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THE  
FISHERIES REVIVED:  
OR,  
BRITAIN'S Hidden TREASURE  
DISCOVERED.

Proving, That not only our future Wealth, but  
Security, will depend upon that inestimable  
Trade.

CONTAINING,

The State of the Fisheries of the  
different Nations in *Europe*,  
frequenting our Seas, with  
the imperfect State of our  
own;  
A Description of the Northern  
and Western Isles of Scot-  
land; an Account of their  
Inhabitants, with their Man-  
ner of their Taking and Cur-  
ing Fish, from the Journal of

a Gentleman who surveyed  
them last Summer;  
Copies of the *Dutch* Placarts;  
The Scheme for carrying on  
the said Trade, and employ-  
ing the Parish-Poor therein;  
With the Acts of Parliament  
relating to Fish and Fishe-  
ries, from the 13th of Ed-  
ward I. to the present Year.

The Whole Illustrated with

PLANS of the most noted HARBOURS in the said  
Islands, and PROSPECTS of the remarkable Head-  
lands, for the better Direction of Navigators.

L O N D O N :

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THE  
 Fisheries Revived, &c.

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THE  
 INTRODUCTION.

**T**R A D E is now become as necessary for the Support of Nations, as Aliments are for the Preservation of Individuals; it is the Life of Manufactures, a Spur to Invention, gives Employment to the People, and increases the Wealth, Strength, and Prosperity of the Nation in general.

Other Nations encourage it only for the immediate Profits that accrue from it, but we have a double Motive; our Security, as well as our Prosperity depends upon it.

Many Examples might be given of the Rise of States from nothing (I may say) to great Power and Wealth. What was the Beginning of the Republic of *Venice*? Was it not a despicable Croud of various Nations that fled from the Cruelty of the *Goths* and *Vandals* when they overrun the *Roman* Empire, that took Shelter in those impregnable Islands in the *Adriatic*; where they had Life and Safety indeed, but nothing else; but by applying themselves to Trade and Navigation, were soon enabled to con-

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quer the rich Islands of *Candia*, *Negropont*, *Cyprus*, *Cio*, and many others?

The *Dutch* too were a poor and low People when they cast off the *Spanish* Yoke, and were so oppressed by the Tyranny of the *Spaniards*, that they had but the Water for their last Refuge, of which they have made so good Use ever since, that they are now the second Power in *Europe* for Naval Greatness.

How frequent are the Complaints amongst us of the Decay of Trade, and Decline of Manufactures, and yet we take no Methods to remedy the Evil, but contentedly sit down, saying, we have done our utmost, we are fully satisfied with what we have done: Where are our *Raleighs*, our *Drakes*, and our *Cavendishes*? Was their enterprising Genius's buried with them? Is there none left to revive that adventuring Spirit, for which this Nation has been remarkable? Is there none fired with Warmth enough to make vigorous Beginnings?

There is an undiscovered Ocean of Commerce upon our Coasts, boundless like the Element on which it might be managed; enough to excite our Ambition, and even to glut our Avarice; yet we are backward to promote our own Happiness and Welfare, though the Methods are many, and the Advantages considerable.

As Cities lose their Trade, the Merchants remove, and the Inhabitants decrease; when the *Dutch* cut off the Navigation of the *Scheld*, the City of *Antwerp* declined, and our Fishing Trade went to *Amsterdam*, to the Ruin of many Trading Towns in *Britain*, especially in *Scotland*; one of which in particular very sensibly affected me lately, viz. The City of *St. Andrews*, once a flourishing Place, had a noble University, and a Church so elegant that few in the World could vie with it, (being larger than *St. Peter's* at *Rome*) but since the Fishing has been lost, the Town and Country looks desolate, the People dejected for want of Employment, the Shells of the City without the Kernel, the Streets covered with Grass, and the Houses without People, and Wealth.

On the other Hand, let us cast our Eyes upon a City flourishing with Trade, whose Inhabitants are like Bees in a Hive, and whose Countenances look merry at the most laborious Exercise, and whose Prospect of Gain inspires them

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them with Vigour, and adds new Life to their very Souls.

Nor is there any Country ever so barren, but that it may be improved by Industry and Application. The *Russians* and *Norwegians*, whose Country is nought but Rocks, Mountains, and Woods, cut down their Timber and send it to us and others to build Cities and Navies, while the more inward Inhabitants, rather than not taste the Sweets of Commerce, send us the Juice of a Forest in a Barrel of Tar.

I could launch out into many Particulars concerning the Usefulness of Trade in general; but as it is now pretty well understood by most, shall therefore confine myself to this single Point.

Before we enjoy'd the Fruits of Commerce, we had but few Ships, scarce any populous Cities, and no great Number of People, or Wealth in the Kingdom.

Queen *Elizabeth*, whose Memory ought to be dear to every *Briton*, not only founded the Naval Glory of *England*, but established our Commerce in both *Indies*, *Africa*, the *Levant*, and *Baltic Seas*; and by her prudent Administration soon convinced the *Spaniards*, that however superior their Force might be to hers on Land; yet with her wooden Walls she could visit them with Terrors in their remotest Situation. By these she ravaged their Coasts, seized their Islands, and planted the Continent of *America*, plundered their Cities and destroyed their Shipping, took *Cadiz*, and burnt their Galleons with eighteen Millions of Treasure in them, and at last convinced them that she who commanded the Ocean, awed the World.

The Wisdom of Providence (says an ingenious Author) which formed Men for Society, obliges them to Union among themselves by a mutual Intercourse of good Offices, and to supply each other with the reciprocal Products of the Climes where they live. Self-Interest strongly prompts Mankind to these Duties; and this last shall be the Motive on which I am to insist in the following Treatise, concerning the encouraging of Fisheries, which cannot fail, if duly supported, to answer the Ends already proposed.

The contending Parties in the late War, have, I may say, ceased Hostilities; but not given over their Alarms

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since the *French* in particular, are taking every visible Method of putting their Marine in a formidable Condition.

If public Fame is at all to be credited, if any Confidence is to be put in the Advices of Foreign Merchants to their Correspondents here, or if regard may be had to our own and foreign News Papers, then we may believe, that almost every Nation in *Europe*, yea, even the *Spaniards* themselves, are making vast Naval Preparations, cultivating their Lands, introducing Arts and Sciences, setting their Poor to work, and even tempting our Natives by large Rewards to leave their Habitations, their Wives and Children, who of Course must be a Burthen to the Public or starve.

The King of *Sardinia*, our late Ally, seems to entertain more favourable Sentiments of the House of *Bourbon* than formerly, by his Son's taking a Daughter of that House into his Bosom.

The King of *Prussia* is founding Academies, and introducing Arts and Sciences amongst his Subjects.

The *French* are laying such heavy Duties on our Manufactures, as is almost equal to a Prohibition.

The Queen of *Hungary* is forbidding entirely our Goods usually sent thither; and our Trade to *Russia* is almost lost: Where now shall we find Ports to send the little Remains of our lost Manufactures, if those Nations can supply themselves, who were before served by us?

O! *Britain*, thou once happy Isle, thou who gavest Laws to Nations, and humbled the Tyrants of the Earth, who was Mistress of the Ocean, the Seat of Freedom, the Nurse of Heroes, and the Delight of Gods; in short the Envy and Glory of the World; how are thy Days changed. O! fatal Change, thy degenerate Sons sunk into a State of Indolence and Inactivity. One Power is enticing our Artificers, a second our Soldiers, and a third our Sailors; who is it, or what is it they are inclined to leave us? Let us, O! my Countrymen, awaken our Attention, let us imbibe some of the Virtues of other Nations as well as their Vices. Let us but imitate the *Dutch* in promoting our Fisheries: we have a sufficient Number of Hands, and there is no fear of our being obliged to drop any other Branch; the Time is not past (although drawing near) to retrieve a lost Trade and a sinking Nation; the Time is  
come,

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come, and the Means are in our own Hands; we want only the royal Protection, the publick Bounty, good Oeconomy, and a little Industry and Frugality amongst ourselves to pave a Way for carrying on that most beneficial Trade.

By it we shall have a Nursery established for training of Sailors, who upon Cases of Emergency will be ready to serve their King and Country: And it will be an effectual Remedy for quieting the Minds of many of his Majesty's Subjects in these remoter Parts, who for Want of an Intercourse with the southern Provinces, scarce know whose Subjects they are.

I am informed that when the *Dutch* were at War with *England*, and they wanted to man twenty or thirty Sail of Men of War, it was only having recourse to their Fishery, and in two or three Days they were fit to fight us, being only transferred from a smaller to a larger Vessel on the same Element.

What may we not expect from this Scheme, a Scheme so prudent in Appearance, contriv'd by Men of Skill and Probity, and likely to be put in Execution by the wealthy Traders of this Metropolis, whose Genius for Trade is admired; but there's a kind of Necessity for publick Encouragement, because it will require a considerable Sum to put it first in Motion; nor do I in the least doubt, but that at the same Time we are raising Money to carry it on, the *Dutch* will do the same, if not to hinder us from ever putting it in Practice, at least to enable the Proprietors in *Holland* to undersell us in foreign Markets, till such Time as they find that we are determined to carry it on in Spite of all Opposition. However their Resistance, if they make any, can be but for a short Time, as the Disadvantages they labour under are many in Comparison to us, who are by Nature situated in the midst of one continued Herring-Shoal. The Island indented as it were with Bays and Harbours to retire to in boisterous Weather, the Shore whose Inhabitants are ourselves, to furnish us daily with Necessaries. The Island to dry our Fish upon, and whose Situation enables us to be at most Markets before the *Dutch* can have repacked there's in *Holland*.

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Here I cannot but observe how favourable Providence is to us, for as the Wind is above one half of the Year West-erly, our Head-Lands and Bays are good Roads for our Ships to ride in, we being on the Weather, and the *French* and *Dutch* on the Lee Shore; besides our Shores are bold, our Coasts high, and easily discovered, and our Anchor-hold is much better, being for the most Part strong Clay, hard Gravel or Chalk, whilst theirs are only hard Rocks, Mudd, or loose Sands; and when the Eastwind blows, tho' it may block up the Thames Shipping, yet we have many considerable Ports whom that favours likewise, such as *Portsmouth, Pool, Dartmouth, Plymouth, Bristol, Liverpool, Whitehaven, Dumfries, Air, Glasgow, Campbeltown* and *Irwin*, besides many other of less Note.

What a prodigious Advantage is this; the Wind through the whole Year scarce ever interrupts us, while they don't enjoy the Benefit of it above one half, nor are our Harbours ever frozen or choak'd up with Sand as the *Dutch*, neither does scorching Climes render us incapable of bearing the Fatigues of War, nor frigid Zones benumn us; but unmolested with *Holland's* Marshes, and *Italy's* Alpine and *Pyrenean* Mountains, we enjoy a delightful Variety of Hills, Valleys and champaign Country, enamelled with yellow Grain, and the spacious Houses of Inhabitants. Then Hills rise like an Amphitheatre, which are covered with sweet Herbs and tender Grass for feeding Flocks and lowing Kine, and sometimes are pregnant with rich Ores, which like a good teeming Mother, often discloses their glittering Surfaces at Day.

We ought not to regard *Britain* as an Island only abounding with the Necessaries and Conveniencies of Life, but as a trading Island, as an Island that owes all its Wealth and Grandeur to an extensive Commerce, which if ever we lose, must be either through Ignorance or Indolence; and the Day we lose it, we may behold a superiour Fleet riding in our Channel, menacing our Shores on every side, and the trembling Inhabitants with their Wives and Children flying to the inward Parts. If this Prospect is so terrible, let it animate us with Courage and Resolution to oppose the Beginning of so great an Evil, let us chearfully concur in carrying on this national Fishery, and embrace it

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it as the only Means of protecting us against these terrible Consequences.

Yet we cannot expect that such an Undertaking will have its desired Effect till we take the same Methods practised by our Neighbours. The *French* in particular shew distinguishing Marks of Kindness, and bestow large Rewards upon the Makers of new Discoveries, or Promoters of the publick Good. Honours and Rewards conferred on Men of Merit, awaken Industry, and rouze Mankind from their former Laziness and Lethargy.

The late Monsieur *Colbert* Minister to *Lewis XIVth* gave Yearly 40000 Crowns to be distributed among those that excell'd in any Art or Science, and used to tell those that were intimate with him, and upon whose Intelligence he rely'd in these Particulars, that if there was a Man of Merit in the Kingdom under bad Circumstances it would be charged upon their Consciences. Those Expences never hurt a State, and a Minister that loves his Prince cannot serve him better, than by procuring him so lasting a Glory at so small an Expence.

It was this Minister, who by Care and good Management, founded their Fisheries, improved their Colonies, and enabled his Master to maintain an Army of 300,000 Men in the Field, and withstand, unassisted by Allies, the whole Force of the Maritime Powers by Sea.

In many Trades it is very difficult to distinguish the Profitable from the Disadvantageous; but this of the Fishery is an inexhaustible Mine, a Mine which every Year is as full, if not fuller of Treasure than it was the Year preceding; Gold and Silver Mines are attended with a far greater Expence, and the more they are wrought, the sooner they are exhausted; but this golden Mine, (for so I shall call it) is liable to no such Accidents; its Expences will yearly diminish after the First, its Treasures will never be exhausted, and while we have a Being, a craving Appetite must be satisfied.

Other Commodities People may dispense with, but Meat they must have, though purchased at ever so exorbitant a Price. The Day will come, I hope, that the Papists of *Europe* will be greater Tributaries to us than to the Church of *Rome*, unless the Pope should take it in his Head to indulge his Flock with another Diet than Fish

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to fast on: For it is to this Trade, I dare venture to affirm, that the *Dutch* owe the chief of their Wealth and Grandeur too.

Nor will it seem extraordinary, if we consider the vast Number of People it gives Employment to; such as Seamen, Fishermen, Ship and House-Carpenters, Smiths, Sawyers, Coopers, Caulkers, Butchers, Bakers, Brewers, Carmen, Boatmen, Sail-makers, Net-makers, Block-makers, Trinel-makers, Rope-makers, Pump-makers, Compass-makers, Basket-makers, Hook-makers, Packers, Dressers, Sorters, Labourers, Tanners, and Spinners of Nets and Sails.

