GREAT BRITAIN is in more Danger from *Sugar, &c. Planters*, than the LIBERTY OF ROME ever was from a *Catiline*—

As ye regard *yourſelves, your Families, and Poſterity*, fail not to take theſe Matters into your moſt ſerious Conſideration; and purſue with Alſiduity, ſuch lawful and conſtitutional Means of REDRESS, and *future National SECURITY*, as ſhall upon mature Deliberation be thought expedient—

Weſtmiſter, 27 Jan. 1761.

J. MASSIE.

Who that rejoiced at the firm Confidence ſo mutually and ſo happily eſtabliſhed between a moſt gracious SOVEREIGN and a faithful PEOPLE, can forbear grieving at miniſterial Meaſures which have ſo ſtrong a Tendency to ſhake *that Confidence*? or, Who that lately beheld the SUN *riſing in full Splendor*, can view without Concern the *Clouds of Diſcontent*, which *Patriots* have generated in our Hemisphere, ſo early hovering about the *Sun* and lowering in the *Eastern Sky*?

Doth a wicked and a dividing Spirit then prevail among *Patriots*?—But Royal Rectitude and Sovereign Goodneſs ſhall be as Pillars to the THRONE OF MAJESTY, ſupporting it on the Right Hand and on the Left.—The KING hath gone forth with open Arms to receive His open-hearted PEOPLE.—The Pledges of Affection and Duty have been reciprocally given.—The PEOPLE will be unto HIM *as an Anchor that abideth the Storm*, and HE will be unto THEM *a ſure Guide in the Ways of Happineſs*.

Wherefore, O Men, ſeek ye to conceal the Miſchief of your Doings, by bringing to the Foot-ſtool of Majeſty, the Evil that lieth at your own Doors?—Verily, O Patriots, that Cunning availeth not, for the People find out your bye-Paths, the Waite of their Strength, and the ſtaying of their Fleets and Armies.—Mourn ye at the Victories which OMNIPOTENCE hath betowed upon them? or do ye ſeek Occaſion to give up their Conqueſts?—Take Heed, O Men, leſt the Clouds which ye have generated *burſt upon your own Heads*, and overwhelm your Families and Houſes with *ſwift Deſtruction*.—

During

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During the Administration of the great and good Mr. Pelham, the new Taxes for supporting War were proposed Two or Three Months after *Christmas*, at which Time of Year most of the Representatives of the People are in Town; but the *new Taxes* upon *Malt* and *Beer* were proposed, *under our Patriot Administration*, a few Days before *Christmas* and laid soon after it, when Three Fourths or Two Thirds of the Representatives of the People usually are in the Country: and though weighty Reasons undoubtedly may be given for this new Sort of Conduct, *under a Patriot Administration*, it nevertheless concerns THE PEOPLE to remember the Difference between the Taxes laid, under those Two Administrations; for Mr. Pelham's Wisdom and Goodness of Heart led him to lay *heavy on the RICH* and to *spare the industrious POOR*, but I shall leave the *Management of the War* to speak for the Wisdom of Patriots, and the *new Taxes* upon *Malt* and *Beer* to proclaim their Goodness of Heart.

I cannot however help observing, that the protecting Laws of this Kingdom seem to have *shut one Eye* and *kept the other open*; for the Sugar Planters have fleeced this Nation of MILLION after MILLION, without any News Paper Account of Orders being given to prosecute them; but the *Brewers* are not *Sugar Planters*, nor so good as they should be, for they, *the Brewers*, ought to have petitioned against both the *Malt and Beer Taxes*, because they knew very well that the laying of those Taxes would oblige them to *raise the Price* or *debase the Quality* of BEER; and their not doing what they ought to have done *in Behalf of the Nation*, was punished by deterring them from doing what they had a Right to do *in their own Behalf*, for no sooner did they talk of relieving themselves from the new *Malt Tax* than there was a Talk of prosecuting them; so that the *Laws of England*, which, according to the Constitution thereof, ought to equally bind and protect all Men, from the SOVEREIGN to the *poor Labourer*, seem in these Two Instances to have been *twisted and twined* according to the Will or Purposes of particular Men; I therefore wish that there may not have been some corrupt or undue Practices concerning these Matters, and I most humbly submit the Consideration thereof, to the Parliament and People of *Great-Britain*.

Westminster, 4 Feb. 1761.

J. MASSIE.

Nota Bene. City-Fests are joyous Remains of *Old English Hospitality*, and neighbourly Visits at *proper Times* and *Seasons* do much promote domestic Happiness, without decaying good House-wifery; but WHO raised *Hurricanes, Tornados, Routs* and *Drums* in the CITY,

To make BAD WIVES and DAUGHTERS of GOOD ONES!

May the sweet tinkling of *Marrow-bones* and *Frying-pans*, the solemn rub-a-dub of *Salt-boxes*, and the Ear-piercing *Cat-call*, with choral Harmony unite to serenade and charm SUCH *City-Dames* back again to their *Husbands*, teach them to take Delight in their *own Families*, and to remember that good QUEEN MARY, the second, made Her Royal Apartments at *Hampton Court* bear Witness that she was an excellent *House-wife*, but left Historians and Painters to tell After-ages how beneficent a *Princess* and how beautiful a *Woman* she was?—

Which of our clear-sighted Astronomers was it, who lately mistook a be-nighted Flock of *wild Geese* for the Ghosts of *Old English Ladies* gliding through the Air, with Spinning-Wheels before them, and shaking their *Distaffs* over the West End of this Metropolis?—

Is this *Gambling* and *Drumming* the Way that Sugar-Planters, or Sugar-planting Patriots, have taken to convince the Citizens that their CITY-GATES are NUSANCES?—*Beelzebub*, by his great Vicegerents *Rieblieu* and *Mazavine*, played such Tricks long ago in *France*. . . . They are a fierce devouring Canker to all Sense of RELIGION, LIBERTY, JUSTICE, *Honour, Virtue, conjugal Affection, parental Care and Tenderness, Filial Piety*, and dry up the *very Milk* of HUMAN KIND, making *Devils* of Men, and *Furies* of Women.

Treasure up in your Hearts, O BRITONS, the pious and virtuous Exhortations of your most gracious SOVEREIGN, who hath there pointed out to ye the great and permanent Means to *promote your HAPPINESS* and *preserve your LIBERTY*.

Sold at the Pamphlet Shops at the *Royal-Exchange, Temple-Bar, and Charing-Cross*, Price *Three Pence*; but will be given with my Calculations of the Taxes yearly paid by a Family of each Rank, Degree, or Class; which may be had at the same Places, Price *One Shilling*.