Several of which Trades may be effected by Children, the Lame, and the Aged, as well as by those who have hitherto been always the first in taking up Arms against our lawful Sovereign. Nor can I, who have had frequent Opportunities of dealing and conversing with them, believe, that their assisting in all Rebellions, is so much owing to Inclination as the want of Employment, and Ignorance, in not knowing the Laws, Language and Customs of the South Parts, many of them believing that their Island, and a Part of the Main Land (as they call it) opposite to them, is almost the whole World. Wherefore if Trade was once carry'd amongst them, they would be more ready to receive it than they were to assist the Pretender to his Majesty's Crown and Kingdoms. They are not a People averse to Arts, nor do they want Understanding for the comprehending of any Science; yet it may be said of them as of the richest Fields, that if they are well cultivated, they'll produce the finest Crops, but if not, the worst of Thistles and the most hurtful Thorns.

Arts and Sciences are the surest Ways of civilizing Countries, the Method the *Romans* always did, and now the *French* pursue; no sooner had the former resolved on a Conquest, but they sent their Language and their Arts before them, that while the People were learning the one, and tasting the Sweets of the other, the Yoke might be easily imposed.

We have at different Times, 'tis true, endeavoured to recover the Fishery; but whether this national Loss has been owing to any wilful or inadvertent Neglect, that we have never succeeded in it, I will not pretend to determine:

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termine: However, if we consider the Difference of the Interest of Money between us and the *Dutch*, we will find, I believe, that it has been in a great measure owing to that; for I take it that no Man will venture his Money in a Trade by which he can get but 5 *per Cent.* while at the same time he can get that for his Money sleeping.

King *Charles* the first began it in Conjunction with a Company of Merchants, but the Civil war was the Occasion of its being dropt; and King *Charles* the second made the like Attempt, but being pressed for Money, withdrew his Share, and the Merchants being dissatisfied at it, did the same; from whence 'tis obvious, that it was neither the Want of Fish, nor Markets to vend them in, that was the Occasion of setting this valuable Trade aside, but to the great Interest of Money, and the unhappy Situation of Affairs, that always intervened whenever it was attempted.

That the *Scots* have not encreased in Trade and Wealth in Proportion with the *English*, has been, I believe, chiefly owing to the Landlords not letting Leases to their Tenants, but holding their Lands by Vassalage, that is upon Condition of performing such and such Services, one furnishing him with Stones for building or other Uses, a Second with Coals, a Third with Grain, a Fourth with black Cattle and Sheep, and a Fifth with Poultry, &c. Thus a *Scots* Laird, I may say, lived independant of the whole World but his own Tenants; and when his Power or Authority was questioned by others, his Vassals were obliged to defend it at the Risk of their Lives.

Besides, it is a prevailing Custom to this Day in that Country, for Gentlemen of Fortune to leave their whole Estate to their eldest Son (who are generally the least deserving) and so small a Provision for younger Children, that they must either almost starve at home, or go abroad as Soldiers; and all this for to feed the Pride and Vanity of the First-born, who is frequently tempted by the Largeness of his Estate, to spend it abroad, to the Ruin of the Family he was to preserve, and the Loss of the Kingdom.

How absurd is this Custom? Is not the Last-born as much related to the Parent as the first? and as to the Pride of Names and Families, they are only to be found in poor Countries, and among People of low Fortunes, they endeavouring

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deavouring to supply the Want of Merit in themselves by boasting of the Greatness of their Ancestors.

Few Men remember the Time that his walking the Streets was so dangerous as at present. How frequent are Robberies committed, not only in the Night, but in the Middle of the Day, and in public Streets; and whoever will give them selves the Trouble to enquire who the Perpetrators of so much Mischief are, will soon find that they are chiefly those whom the late Peace has rendered useles to their Country in their former Capacity. But should this glorious Undertaking be set on foot, then we shall see those who are now a Pest to human Society, become useful and industrious Members of it. Besides the great Numbers that have already left their Country, and gone into foreign Service for want of Employment here, will be induced to return, when they find Encouragement at home; by which Method we'll be enabled to preserve many Sailors who have been in the late Wars, as well as to train up others, who upon any Emergency can be taken from the Fishery, for Defence of their Country.

I should think the frequent Difficulties we meet with in manning a Fleet on any sudden Occasion, would be sufficient to persuade us to try some other Expedient for doing of it, instead of impressing a Parcel of lazy Tatterdemallion Vagabonds to eat the Nations Victuals in Harbours; for when they come to be tossed and rolled about at Sea, are as sick as Dogs, and more fit for an Hospital than a Ship of War: Nor is this the only Inconveniency, but they often infect the able Hands; and if we meet an Enemy, which we are as liable to do an Hour after out of Port, as afterwards, then the Ship seldom fails of being given up for want of able Hands to defend her.

Further, every Officer in the Navy ought to be convinced, that on board one good Hand is better than two bad ones, they only serving to confuse and intimidate the others.

Numbers in the Field are indeed an Advantage, where, if they can only fire a Musket and keep their Ground, is all that is desired; but on board a Sailor must sometimes be aloft, and then almost at the same Instant on Deck again, running out of Cannon, which requires both Strength and Activity, to both which the Occupation of Fishers greatly contributes.

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THE  
FISHERIES REVIVED:  
OR  
BRITAIN'S hidden Treasure  
Discovered.

I SHALL now begin to lay down the properest Methods for the carrying on the much wished for *British* Fishery, and not wholly relying upon my own Judgment, shall communicate the Intelligence received from such as are well acquainted in those Parts. Nor shall I trouble the Public with making an Estimate of the particular Value of this Trade to the Nation, as so many have done it already; only I must say, that however incredible the Estimates made may appear to some who cannot comprehend the Advantages that may accrue from it, yet to myself, who have spent a good deal of Time and Trouble in considering of them, it appears reasonable to think that they are represented far below their real Value.

I have perused most of the Pamphlets published relating to this intended Scheme, and find them all agreeing, that it should be carried on by a joint Stock, and a Company erected for the Direction of it, consisting of a Governor, Deputy Governor, Directors, Secretary, Clerks, Store-keepers, Cash-keepers, &c. all which Places must be paid out of the Profits of the Trade; for I

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find few instances now amongst Mankind of their serving their Country without a Pecuniary Reward. Should I differ in Opinion (as to the Manner of carrying it on) from those who have already favoured the Public with their Thoughts upon that Subject, I hope I may be excused, when I put them in Mind of the many Losses we have sustained, by having some Trades carried on already by Companies. It was but two Years ago since we were for breaking the *African* Company, and but the last Sessions of Parliament, that ninety nine hundredths of the Nation were for breaking the Charter of the *Hudsons Bay*, and shall we, the very next Sessions, have a new Charter granted to another Company for the same Purposes.

How destructive have Companies already been to this Nation, I should think, the bare mentioning of the very Word, especially when the Appellation of *Charitable, York-Building, South-Sea, African, &c.* is annexed to it, would be sufficient to deter us from erecting another upon the same Principle. It is indeed said, that any Subject may follow it under his own Management, providing he subjects himself to the Laws and Regulations prescribed by the Company, and pay them a certain Sum towards the Charges of their Settlements, Management, &c. two Things which perhaps they may never reap any Benefit from.

But his Majesty and the Legislature, I am convinced, have more Knowledge than to put it in the Power of one Man, or Set of Men to tyrannize over the rest of their Fellow Creatures, thus to deprive us of the Fruits of our Industry, and make us worth nothing to Day, who Yesterday had handsome Incomes. Should this be allowed, we might be as well be under a *Turkish* Bashaw; all Tyrants are alike.

Numberless are the Inconveniences that will arise from its being carried on by this Method. Can we pretend to hinder People from carrying it on, in the Manner they do at present? Will not the making them pay Money to the Company be as great a Hardship as that which we are endeavouring to remove? Is it not the Poor we are endeavouring to encourage? And how far this Method tends to it I leave the Public to judge, since it must inevitably make their Case even worse than that of Foreigners, who pay and will  
Pay

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pay us nothing. I hope we cannot have already forgot the many Inconveniencies that accrued to private Traders in frequenting the Coasts of *Africa*, while the Company had the Jurisdiction of it. The Trade they carried on, when in their best Condition, was never to be compared to what it is at present, by those whom that bankrupt Company stigmatise with the Title of Interlopers.

Indeed, if any Man makes a new Discovery, either in Art or Nature, or produces a good Scheme that will be beneficial to the Public, on being put in Execution, then the Government ought to reward him, and encourage the Scheme made public for the Nation's Benefit. If Sir *Nicholas Crisp*, who was the first Discoverer of the *African* Trade had been rewarded by the Government, and they had built Forts for the Security of it, the very Duties upon the Wealth accruing from the Goods brought into the Nation, would have amply paid for the defending it against the Encroachments of other Countries.

The *Dutch* have no Company but their *India* one, and that is almost universal; Why therefore cannot we establish our Fishery without one as well as they? The Profits upon *India* Commodities can, indeed, afford to pay Governors, Directors, &c. But how Herrings will be enabled to do it (especially when we have got so frugal and industrious a Nation as the *Dutch* to oppose us) I am at a Loss to imagine. But if no other Method is to be embraced; but that of doing it by a Company and joint Stock, then let it be after the same Model as that of the *Dutch India* Company, with this Difference, that no Governor be paid above the Sum of 80 *l.* and no Director above 50 *l.* And for the Sake of those who do not know the Constitution of it, I shall here insert what I have been credibly informed of by a Gentleman of Veracity, and concerned in that Company's Affairs.

The Company, tho' composed of sixty Shares, is however, divided into six Chambers, and I may say, is but one Body in the Main.

1st. The Chamber of *Amsterdam* is possessed of one half Share.

2d. That of *Middleburgh* of one fourth.

3d. The Chambers of *Rotterdam, Enchueysen, Horn* and *Delft*, the other fourth among them.

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The Chamber of *Amsterdam* has twenty four Directors, twenty of whom are Citizens, Magistrates, &c. and each of them has a Pension of 3000 Guilders. The other four are Merchants, and are nominated by the Towns of *Utrecht*, *Dort*, *Turgon*, and *Leyden*, and has a Pension of 1200 Guilders. These twenty four regulate almost all Sales, and make Purchases for the Company, &c.

The Chamber of *Middleburgh* has thirteen Directors, each of whom has 2500 Guilders, each of these Chambers chuses a certain Number of Directors, who compose the Assembly of 17.

<i>Amsterdam</i> sends	8
<i>Middleburgh</i>	4
The other Chambers	1 each.
<i>North Holland</i> and <i>Middleburgh</i> sends	1 alternately.

The Chamber of *Amsterdam* having eight Votes, wants only one (which she always gets) to have a Majority of the seventeen, by which they carry any Thing they please.

The Assembly, or Court of seventeen is held twice or thrice a Year, generally at *Amsterdam*, and sometimes at *Middleburgh*; a Majority of Votes in this Assembly decide all Affairs relative to the Sale of Goods, Dividends, &c.

The *Dutch* have taken particular Care for the Preservation of the Herring Fishery; the many Regulations for that Purpose are amazing, and their secret Orders and Placarts almost innumerable; in short, they omit no Method of keeping up the Reputation and Value of that Commodity; taking great Care that the Salt be extremely good, and the Fish sweet and not bruised; nor do they ever issue a Proclamation, in which Mention is not made of the Fishery, as the following will shew; nor need we be surprized at it, since for that Commodity, they return the Goods of almost every Country in the World, and Money besides. It is this that makes *Holland* a Magazine for all the Commodities of different Nations: For besides the Money they return for our Herrings from *Spain*, *Italy*, *France* and *Portugal*, they return great Quantities of Silks, Velvets, Wines, Oils, Raisins, Prunes, Currans,

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Currans, Lemons, Grocery Wares, &c. which together with their *India* Goods enables them to send a compleat Assortment to the Ports in the East, almost as cheap as they can buy them in Quantities, in the Places of Growth; for the Trade to those Countries is like that between a Country Shopkeeper and his Correspondent in *London*, they having no Use for any Commodities but what are consumed among themselves, there never returning any Goods that once passes *Elzineur*.

Let us imitate so virtuous an Example, and embrace every frugal Method of setting this glorious Undertaking on Foot, else our Endeavours will be in vain. If ever we would desire to appear great in the Eyes of neighbouring Nations, we must begin with our Labours, as well as with our Arms; we must rouse from our Lethargy and pant after Improvements; and till we resolve to do this, it will be in vain to conquer; our Ardour will cool with our Wars, and our Victories will be resigned to others: The Arts of Peace and Industry should advance Step by Step with the Success of our Arms and the Works of our Countrymen; our Fishers and our Miners should keep pace with our Conquests, or Seas may be dy'd with Blood spilt in vain.

I am sensible that every Body knows, that even the Servants of Companies are chargeable, and that they wont take the Trouble, not even the Directors themselves, of serving the Public in the same frugal Manner, they would themselves; nor is it to be expected—Whereas private Adventurers will go the nighest Way to work, or push it with all imaginable Vigour, will take Care what Masters they employ, and what Men the Masters employ, will make Warehouses in their own Apartments, can treat about Freight perhaps at the same Time they are regaling themselves in the Tavern; will take Care that Boys are not charg'd as Men to them; and will make their Masters splice a Cable, or make a Shift with one that would be perhaps condemned were they in a Company's Service.

I shall mention two of the most flagrant Iniquities ever I met with, and which I cite from a Book published in the Year 1716, called *Thoughts on Trade and Publick Spirit*, by one *Baston*. (Says he) 'There was a Store-keeper

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Keeper at *Portsmouth* some Time ago, who mentions and proves the following Particulars, viz.

A Parcel of Hemp and Stores was cast as unserviceable, so of Course was expos'd to Sale, where every Thing being ordered according to Art, the Things were bought by some of their own Tools for about 100 *l.* and in a few Weeks Time the same Goods were sold to the King for above 3000 *l.*" Another Instance the same Author mentions, viz. "That a certain Person having undertaken to repair a Dock at *Portsmouth*, an Officer of the Navy, whose Business it was to make Contracts, told him that all Men must live by their Places. Upon which the Person gave him 500 Guineas, which he thought pretty well; but in a Fortnight after he wanted 300 more; upon which the Undertaker told him, that he could not afford any more for his Good-Will, as the Contract would not bear it: Upon which the Officer told him he could make it, and ordered him to put a greater Price upon the Materials. The Undertaker started at that, saying he had put a large Price already, and if he should put a greater, it would be too barefaced; for another would offer to do it at half the Price, (which was then usual when sold to private Persons:) In short, the Officer told him, that he was not to trouble his Head with that; for he and two others whom he named ruled the Board, and nothing was ever questioned which they did. However, the Undertaker would not give any more, and the Officer told him he should repent it; but nevertheless he went to Work, and was made so uneasy by their not paying him, according to his Contract, and suing him for not performing Articles, that finding they were design'd to ruin him, he justly discovered the whole Affair, and proved the Villany."

If I have dwelt longer on the Frauds of Companies than my Readers may perhaps think necessary, I hope I may be excus'd; as it is a Point of so much Consequence, nay a Point or chief corner Stone, I may say, upon which the whole Superstructure depends: And had we not persisted so long in the same erroneous Methods, we would undoubtedly have been possessed of it long ago; for if I am not mistaken, in all the Attempts we have hitherto made to carry on this valuable

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valuable Trade, it has always been done by Companies, and which is the very Reason we have never succeeded.

Strange it is, what an infatuated Nation must we be, thus to persist Time after Time, in endeavouring to force that which Nature has denied us, and cannot be attained in this way?

It's true, no Nation under the Sun can bear Disappointments better and more unconcerned than we *Britons*, for without ever changing our Measures we return with as much Courage to the second Attack, as if we had been victorious the First, whereas other Nations remain unactive, avoiding to come to Battle, till they find out the Cause of their former Miscarriage; but we Head-strong People, will rather eternally pursue those unsuccessful Paths than own our Error.

Such an undoubted Right have we to the Sovereignty of those Seas, that I think it is quite needless to enlarge upon that Subject; only, he who doubts it may give a cursory View to *Mare Clausum*, or in Short any other Book upon the Subject, where they'll be convinced of our Right, unless they expect the evident Demonstration of feeling like the doubting Apostle.

But to return to the Matter in Hand, I say that if ever a Law shall pass to empower any Man, or sett of Men, or by whatever other Denomination they may assume or be so stiled, thus to make their fellow Creatures pay Tribute for whatever Fish they shall catch, then I expect in a little Time after to see a second Company erected for engrossing of all the Sun-shine, and perhaps after that a third, for that of all the Rain which Heaven bestows upon all Countries, and upon all People, the just and unjust alike.

If the beforementioned Trade to *Africa* which brought us Gold, Ivory, Gums, and the human Specie (the most valuable of all Purchases, and without which our Plantations would be of no value) for Beads, Bugles, Toys, &c. had been carry'd on by private Adventurers at First, we might still have been the only Traders in *Europe* there; but instead of that a Company was erected, which indeed for a little time had so great a Reputation that a hundred Pound Share rose to four Hundred and eighty, and then was the Time to sell Shares, by which the Managers

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made Estates, and afterwards by Neglect, ill Management and Avarice the 480 l. Shares fell to 40 Shillings, to the great Ruin of many Families.

Besides, Companies Affairs naturally introduce Stock-jobbing, which when once got fairly into the Hands of those Pick-Pockets, then adieu to the Trade and the Capital too, for there will be no Occasion for Money to buy Cargoes, and to fit out Ships for remote Parts, when we can only send it a cruising in *Exchange Alley*, where Prizes enough are to be met with in the Possession of Fools, who will be ready enough to deliver without any Resistance.

I am perswaded the Nation is entirely satisfied that the carrying on this Trade by a Joint-Stock and a Company, will be so far from being attended with advantageous Consequences to the Kingdom, that many Disadvantages will rather accrue therefrom, besides I may say the putting it out of our Power of ever attempting it again, for as Mr. *Lock* intimates, "that if ever a Trade is lost by a mistimed Care, it will not be easy to retrieve it again, for the Currents of Trade, like those of Waters, make themselves Channels, out of which they are as hard to be diverted, as Rivers, that have worn themselves deep within their Banks."

*The following Particulars are taken from the Journal of a Gentleman who went upon a Survey of the Orkney, Zetland and the Western Islands last Summer.*

HE left *Gravesend* on the 24th of June 1749, and touched at *Leith*, where contrary Winds detained him about twelve Days, during which he found that the thoughts of having that inestimable Trade the Fishery revived, had diffused an universal Joy amongst all Ranks of People, and in none more conspicuous than among the Merchants of *Glasgow* and *Edinburgh*, who are by far the most considerable Traders of that Part of *Great Britain*.

On the 13th of July he left *Leith*, and on the 16th anchored in *Brassa Sound*, where presented fixty Sail of Busses, fishing and as busy as Bees in a Hive; nor indeed is it to be wonder'd at, as the Quantities of Herrings they take are so great that they are frequently oblig'd to throw into the Sea at Night what they can't cure in the Day. As this is the most contiguous Harbour to their Summer Fishing, here they are supplied with Water, and some other

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other Necessaries, &c. It is here likewise that their Guard or Hospital-Ships are station'd, or rather rendezvous, as they are continually employ'd between that and the Fleet in carrying recover'd Men and bringing back sick.

After informing the Inhabitants of his Design, he was very desirous of having an Interview with some of the Masters of the Busses, in order that he might learn if there was any Thing mysterious (as he had heard some represent) in curing of Herrings, which he had no sooner heard (as the Sequel will inform you) but he found that it just tallied with what he had both heard and known before; so this suppos'd Mystry he hopes will soon vanish like the other trifling Objections, that have been started by those whom he can call nothing else than Enemies to their Country, believing, he supposes, that if this glorious Undertaking should take place, the slavish Dependance of those People upon their Superiors will be entirely obliterated as Trade encreases amongst them, they knowing that nothing more can tend towards keeping up an absolute Dependance upon them than Poverty, which of consequence naturally inclines them for changing their Constitution, and so ready to join in all Rebellions; for it's an establish'd Maxim, that when Men are oppress'd with Poverty, they will embrace every Opportunity of taking up Arms, and turning them even against their Benefactors.

I hope I may be pardon'd for this Digression, and to return to my Subject; he made them some Presents in Expectation of gaining their Esteem, which answer'd his Expectation, for they not only inform'd him of the Methods of performing every Branch of the Fishery, but even promis'd to assist him in every thing relating thereto, even if it were to leave their Country, and their *Habitations*, and come and settle amongst us, provided they were assur'd of the same Protection, Assistance, and Privileges, of our own Natives.

The Number of Busses usually employ'd in this Trade yearly are very uncertain, being sometimes more and sometimes less, but by the best Information he could get this Season, they did not amount to more than 400, the smallest Number ever they sent; nor is it owing to a Scarcity of Fish, or the Want of Demands in foreign Markets for them, but to their own intestine Troubles,

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and the extraordinary advance Duty laid by the *French* upon Herrings, that it is almost equal to a Prohibition, they being design'd to carry on that Trade themselves, and indeed every other, if it can but add one Sailor to their Marine, or a Livre to their Wealth: However, last Season seems to be among the first that they have attempted it in deep Water, for, from the Port of *Dunkirk* only, they have had twelve Sail of Busses in *Brassa* Sound, and their Masters being Commanders of Privateers in the late War, strike such a Damp upon the Inhabitants, believing that their Country, and their All, will be made a Sacrifice to those People, who under an Appearance of Friendship at present, come rather they think to know their Weakness. So that upon the Approach of a future Rupture, we may expect to see those Islanders abandoning their Country, and coming to more inward Parts; if some proper Methods are not taken to render their Scheme ineffectual by carrying on that Trade ourselves.

The *Swedes* likewise taking the Advantage of our Indolence, have erected a Company, whose Capital is 300000 Dollars, and had last Year 2 Busses in *Zetland*, which they bought of the *Dutch* as Patterns, and meeting with Success, they expect to have 20 Sail next Season.

#### *A Description of the Herring Fishery.*

THE Busses the *Dutch* use in this Trade, sail from the following Places, viz. *Rotterdam, Delft, Schiedam, Maeslandshies, Enchuesen, Vlarding, Brill* and *Dort*; they are fitted out by Subscription; the meanest Person in *Holland* being at Liberty to be concerned in one, two or more as they please; and at the End of the Season, the Profits are divided to each according to their respective Shares. The Expence of one ready for the Sea, costs about 10,000 Guilders\*, carrying eleven able Hands, and three Boys. The Steersman and Intaker of the Netts have twenty Guilders per Month, the other eight, at four Guilders per Week, the three Boys at one half Ditto,

\* A Guilder is about 1 s. 10 d.

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and the Master four, fifteen Stivers the great Last. A Bus of seventy Ton carries thirty five Ton of Salt for the curing of their Fish.

Their Provisions are Bread, Pease, Grout, and three half Anchors of Brandy, one and a half Firkin of Butter, and thirty Pound of Pork for the whole Season, Cheese they find themselves.

The Tear and Wear amounts to about 2000 Guilders per Ann. allowing five Sets of Nets, at 3 l. 6 s. 8 d. each. The Nets are twenty two Fathoms in Length, seven one half in Depth, and contain 1386 Mask by 544, each Mask an Inch and a half in Diameter.

They set their Nets an Hour before sunset, then all Hands except one sleep till Dawn, when they are drawn and the Fish gilpt, which is done by pulling the Guts out with the Finger and Thumb at the Gills, then they put them in Barrels without washing them, taking Care to strew a Layer of Salt at the Bottom of the Cask, and then a Layer of Herrings till the Cask is full, and when the Bus is loaded, if there are no Jagers to take their Herrings, they sail for *Holland*, where they are taken out of the Casks, and repacked in others, pressing them down at four different Times with a Weight or Screw, the last Time heaping the Barrel, they leave the Weight upon them some time, and are afterwards turned out and packed a third Time, laying first a Layer lengthwise and the next crosswise and so on till full, then putting in the Head turns them on their Sides and lutes with Clay a wooden Dish about five Inches diameter to the Bung, then pours in the Pickle, and a Person goes among the Casks striking them with a wooden Mallet frequently upon each End and the Sides to make the Pickle settle and the Oil rise to be scum'd off.

Note, that if they are to be kept long, or sent to the *West-Indies* they are not bung'd till no more Oil rises, and then they are stamped with the Inspector General's Mark, which is Felony to imitate, or send to a foreign Market without.

It is likewise to be observed, that it is more owing to their being discharged from their oileagenous Slime, than to the Goodness of the Salt that Herrings are preserved in good Condition, and which is only to be known by their being of a Silver Colour, the Fish firm, the Bone white, and

and the whole so elastic, that if you bend the Tail towards the Head and let it go, it will resume its former Position; but if they are rusted, that's of a golden Colour, and the Fish and Bone soft and blackish, they are spoiled; the better Herrings are, the more Oil is about them when caught; so that they are the more liable to rust if not thoroughly purged from it.

### A Description of the Cod Fishery.

THE Dutch Fishers for Cod, Ling, and Tusk, are greatly encreased of late, many of them turning their Busses into Doggers, which is a Reason for the Decrease of the former, their Profits upon white Fish are not only greater, but the Demand is so likewise in many northern Countries where Herrings used to be almost every Day's Meat.

Each Dogger has 7000 Fathoms of Cod Lines for the winter Fishing, the Salt used is called Salt upon Salt, being *Spanish* and *French* boiled up with salt Water, taking a Bushel and a quarter to each Barrel of Fish.

The Islanders, for want of Money to buy large Vessels, are obliged to make a Shift with small *Norway* Boats with about four Hands to each (the Cost of one is only about 5 *l.*) which is so great an Inconveniency to them, that in some Places, particularly off *Papa* and *North Merin*, they are obliged to leave their Lines for eight Days, as their small Boats cannot ride when the Sea is in the least agitated by hard gales of Wind, and if it happens to continue any Time they will frequently venture off, lest the Fish should be dead on the Hooks; so that both Men and Boats are frequently lost, by which his Majesty not only loses many useful Subjects, but by this tedious Method, they cannot take the tenth Part of the Fish they would otherwise do had they larger Vessels, which would enable them to go a greater Distance from the Shore, and salt their Fish when taken; as likewise, by their having Fatts in the Hold, they would have nothing to do when they come to Land but to dry them; an Advantage which no other Nation can have, and this is the very Reason that the *Dutch* Fish are all wet-cured. The

The Lines of a four-oar'd Boat, are about 40 in Number, and are about 50 Fathoms long, and their Hooks, which are fixt about 3 Fathoms from each other, are baited with young Collfish or Paltocks, and in large Boats, they set them one Tide, and haul them the next, but in smaller Craft they do as before mentioned.

Their Fish they split at Sea, and reserve the Liver for Oil; on *Saturday* they collect the Week's Fish together, and carry them to their Lairds (they paying their Rents with them) who after washing them, lay them in large Fatts, taking Care to strew a Layer of Salt first, and then a Layer of Fish, till the Fatts are full; and in that Manner let them lie three Days, allowing to every six Quintals or 120 Fish, each Fish weighing about six Pound, one Barrel of *Spanish* Salt, then they lay 3 or 400 in a Heap, and putting them under a Weight or Pressure, let them remain twenty four Hours, then they spread them upon Stones on the Beach in the Day, and heap them again in the Night, till thoroughly dry, and if well cured, will be transparent, but in Place of Stones, they ought to have Spars of Wood, or old Netts strained in the same Manner as for drying of Glew.

It is computed, a four-oar'd Boat will take in one Season, which is about four Months, 1500 Fish, but they seldom continue longer than two Months, having their Lands to mind also.

The Price their Lairds (who are all Merchants) allow their Tenants for their Fish are as follows, *viz.* For a Ling thirty two Inches long three Pence, and all under, at one Penny half Penny, unless they are very small, and then at one Penny. The Cod that is eighteen Inches from Ear to Ear when split open, at one Penny, and under that size they allow two or three for one, and the Tusk, one with another, at one half Penny.

The *Hamburgers* are the only Correspondents those Merchant Lairds have, and they knowing that, give them just what they please for them, and that too in bad Spirits, course Linnen, and a few Knick Knacks, whereas, were they to ship their Goods in their own Bottoms (if they had them) they could not only chuse their Market, but by becoming their own Carriers, would get the Merchant's Profit, and save at least ten or twelve Shillings per Ton, for

for the Coasts abroad, besides the Advantages that would accrue to the Nation, and to themselves from the Number of Sailors, and other Tradesmen, that such an encrease of Shipping would naturally occasion, and which of Consequence must raise the Price of Lands, for where there is Employment, thither will People resort, and where there is an Addition of People, Provisions will not only rise, but more will be required. So that more Lands will be cultivated, barren and cold Grounds inclosed, Woods grubbed up and tilled or turned into Pasture, by which the landed Gentlemen will be among the first that will reap the Benefit of Trade, by the Encrease of their Estates.

The Want of Money to fit out Busses, puts the Herring Fishery out of their Reach, nor have they the most distant Prospect of ever surmounting that Hardship, as their Lairds are very sensible, that the letting them Leases would too soon put them on a Parity with themselves, and of Consequence, no longer dependant upon their Will and Pleasure, which nought but Poverty subjects them to at present.

As the Public, perhaps, may be desirous of being informed of the most proper Places for establishing this valuable Trade, I shall give a short Description of some of the most material, as the whole would take up more Time than perhaps is necessary, and swell this Treatise above the Size of a Pamphlet, therefore beginning with the most Northerly, and coming to the South-West (the Course the before-mentioned Gentleman took) shall end with that of *Arran* in the Firth of *Clyde*.

The Island of *Fetlar* on the N. E. Side of *Zetland*, is about four Miles in Length, and two in Breadth, and the Number of Inhabitants are about 400, and cure yearly about 20000 Fish.

About seven Leagues from the main Island of *Zetland* lies *Fair Isle* between the *Orkneys* and *Zetland*, which tho' but small, contains 140 People who cure 14000 Fish, and supply themselves with Corn, Cattle, &c. the whole Rent of the Island is about 60*l.* It has two good Harbours (but rather a little too open, as the Plan annexed will shew, however might be made good at a small Expence) the one on the E. Side, and the other on the S. W. After sailing thro' the *Dutch Busses* and *Eve Sound* he anchored

chored in *Balta Sound* in the Isle of *Unst*, going in N. N. E. till a Breast of a Point on the larboard Side, then hawled up W. N. W. and had regular Soundings from 9 to 5 Fathom: when N. N. E. from it three Leagues there is an Island that a Ship may run boldly up with till the Harbour opens, which is a Mile long, and about three Quarters over; and which indeed gave him great Satisfaction, as an eighty Gun Ship might lie there as safe as in the *Thames*, being quite Landlocked. It has two Entries, as appear by the Plan annex'd, and so much it is unguarded (as indeed all the other Islands are) that in *February 1741*, a *French Privateer* put in here, and stopt a Leak she had sprung at Sea; she had so many Hands on board, that the *Islanders* could not attempt to seize them, or if they had, they had no Place to confine them in; so that they were obliged to let them go as they came. This Island, which is extremely fertile, is about eight Miles long and four over, contains about 1139 Inhabitants, and besides curing about 18000 Fish, they feed many black Cattle, and tho' their Horses are not above 42 Inches high, yet they are surprizingly strong, fleet and sure-footed, and their Mutton, which is the sweetest he ever eat, is sold for three Farthings *per* Pound, and Butter at two Pence half Penny *per* Pound.

Having staid here as long as his Time would permit, he then departed for the *Orkneys*, and arrived at *Stromness* Harbour in the Island of *Pomonia* the 5th of *August*, a safe and much frequented Harbour by Ships bound to the Westward, as well as by Fishers.—It's a very fruitful Island, of a rich Soil, and produces so great Crops of Corn, that they export great Quantities, besides Beef, salted Mutton, Hams, Salt Geese, Butter, &c. The Inhabitants on this Island, which is the largest, being upwards of 60 Miles long; and what is pretty singular, altho' it is in some Places 14 Miles over, yet there is scarce any Place in the Island above 3 Miles from the Sea—There are likewise several other good Harbours, such as *Ingonefs*, *Dearfound*, *Kirkwall*, &c.

If the Government would but erect a Fort for the Defence of the Harbour of *Ingonefs*, it would be a great Inducement to Merchants either to settle there, or lay up all Kinds of fishing Utensils and naval Stores, which we would get in Return for our Fish in the Summer, and ex-

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port them again with our Fish in the Winter to southern Ports, the Mediterranean, &c.

Besides, the Conveniency of such a Port would enable us to make more and better Oyl from the same Quantity of Fish, than our Neighbours; by which we would cut the *Dutch* and *Hamburgers* out of the Whale-Fishing, and from our near Connection with those Seas, could go sooner, and remain longer there than they.

It was this very Way of trafficking that raised the City of *Bruges* some Centuries ago; they imported the Corn and naval Stores of the *North* in their own Bottoms in the Summer, and sent back the Goods of the *Levant* in Return; and those Ships that brought the Goods of the *Levant*, took in Exchange the *Northern* Commodities from *Bruges*.

In the former is a Bason quite Land-lockt, where a Vessel of 300 Ton may lie without her Anchors upon fine soft Sand, and round this Bason is a fine smooth Beach for drying Fish. This Harbour, by the Remains of 150 Docks, seems to be one of those pitch'd upon in the Reign of *K. Ch. 1st.*—The Island of *Stronza* which is very fertile, and being furrounded with small Islands, makes it form two Harbours in which 6 or 800 Ships may moor along Side of one another. In *Sanda* there is likewise 2 or 3 good Roads. The Islands of *Rousa*, *Egilshaw* and *Wier* form *Wier* Sound, which is very large, and having many Outletts, no Ship can be Wind-bound in it. Besides the Fishings at the above mentioned Places, there are many others, particularly off *Westraw*, *Papa Westraw*, *Copinshaw*, *North Ronaldshaw*, and *North Shoal*; which to give a particular Description of will be needless, as in short there is no want of Fish amongst all the Islands of *Orkney* and *Zetland*, and which not only abounds with good Harbours, but are so fruitful in general, that their Beef, Mutton and Pork, is sold here as well as in *Zetland* at three Farthings a Pound, Butter Two-Pence Half-Penny a Pound, a Goose five Pence, and a Fowl Two-Pence.

On the 23<sup>d</sup> of *August* he departed, with an Intention to stop at the Isle of *Lewis* and *Harris*; but the Weather not favouring him, he bore away for the other Islands, and sailing close in Shore, had the Pleasure of viewing and founding many excellent Harbours on that Coast, particularly in *Argyleshire*, which he would be very glad to see a Resort for Shipping; as it would both civilize the Highlanders, and enable

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enable us to regain our *East* Country Trade. For the Produce of the very Places mention'd, has been the Cause of the *Dutch* getting it into their Hands, and who in one Voyage made a double Return of Profit, to the Prejudice of us *Britons*.

And it is to this Trade only that they are enabled to build Ships cheaper than we, for when they load Fish for the East, they must either take in Ballast (which is attended with Expence) or Wood, Iron, and Hemp, which Articles they can sell as cheap as in the Place of Growth, as they have already saved by them the Expence of Ballast: So that these Naval Stores do not stand them one Shilling per 100 Ton freight, whereas the same Stores cost us (at least) the Expence of half the Voyage out and home, as our outward-bound Freight cannot afford us to return in Ballast or Naval Stores without paying Freight, while we are rival'd by them in every Article we deal in, and by this and other Methods are become the common Carriers of the World, and of consequence Masters of the most certain Profits in Trade; for tho' the Merchants may lose, yet the Nation must be Gainers, by having their Subjects pay'd and employ'd.

First they send our Fish (for I can't help calling them so) to the Ports in the *Baltick*, and there take in Wood, they and the *Danes* being the only Carriers of that Commodity to *Scotland*, and under Colour of it, they bring great Quantities of Tea, China, and other *India* Commodities, which they get at *Gottenberg*; as likewise half of their Cargoes (I may say sometimes in Brandy) having known some Seizures made of that Commodity, and on that Coast, to the Amount of 1500 *l.* nor is there any other Goods more proper for their Purpose than those mentioned: since every Body must be sensible that Cargoes of Timber cannot easily be remov'd at Sea to search for contraband Goods. They call at almost every Port from *Inverness* in their Way to the *Humber*; smuggling themselves and selling to others at Sea, as they come along, or as Opportunity offers.

If we look into the Minutes of the Court of Exchequer in *Scotland*, we will find that almost all the Seizures made in that Kingdom for these thirty Years past, have either come in *Dutch* Vessels, or taken from on board when they were committing the Act. It's impossible to ascertain the Value of this clandestine Importation of, I may

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say, all Kinds of Goods; but this we are sensible of, that every fair Trader complains that they cannot live if they sell their Goods as some others do; the Consequence of which is, they first break others, then perjure themselves and turn Smugglers for their Support. So that was even the carrying on this Trade attended with no other Advantage, but the destroying of that pernicious Practice of Smuggling. we ought to do it, as it not only debauches the Morals of the People, but naturally creates in them an Antipathy to his Majesty's Officers, as well as an Aversion to their paying the just and necessary Taxes for the Support of Government.

Now since I have begun on this Subject, I cannot help declaring it as my Opinion, that if the Superiority of the Isle of *Man* was to be purchased by the Crown, and made subject to the Laws of *Britain*, it would in a great Measure prevent Smuggling in his Majesty's three Kingdoms; for by its being situated at an equal Distance from each of them, it is become a Nest of Smugglers, composed of the Renegades of his Majesty's Subjects; who have defrauded their Creditors, and fled there for Safety. Suppose a Ship bound for either Nation, comes upon the Coast with contraband Goods, and finds some of his Majesty's Ships there, or the Officers ashore, keeping a sharp Look-out; she has no more to do, but to go to *Man*, and wait for a better Opportunity, or sell her Cargo there, which perhaps is smuggled into the three Kingdoms in smaller Vessels before ever she can get to her desired Port in Ballast.

Fond but false Hopes of Gain from this pernicious Trade, have involved thousands into a deplorable State of Wretchedness. I might safely aver that scarce one Man out of a hundred that ever practis'd it, escaped Ruin, if they did not decline it soon; for the Profit accruing from one or two Adventures, only enables them to venture the more the next; and when one unlucky Seizure happens it surely compleats their Destruction, and if they don't get to *France* or *Holland*, (by which we lose many Subjects) they are left a Burthen on the poor Country they have so often contributed to exhaust of its Specie by their wicked Practices.

On his Arrival at the Isle of *Arran*, he met with a very hard Gale of Wind from S. E. However with great Ease got into *Lamlash* Bay, which has two Entrances, the one

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to the S. E. and the other to the N. E. so that the Wind blowing from either of these Points (one of which he felt) can be the only ones that can at all affect the Bay; yet to his great Surprize found that his Vessel rode in 8 Fathom Water, far better than he expected.

The Bay which is formed by two Points of Land jetting out to the *Eastward*, and the Island of *Lamlash* between the two Points, makes it almost a Circle of nine Miles in Circumference, capable of holding 600 Sail of Ships of any Burthen, as the Plan annex'd will shew; good holding Ground, being a strong stiff Clay, having with great Circumspection founded it himself.

The *Bafon A*, as shewn in the Plan, is capable of holding about 25 or 30 Sail of Ships, who by laying a Plank from them to the Edge of the *Bafon*, could liver or load at a small Expence and Trouble; but it happens both to be in a bad Place of the Bay, and in a ruinous Condition. However, as all the Stones are ready for removing, a small Expence (as Labourers work for four Pence per Day) would remove them to another Part of the Bay, and as little I may say, will put them in their proper Order; but none need trouble themselves about removing them, since Nature has placed them almost in every Part of the Island, that they can be as easily rais'd from their virgin State, as taken from their already disturb'd one.

The Stone in the Island in general is of the fine white, free kind, is horizontal, and crops at the Surface; the Flakes are 12, 18 and 30 Inches thick, and so easily come at, that the Crews of some Vessels have put ashore in several Places, rais'd it themselves, and carried it to *Dublin* to sell.

To the N. by E. from *Lamlash* 5 Leagues, lies the Harbour of *Lochranfy*, an exceeding good Harbour by Nature, being Land-lockt, but dry at Low-Water, however might be easily deepen'd; there are a few small Craft which frequent the Harbour at present, but the Bay without is very commodious, having room for 60 or 70 Sail, and Depth enough for second Rates, as you'll perceive by the Plan.

Besides these two mentioned, there are many good Bays for anchoring in, and Creeks in abundance for small Craft, nor is there any Danger in coming or going from this Island, of running upon sunken Rocks, Sands, &c. there not being one of either 20 Yards from the Island, but is every where about it a bold Shore. After



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After having surveyed all the Bays and Ports in the Island, and likewise travelled over great Part of the Land, he could not help reflecting upon the many natural Advantages that this Island, and that of *Bute*, enjoy above all the others he had before mentioned; therefore he craves a little Indulgence from the Publick, for as he cannot without Reluctance pass over a Thing of so great Moment, and which, in his Opinion, may be productive of the best of Consequences to the Nation in general; however, like a good Steward who cannot abuse the Indulgence of his Master, he confines himself as much to Brevity as the Nature of the Thing will admit, without rendring it obscure and unintelligible.

First, the Air is pure and keen, a little colder in Winter and hotter in Summer than the contiguous Islands or main Land, (*Britain* I mean) and its being situated in the Firth of *Clyde*, or Bay of *Aire*, and having so fine and safe a Road for Ships, makes it frequented by all the *Glasgow* Traders bound to the *West-Indies*, *France*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Italy*, the *Mediterranean* and *Baltick*, as likewise of all the *Colliers* belonging to *Salt Coats*, *Irwin*, *Aire*, &c. when Winds are contrary; for out of *Lamlash* Ships can get with any Wind, as it has two Entries, and so wide, that he has seen twenty three Sail tacking and turning out with the Wind at East. So that if there was the Fishery, or any other Trade established there, no Place in the World can ly better both for Importation and Exportation, as Ships can go away with the very Wind that brings them there; an Advantage which no Port in *Britain*, that he knows of, enjoys besides.

Its Soil abundantly repays the Labour of those that cultivate it, and is extremely good for Pasturage; the Mutton, in particular, is extraordinary delicious. The Inhabitants are given to Laziness above Measure, and esteem that Person the greatest who has most Liberty and most Cows. They will bask themselves on the Face of a Hill in the Sun all Day, and go to Bed with a hungry Belly, contented at Night, for want of Employment to earn Money, rather than Inclination, he believes, for says he, I have always found them both ready and willing to go through almost any Fatigue, when they know it would be attended with Profit.

There is Plenty of Fewel here, having both Coals and Peat or Turf; the Coal has these peculiar Qualities, that

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it neither smoaks nor flames, and yet it has a very great Heat, which is very requisite in making of Salt and drying of Malt; for which Purpose a good deal of it has been sent to *Dublin*.

If the Smoak of Peats will make Red-herrings, this must be a very proper Place for that Trade: But is in doubt whether or not the Herrings will not be too good for that Purpose.

In the whole Island, which is twenty four Miles long, and fourteen broad, there is not above fifty Boats, the largest not above fourteen Ton. They go to the Herring Fishery when they come into their very Harbours, and not before; tho' if they were to go a little way from Home, they might, I believe, get them almost as soon as the *Dutch* do off *Zetland*, since it is very certain, that the Shoals divide off the North West Coast, one half coming amongst the Western, and the other going to the *Orkney* and *Zetland* Isles.

The Herrings they take are mostly eat fresh by the Inhabitants, and some are even carried so far as *Edinburgh*, which is above sixty Miles, owing to their being about the Western Islands rather sooner than in the Firth of *Forth* and preferable likewise. As for Cod and Ling they never mind, tho' there is great Plenty upon a Bank which lies between the Island and *Kintyre* opposite to the very Mouth of *Campbelltown* Harbour.

The Soil produces not only several Sorts of Grain, but Flax and Hemp; and for Garden Stuff, he thinks they are more early than on the Mainland. There is likewise great Reason to believe that some of the barren Mountains in it are pregnant with rich Ores of Lead and Copper, having seen some pretty certain Signs, which if so, would, he believes, be as profitable as any Mines in *Europe*, their Situation making the Disadvantages few in Comparison to others in different Parts of the World, he means, little Wages, cheap living, and short Land-carriage.

To the North of *Arran* lies the Isle of *Bute*, not so mountainous as the former, very fertile and well cultivated, producing yearly great Crops of Corn, which they send to the main Land and other Islands, as also great Numbers of black Cattle for their own Use, and the Supply of Shipping.

One Side of this Island and Part of *Kintyre* forms a Place called the *Kyles* of *Bute*, so commodious for Shipping, that

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few

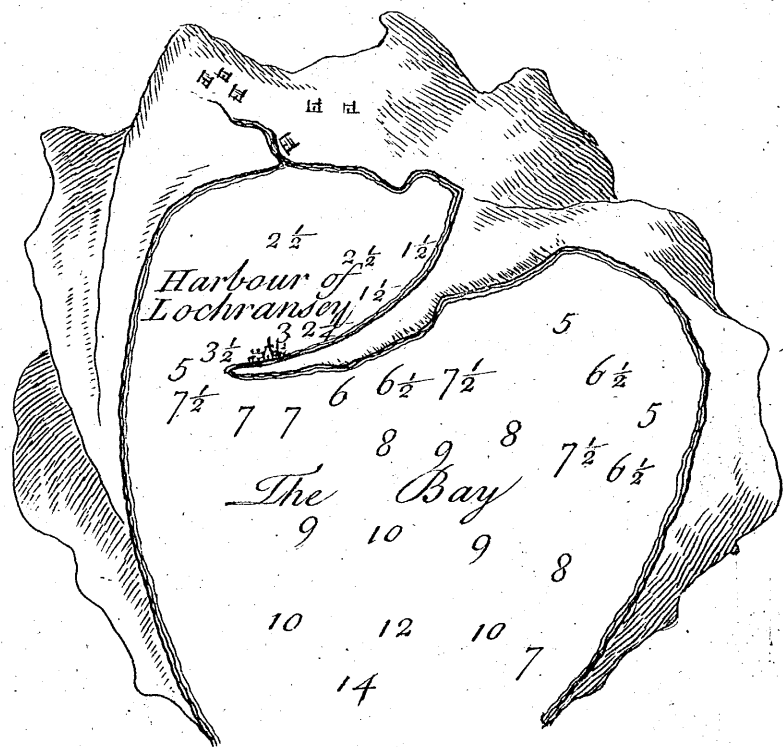
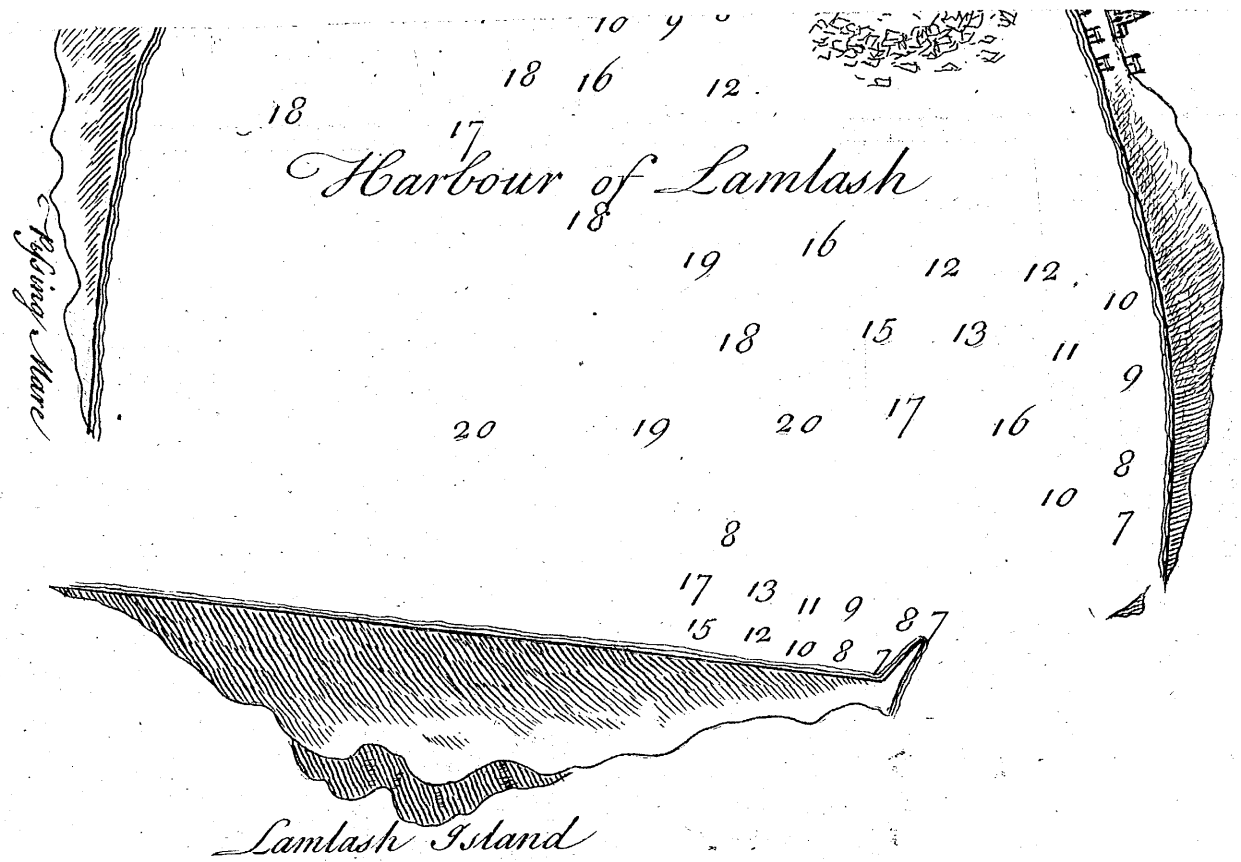
few Ports in the World exceed it. To the S. W. of *Bute* lies the Harbour of *Campbelltown*, cut out of the Mule of *Kintyre* as it were by Art, nor does he think that all the Art of the most judicious Contrivers could even add one more Advantage to it, unless it were the carrying out of a Stone Pier (already begun by his Grace the Duke of *Argyl* and the worthy Inhabitants, tho' not very numerous, of the Place) a little farther, for the Conveniency of Ships livering or loading, as the Plan annexed represents.

The Harbour is capable of holding the whole Navy of *Britain*. So that no Place can be more convenient for the laying up the Buffes in Winter, being as safe there as if moored in the *Meuse* Pond. In the Plan annexed, A. is a stone Pier begun by his Grace the Duke of *Argyl*. B. a Mansion-house of his Grace's. C. a Lowland Church. D. a Highland Church. E. Coal Pits. G. the Road to them. H. the main Street.

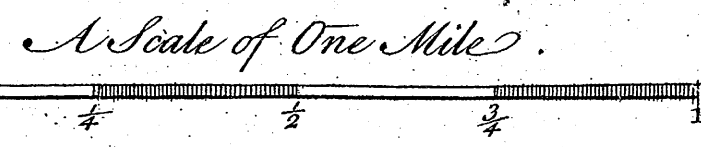
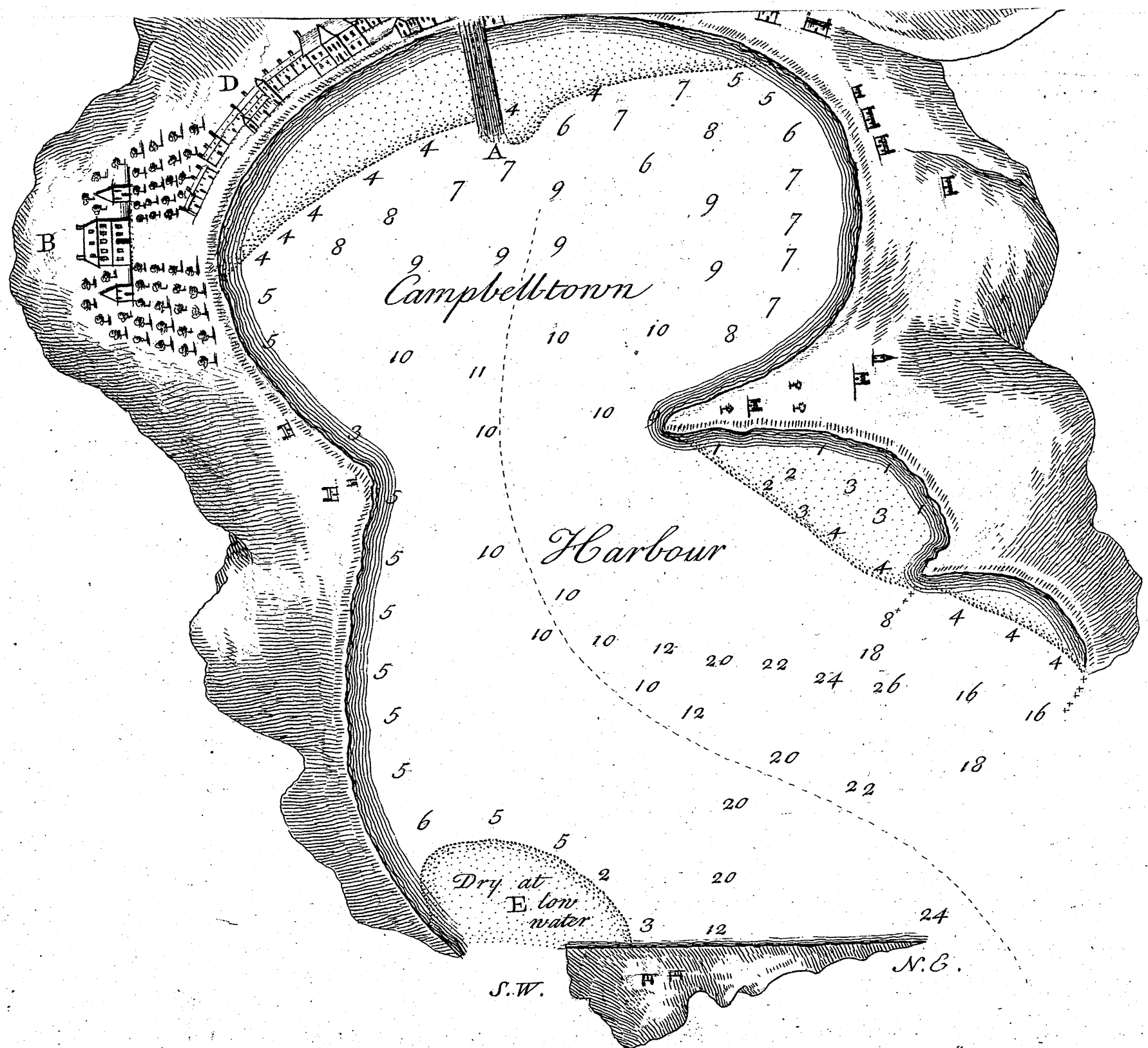
The worthy Inhabitants of this infant Port, and of whom I cannot say enough in their Praise (for animated by the Proprietor of that Town, whose Ancestors have ever been the Patrons of Liberty, Encouragers of Arts, and Promoters of the public Good, &c.) are so ardent in the Pursuit of Industry, and have such a Spirit of Emulation amongst them, that I don't know where their Endeavours will end; one Set has begun to work a Coal to great Advantage; a second settling a Whale-fishing Trade; and a third carrying on the Herring, Cod and Ling Fishery, in which they have made some small Progress, having last Year sent a Quantity to *Lisbon* to great Advantage.

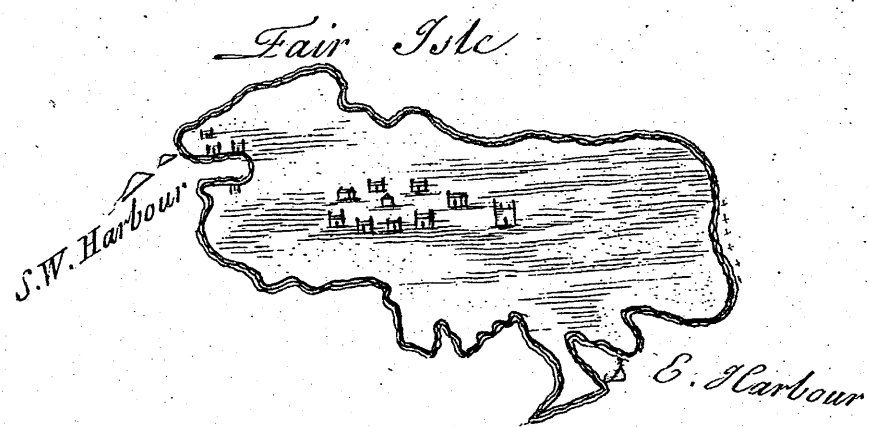
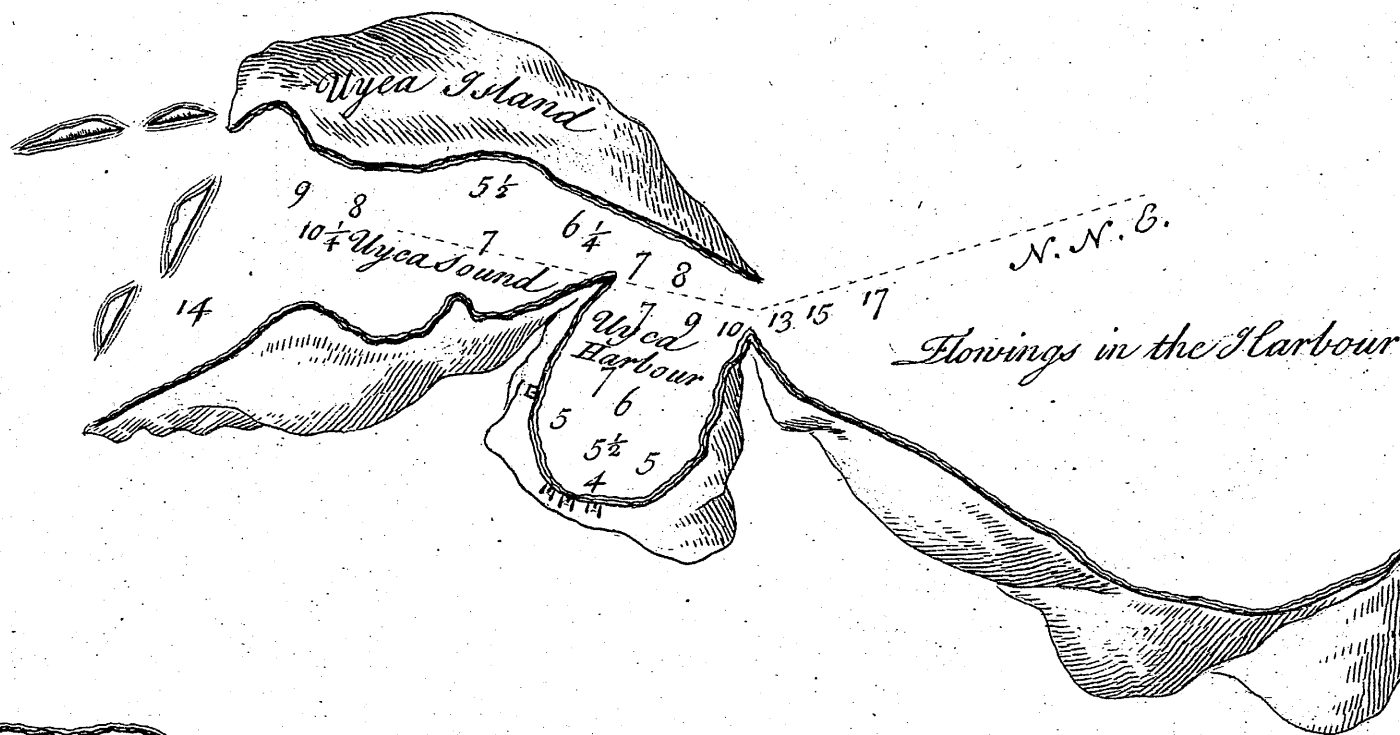
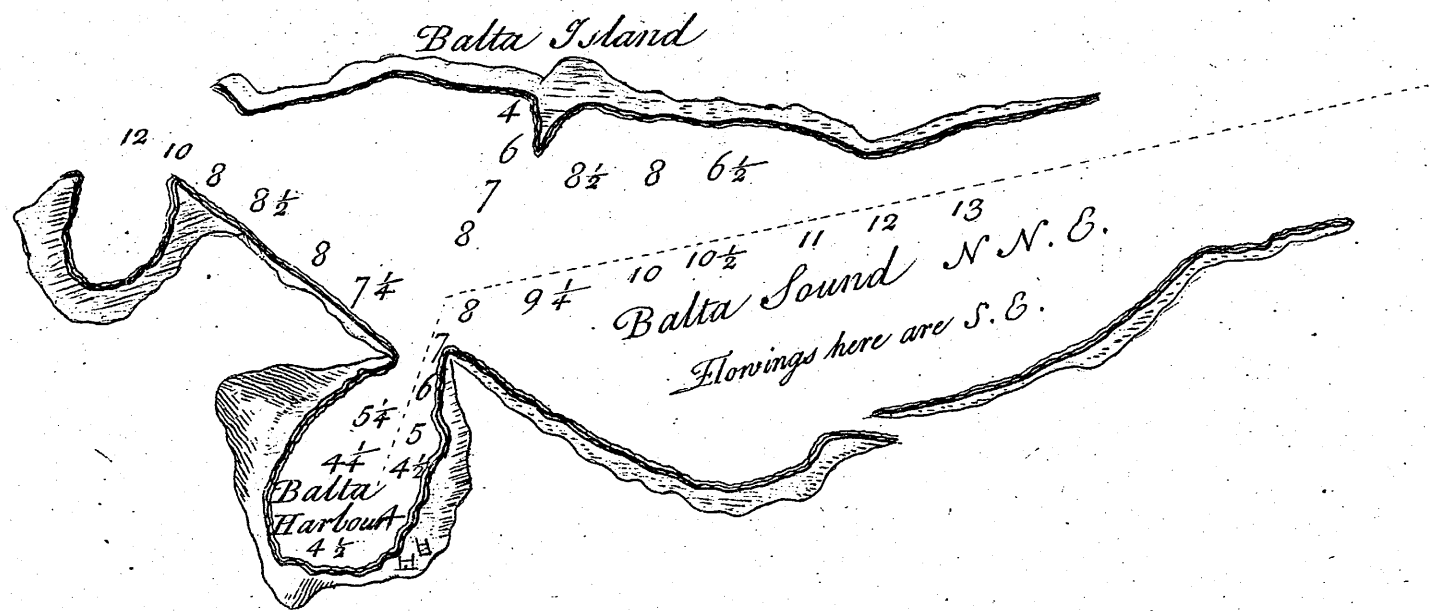
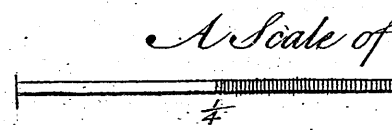
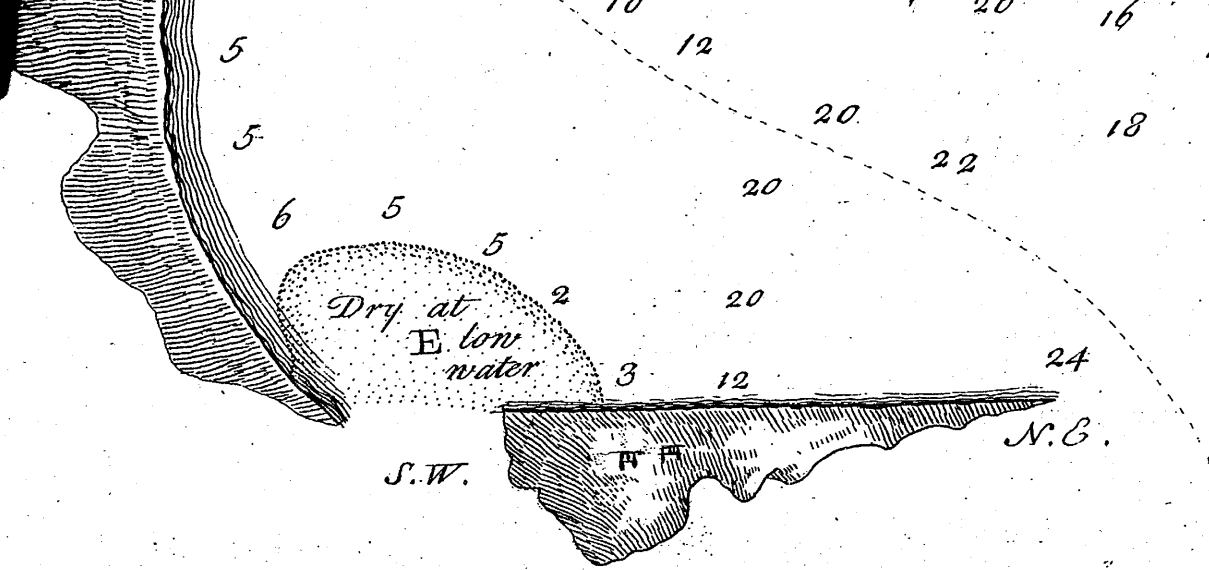
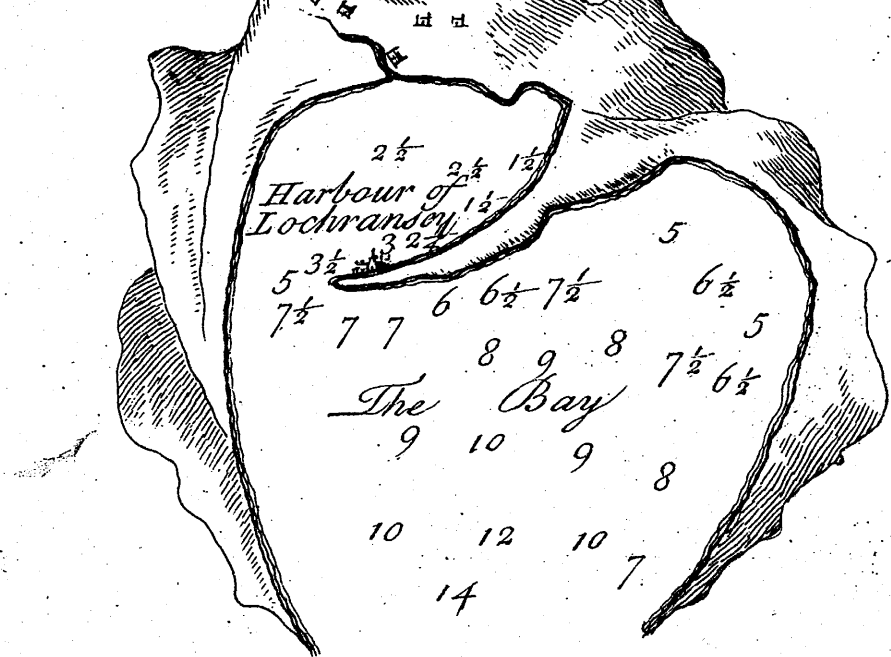
From whence it will appear obvious, that the Situation of those Islands in the Firth of *Clyde*, together with *Argyleshire* in general must have very great Advantages over any other Place (he says in *Great Britain*) in carrying on the Fishery, or any other Commerce. First, their Situation enables them to be at Market soon, for they immediately fall into the *Atlantick* Ocean, and thereby evading the contrary Winds in the *British* and *Irish* Channels, get to the southern Ports of *France*, *Spain*, *Italy* and *Lisbon* in five or six Days with a fair Wind; and as to the *West-India* Trade, they save, at least, a Month of the Voyage out and home of any Port in *Britain* to the Eastward.

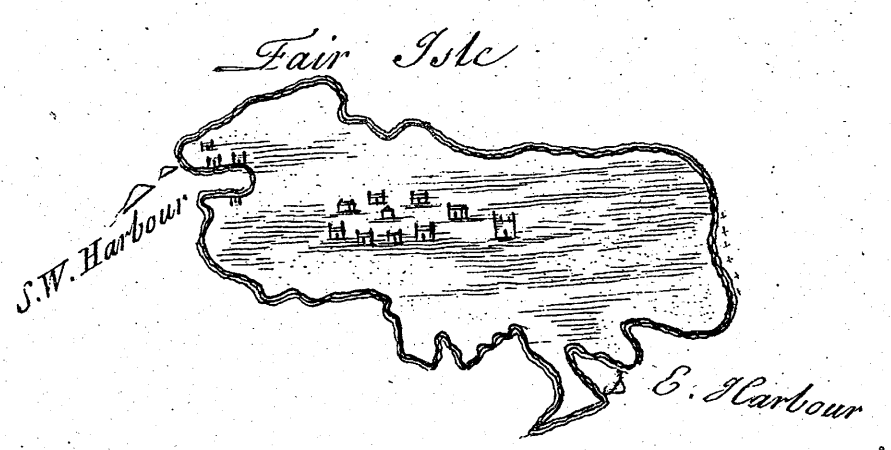
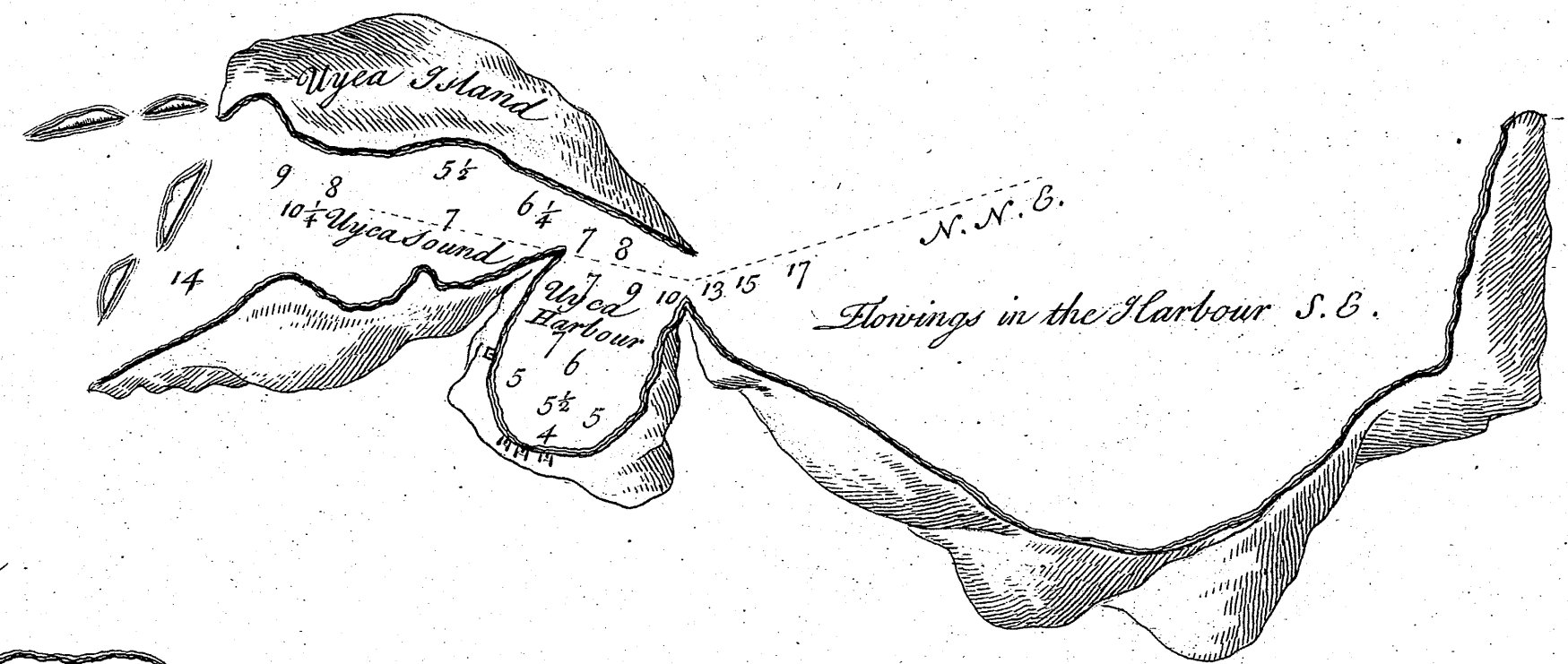
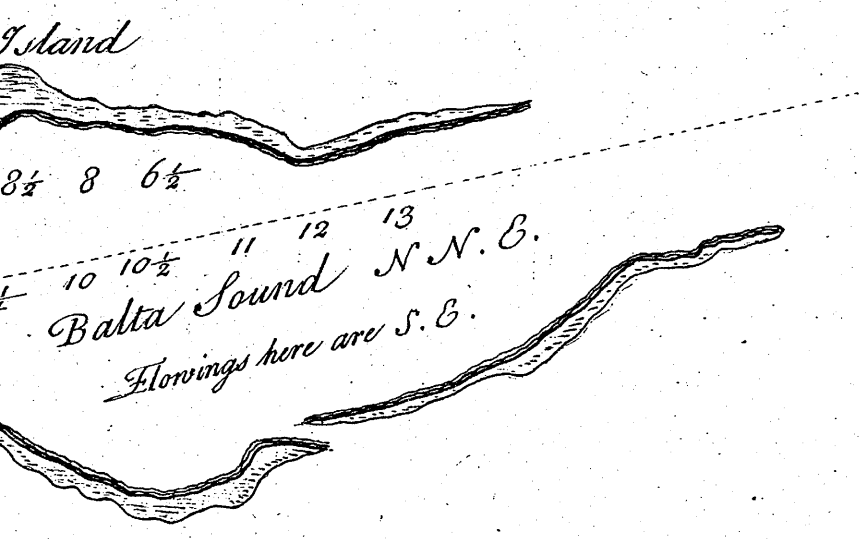
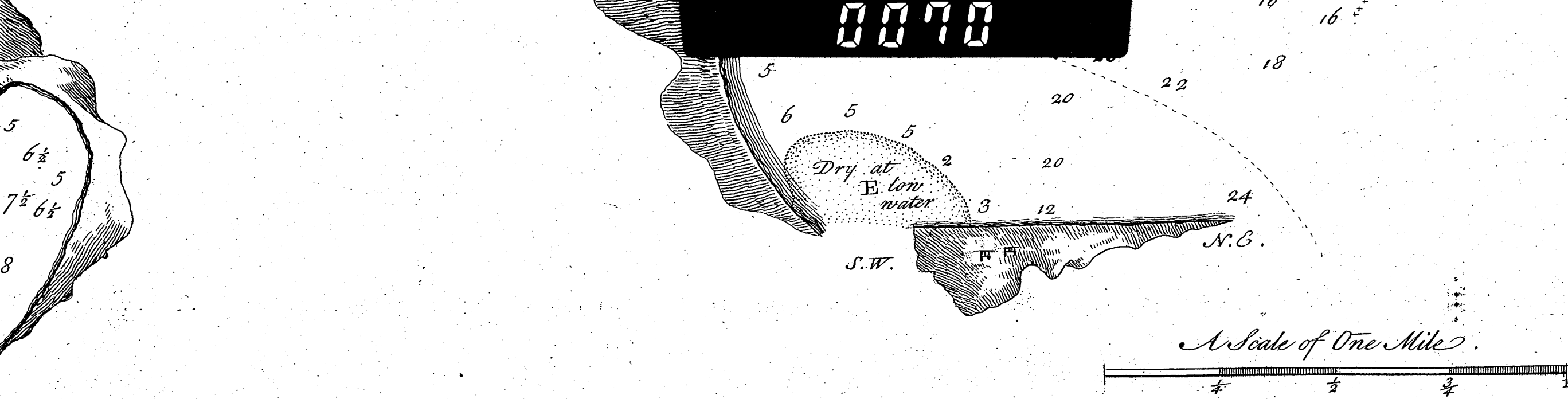
Next comes under Consideration, the Plenty and Cheapness of Living, which, in his Opinion, no Place in *Britain*, that











that I know of, can compare with; for in the Port of *Greenock* (and if any Place in a Country is dearer than another, it is a Sea-port Towns) a common Sailor pays no more for Board, Washing and Lodging, than 2 s. 6 d. or 3 s. per Week, I need not mention the Cheapness of Labour, I presume, as that is always a necessary Consequence that attends an Abundance and Reasonableness of the Necessaries of Life.

I hope no Man is so ignorant, but that he knows, that it is only owing to the Cheapness and Difference of living, that one Nation undersells another in Manufactures, of which neither Nation produces the Materials, or both do, for, by so much as is the Difference of living between the one Nation and the other, just so much will the one be enabled to sell his Goods cheaper, and yet have the same Profit.

Nor can any Country have greater Abundance of Firing (which is a great Advantage in the mechanic Arts) there being beside Coal great Quantities of Turf dispersed every where about, and which, for paying such a Trifle as one Shilling a Year, the Poor may take as much as they please, and is so good when dry, that it is almost like Bricks in Shape and Hardness, is very wholesome Firing as it contains no Sulphur, and rather preferable to Coals for many Uses. There are likewise in many Places, particularly in *Arran* a variety of Rivulets and Cataracts of Water having natural Falls for the turning of Mills or other Offices, where great Forces are requisite in manual Arts.

And for the Satisfaction of those who may perhaps have an Inclination of carrying on the mining Business in those Parts of the Country, I shall mention a few of those which I find in a Treatise of Sir *Alexander Murray*, upon that Subject, and who was himself the first Discoverer of most of them.

1st. The Island of *Mull* has many promising Veins of Lead and Coal.

2dly. The Parish of *Muckarn* in *Lorn*, which is about six Miles square, has many promising Veins of Lead and Copper.

3dly. The Isle of *Jura*, which is about twenty four Miles long and six broad, contains great Quantities of Iron Ore, which *Daniel Campbell* of *Shawfield* and Company, mix with *Lancashire* Ore at an Iron Furnace in *Jura*.

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4thly, The Island of *Ila*, which is 24 Miles long, and 18 broad, has many Veins of Lead and Copper; likewise Abundance of Iron-Ore, as also Quicksilver, has been found there.

5thly, And in his own Estate, in the Barony of *Ardnamurchan*, and Shire of *Argyle*, he discovered above ten promising Veins, all bearing Lead, at *Day*, besides the appearances of Copper; Part of which he lett to the *York-Building Company*, who never shewed either Ability or good Management in the Working of them.

There are many Veins of Lead and Copper in the Countries of *Ardgour*, *Moydart*, *Appin*, and *Lismore*, as likewise in the Earl of *Broadalbin's* and Sir *James Campbell's* Estates; so that the Shire of *Argyle*, which is above 120 Miles in Length, from *Glenelg* to the *Mull of Kyntire*, exclusive of its Islands, is every where cut with bold and promising Veins of Lead, Copper, and Iron Ores.

Having procured the following Extracts from the Records of the Privy Council in *Scotland*, (whose Authority I believe none will question) I shall, for the sake of the Publick, give them a place; that they may see the Value our Ancestors put upon this inestimable Trade.

1614. Upon a Remonstrance made to the King by the Republick of *Bremen*, against Sir *James Stewart* of *Kilsyth*, then Farmer of the Isles of *Orkney* and *Zetland*, as if he had imposed higher Duties than usual, upon the Ships and Goods of the Republick; the Matter being remitted by the King to the Privy Council, their Judgment was thus: "The Lords of Council having heard and considered  
 " all that was proposed and alledged by both the said Parties in this Matter, and understanding that the foresaid  
 " Toll-duty of Six Angels and a Dollar \*, of every Stranger Ship arriving within the said Bounds of *Orkney* and  
 " *Zetland*, has been thankfully and willingly paid, past  
 " Memory of Man, to the Earls of *Orkney* for the Time; and that Count has been made in his Majesty's Exchequer, as being a Part of the proper Rent and Patrimony  
 " of the Earldom of *Orkney* and *Zetland*— Therefore  
 " the said Lords ordain the said Toll and Duty of Six Angels and a Dollar, of every Stranger Ship, arriving

\* The Angel was a Gold Coin equal to the Half-mark, or 6 s. and 8 d. and the Dollar about 4 s. 4 d. or 6 d.

within

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" within the said Bounds, in their lawful Trade, to stand,  
 " and to be paid to his Majesty and his Successors, their  
 " Comptrollers, Chamberlains and Factors, in their  
 " Name, in all Time coming: And touching the Custom  
 " craved from the said Strangers, for the Commodities  
 " of exported and imported by them, forth of the said  
 " Bounds, the said Lords understand, that the said Customs properly belong to his Majesty; and that all Foreign Princes, within their Dominions, have the Freedom and Privileges of Customs as a Royal Prerogative  
 " their own, and that no Person, Stranger or Native  
 " Subjects, can, with Reason, crave an Immunity and  
 " Freedom from Payment of Customs: Therefore the  
 " said Lords ordain the Custom to stand, and to be paid in  
 " all Time coming to his Majesty, his Comptrollers and  
 " Officers; and touching all other Duties, Tolls, and  
 " Impositions craved of the said Strangers, the Lords discharge the same *simpliciter*; discharging the said Sir  
 " *James Stewart* of all asking and uplifting the same."—  
 Privy Council Register, June 30, 1614.

1619. A Commission was appointed to pass the Great Seal of *Scotland*, authorizing Mr. *John Fenton* to repair to the North Seas of his Majesty's Kingdom, and there, in his Majesty's Name, to ask and receive from those of *Holland*, *Zealand*, *Hamburgh*, *Sweden*, and *Rustock*, and from all other Strangers, haunting the Trade of Fishing in his Majesty's said Seas, this present Year, his Majesty's Rent of Affize and Tiend of the hail Fishes, taken or to be taken by them in his Majesty's said Seas and Waters of this present Year; counting his Majesty's Affize-Duty to 10,000 Herrings, for every Bus of Herrings, and a Last of white Fish for every Bus of white Fish, or else to receive from them the Sum of 6 lib. \* 13 s. 4 d. usual Money of this Kingdom, for every Thousand of the said Affize Herrings, and 50 lib. Money of this Kingdom, for every Last of the said Affize white Fish, and accordingly for every Thousand Tiend Herring, and for every Last of the Tiend white Fish.—Privy Council Records, June 29, 1619.

\* A lib. is 1 s. 8 d. Sterling.

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1625.



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1625. September 28. A Letter from the Council to his Majesty, relating to the great Abuses done by the Buffes of the *Low Countries*, in fishing along the hail North and East Coasts of *Scotland*, to the utter Ruin of all the poor Fishers in *Scotland*, and prejudicing of the whole Kingdom of the Benefit of Herring.—From the Privy Council Records, Book 26.

1630. July 30. The which Day Sir *William Alexander*, Knight, his Majesty's Principal Secretary in this Kingdom, exhibited and gave into the States his Majesty's Missive Letter underwritten, together with the Instructions given by his Majesty to the said Sir *William*, to be treated by him with the said Estates, about the Erection of a general Fishing; of which missive Letter and Instructions the Tenor follows.

*Charles R.*

“ Right trusty and well-beloved Cousins and Counsellors, and right trusty and well-beloved Counsellors, we greet you well. Having, with the Advice of our Council here in *England*, maturely considered, that, as well in Thankfulness to Almighty God, as for the Benefit of our loving Subjects, we ought no longer to neglect that great Blessing offered unto us, in the great Abundance of Fish upon the Coasts of our Islands: To the end we may at length enjoy, with more honour, those Rights which properly belong to our Imperial Crown, and are usurped by Strangers, we have considered of a way, which in time, by God's Favour, may produce this good Effect, and also encrease our Navigation and Trade; and because this Work concerns equally our Three Kingdoms, and must therefore be undertaken and ordered by Common Council's Assistance, we have taken this Opportunity of our Convention at *Edinburgh*, to send our Instructions to Sir *Willsam Alexander*, Secretary for *Scotland*, to acquaint you with certain Propositions for the Advancement of this Service; and we require you, both to give him Hearing at large, and freely to treat with him in every Part of his Instructions, and in whatever may be found expedient for the Furtherance of so good and great a Work, concerning both our Honour and the Publick Good; and withal, we expect that  
“ you

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“ you proceed not only to a Resolution upon such Articles as shall be agreed upon, but that you also endeavour to put them in Execution, so as by him we may specially understand how you take it to heart, and how far you concur for the Accomplishment of the Work; wherein you may expect from us such Privileges and Powers as shall be convenient, and as reasonably as you can desire; and also be assured we shall graciously accept your extraordinary Care and Forwardness in a business, which with extraordinary Earnestness we recommend to you. Given at our Palace at *Westminster* the 12th Day of July, 1630. By his Majesty's Command (signed)  
“ *John Coke.*”

*Instructions for Sir William Alexander, our Secretary of State for the Kingdom of Scotland, employed by us to treat with the Lords of our Privy Council there, about the Erection of a General Fishery.*

*First*, You are to signify to the said Lords, and others of our Council in *Scotland*, that having duly considered how great a Blessing God hath given our Kingdoms, in the Abundance of Sea-Fish upon all our Coasts, and how the Benefit thereof is reaped only by Strangers, to the great Disparagement and Prejudice of our loving Subjects; We have now taken a Royal and firm Resolution to set up a common Fishing, to be a Nursery of Seamen, and to encrease the Fishery and Trade of all Ports of our Dominions, and this being a common Benefit to all our Three Kingdoms, so as they cannot be dividedly enjoyed by any.

Our Royal and gracious Pleasure is to have it undertaken and ordered by Common Council and Adventurers; and to that end (among other things, we have sent you to this Meeting of the Lords of our Council at *Edinburgh*, there to make this Intimation, and to represent to them the Propositions which have been offered and approved of here, tending to the Advancement of this great Work, that they may be taken there into the like serious Consideration, and as well to ratify and confirm what they shall agree upon, and advise what other Ways and Means may conduce to the perfecting thereof; And, because a great Stock must be raised

raised by Contribution of Adventurers, who cannot otherwise be drawn into it, but by Hope of great and present Gain, you are to shew to the said Lords the Estimate of the Charge and Profit; which being too long to insert here, and the Profits upon Fish less than they were in those Days, shall only take notice, that the Charges of 100 Vessels were computed at 72,000 *l.* and the Fish taken in one Season, is rather computed at too much, in my Opinion, as they are recorded to come to 100,000 *l.* So that there is 28,000 *l.* got clear in one Season, besides the Vessels.

1632. *August 13.* Instructions were sent by the King to the Earl of *Strathern*, to be communicated to the Council of *Scotland*, that they may give Orders for the removing of all Strangers, repairing to our Isles for Fishing, and others trading there against the Leave of that Kingdom.

1637. The Fishing Business was entered upon, and the Britons claimed an exclusive Right for Fishing in their own Seas; but their intestine Divisions put a stop to the Work, which was but just begun; however, they changed their Right to the whole Fishery, for the Tenth Herring; which yet must have been paid, had not the Free Government of the States of *Holland*, brought their Marine, in the Year 1667, into another State and Condition; and, as an evident Demonstration of the Tenth's being paid by Natives and Foreigners. In the Year 1633, Mr. *Dick*, Merchant in *Edinburgh*, then Farmer of the Isles of *Orkney* and *Zetland*, received from his Sub-Collector at *Stronza*, a small Port of the *Orkneys*, the Sum of 858 *l.*\* as the Tenth-Duty of 32 Dogger-Boats, each paying 27 *l.* except Two, which paid 24 *l.* and, in 1642, he received from the same Port 507 *l.* for 18 Doggar-Boats and two Buffes.

Now it is obvious from the said Receipts given by Mr. *Dick*, that both the Tenths and Excise were levied and paid; but how those Tenths and Excise came to cease being paid by Foreigners and Natives, is the Question.

\* A Pound Scotch is 1 s. 8 d. Sterling.



A

## S C H E M E

For CARRYING on the

## FREE BRITISH FISHERIES.

**T**HAT there be a Charter granted to an Incorporated Society, who are not to have an exclusive Trade, and to be called THE FREE BRITISH FISHERY; to consist of a Governor, President, and Twelve Directors, to reside in *London*.

That there be five or six Places appointed by the said Company, for the carrying on of the said *British Fishery*; and that there be a Sum of Money subscribed into the Chamber of each of the said Places that shall be pitched upon; taking care that the whole Money subscribed into the different Chambers shall not exceed the Sum of 500,000 *l.* which Money shall be lodged in the Bank of *England*, till wanted for the carrying on the said Trade; and, under this Restriction, that no Chamber shall draw out more Money than is subscribed in their Name.

That no Person shall be entitled to be Governor, unless he is actually possessed of the Sum of 1000 *l.* of the said Company's Stock; nor any to be a Director, unless he be possessed of the Sum of 500 *l.* of the said Company's Stock: And further, That no Person shall be deputed by the said Company, as Chief Manager in any Port where this Trade shall be carried on, unless he be possessed of 500 *l.* of the said Company's Stock.

That

That the said Company have the appointing of all the Officers under them, and the making of such Laws as shall seem, from time to time, most meet for the better Management of the said Fisheries.

That the Company have full Power to purchase Land and Tenements, as likewise to build Store-houses, Wharfs, &c. for the better carrying on of the said *British* Fisheries.

That they have several different Staples; which said Staples are to be the Receptacles of the Company's Naval Stores, and other Things relating to the Fisheries; such as Salt, Nets, Barrels, Masts, Rigging, &c.

That there be only one Weight, and one Measure, for the Salt and Barrels thorough the whole Kingdom; and that each Person, who packs the Herrings, when taken, to put on each Barrel the Ship's Name they were packed on board of, in order that the Inspector may know the said Packer, if slovenly done.

That the Inspectors, who are to be chosen by the Company, be Men of Integrity, and above any little Temptation that may be thrown in their Way; as the Success of this important Trade will, in a great measure, depend upon their Care, Honesty, and Vigilance, in seeing that the Herrings are well gutted, cleaned, sorted, and packed, and the white Fish rightly split and dried.

That each Manager at the Staples, and every chief Magistrate of Towns where private Traders carry on this Branch, shall transmit weekly an Account of the number of Barrels shipped, as likewise what Number of white Fish, and for what Market, to each of the other Staples, in order to prevent too great Quantities being sent to the same Market, which gives Foreigners an Opportunity of buying them at their own Price; whereas, if we did not send them till wanted, we could sell them to greater advantage, and perhaps turn the Table upon those who can't well do without them.

That the Company shall empower every Inspector, to impress what Mark they shall order on each Cask, with a hot Iron in three different Places, upon each End and on one of the Side-staves; and if they would likewise either change the Mark every Year, or add N<sup>o</sup> 1. 2. 3. &c. from the Time the Fishery commences, it would prevent People from putting Herrings in last Year's Casks to evade the Examination.

That

That the Company's Inspector, or the chief Magistrate or Officer in any incorporated Town, where this Trade is carried on, shall put a different Mark from the Company's, on the Casks of every private Trader that shall bring their Herrings to be inspected, providing they pass Examination; for which they shall pay to the said Inspector, or chief Magistrate or Officer, three Pence each Barrel for their Trouble.

That the Busses of the Company be divided into two or three Squadrons, and the chief Command of each Squadron be given to the most experienced amongst the Masters of the Busses, and who are by proper Signals by Day and Night, to direct those under their Command how to proceed in every Thing relating to the Fishery and Advantage of the said Company.

That it shall be lawful for any incorporated Town, to raise a Sum of Money, by way of Subscription, for the carrying on of the said Trade; and that they may chuse among themselves, a certain Number of Subscribers for the Direction of it, who shall yearly shew their Accounts to the said Subscribers for their better Satisfaction, and what Profits may arise, to be divided according to each Man's respective Share.

That each private Fisher be at Liberty to go to any of the Company's Staples, for what Necessaries they may want, and upon their making Oath that the said Necessaries are for the Use of Fishing-Vessels only, shall be provided with them, only paying the first Cost and Expence of Importation.

That the Managers at the said Company's Staples be impowered to buy Fish from those who cannot afford to export them, and that they likewise take Fish in Exchange for Salt or other Fishing necessaries they may want.

That what is exacted from Fishers, by the Proprietors of the Shores where Fish is caught, be entirely taken off by Parliament; which the Proprietors (I dare say) will freely part with, on Condition of carrying on the Fishery, which will sufficiently compensate the Loss of it.

And as the *Dutch* can build Ships cheaper than we, there must be an Equivalent given, to bring us on an Equality with them. There is certainly the same Necessity for Nations to lay out Money for the introducing of Trade, as there is for private Persons; and tho' the original

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ginal Money may be sunk, yet the Nation in general are Gainers (from the King to the meanest Subject.) Therefore if the Bounty was to be 1 *l.* a Ton upon all Fishing-Vessels between 15 and 30 Ton, and from 30 to 50, 1 *l.* 10 *s.* and from 50 to 100 Ton, 2 *l.* it would be equivalent for the Duties paid on the Materials; and as an Equivalent for the Duty on Salt, the present Bounty of 2 *s.* 6 *d.* per Barrel ought to continue. That no Vessel be intitled to the Bounty on the Tonnage, unless built after the Company is established, and produces Certificates from the Inspectors, that they have taken within the Year a Last of Herring for every 2 Ton of the Vessel, and passed Examination.

And whereas in the Course of this Trade, private Adventurers may be obliged to bring Salt in Return for Fish, and which may be a greater Quantity than they can afford to wait for its being turned into Money. Therefore if their Property was to be secured by laying it up in the King's and Company's Warehouses, and the Collector of the Customs or Inspector of the Company to give them a Certificate of their Stock in Custody, which they could assign over to money'd Men for near the Value, and they being possessed of the Certificate as a Security, must of Consequence be satisfied before the Salt could be removed.

That each Sorter on board, divide the Herrings into three different Parcels, distinguishing each by the following Marks; the largest Herrings, N<sup>o</sup> 1. the second, N<sup>o</sup> 2. and the third, N<sup>o</sup> 3. but when the Haul is so great, and the Time not permitting them to be sorted properly, the Master must mark those with a different Mark from the others, and when he comes into Harbour, must report them as unsorted Herrings.

That there be 4 Barrels of Salt taken to every Last of great Barrel-herring, and that they be ordered in every other Manner as shall hereafter be directed in the general Instructions.

That each Master of a Buss shall make Oath when he is ready to sail, that he is furnished, according to the Size of his Buss, with Salt, Barrels, Sailors, Tackle and all other Necessaries for the said Herring Trade; likewise, that he shall not throw or cause a Net to be thrown into the Sea before a Day agreed upon, which I think ought

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ought to be some Days before *St. John's* (the Day the *Dutch* fix on) in order that we may be before them in some Markets, which is very material, as a Herring even in *Holland* gives 30 Stivers a-piece at that Time, and in *Germany* a much greater Price, as there are Horfes laid on the Road for some Hundreds of Miles, waiting for to carry the first Herrings with the greater Dispatch to inland Countries.

And that we may lose no Time in getting to Market with the early Herring before the *Dutch*, the Busses ought to be permitted to go immediately from the Fishing-grounds without coming into Port to receive the Bounty given in Lieu of the Duty on Salt; nevertheless they should receive it when they return, upon the Master, Mate and Intakers giving their Oaths to the Quantity exported.

Whereas it is computed that there are upwards of 1100 *British* Sailors in the *Dutch* Fisheries, and to avoid giving our Allies Umbrage, Application ought to be made to his Majesty, for the issuing of a Proclamation to call home all *British* Seamen in general.

And whereas the encouraging of the Consumption of Fish in *Great Britain*, would be of great Advantage to the Undertakers of this Trade, and to the Nation in general, therefore, if the Commissioners for granting of Wine and Ale Licences, were to be impowered to grant to every Person that comes for such Licence, the said Licence for 5 *s.* less, upon Condition that they take one Barrel of the Company's Herrings; if two Barrels, 7 *s.* 6 *d.* and if three, at 10 *s.* less, upon Condition the said Persons make Oath, that the said Herrings are for their own Use only; in which Case, it will be requisite for those who grant the said Licences, to take each Person's Name, with a Direction, naming at the same time the Number of Barrels and transmitting them to the proper Office in *London*, each Deficiency in the said Licences shall be made good by the Company. I make no Doubt but that every Tavern and Ale-house-keeper (as well as their Customers) are sensible, that a Herring will not only be cheaper, but better than what is commonly called a *Welsh Rabbit*, and will unavoidably occasion their selling a greater Quantity of Liquor, by which they will increase their own Wealth, as well as the public Revenues;

Revenues, who will feel a sensible Increase of the Malt-Tax; likewise the landed Gentlemen, from the Rise of their Lands, and the common People from their being fully employed in this useful Trade.

As nothing can be more commendable than the providing for those, whose Minority renders them incapable of either acting or judging for themselves, it is therefore a Duty incumbent on us as Christians, to take some other Methods of providing for the Parish Poor than those now in Practice, which is by paying a poor Woman by the Year for keeping a Child, and whenever it can do the meanest Office, is turn'd a-drift into the World, without a Trade, and scarce Education.

Now the Consequence of this is evident, for as all Men are by Nature alike, so we would all steal, beg and be idle, if our Natures were not improved by Education; the many miserable Objects who daily extort Compassion from us, are living Examples of this wrong apply'd Charity: No Nation raises so much Money for the Poor as *England*, and yet there are more Beggars in it than in any other; in *Holland* their Poor's Rate is voluntary, and by their good Management of it, the Common-Wealth is enriched.

So that if the Company was impowered, to take the Boys from the Parish at the Age of 12 or 14, and to have with them a small Sum of Money, and to keep them till about the Age of 21, to bring them up in useful Arts, such as making of Cordage, weaving of Nets, Navigation, &c. and then to be discharged, or entitled to as much Wages as any other Person, and Preferment in Case they are deserving of it.

That a Register be kept of all the Boys Names; so that if the Necessities of the State should require it, each of these Persons to serve his Majesty for 4 Years and no longer; and if the Number of these Persons should not be found sufficient, the Company to be obliged to furnish his Majesty with two Men out of every Vessel in their Service, that is above 50 Tun, and one Man out of all lesser Vessels, employed either by the Company or private Traders.

That the Company shall be obliged likewise to take the Children of Parents brought low by Misfortunes, providing there is paid to the Company the Sum of 10*l.* which

which said Sum is to be paid to the Children when they arrive at the Age of 21, in Case they have served their Time faithfully.

That there be a Power granted to the Company, to receive Benefactions from charitably disposed Persons for this laudable Undertaking, providing that the Company shall not apply the said Charity towards carrying on their Trade; but to enable them to take poor *Higbland* Children, who being so very numerous, their Parishes cannot afford to pay any Sum of Money with them.

A good Education not only secures our Happiness and Prosperity in this World, but is the most probable Means of procuring us that just and necessary Tranquillity, we all so ardently desire in the next; for as it undoubtedly infills in us noble Apprehensions of the Omnipotent Being, so it likewise gives us a just Sense of his infinite Justice and Goodness.

Next to improving the Minds of the Poor, is the instructing them in useful Arts; Boys, for Example, in Navigation, Mining, and Husbandry; and Girls in Spinning, Sowing, Knitting, &c. Obvious are the Effects of a Christian and industrious Education, and as these Notions exist in the Minds of Minors, Virtue cannot be obliterated.

I am of Opinion, that if those educated in Charity-schools were employed every other Day in Business (which would inure them early to Industry) it would by no Means be a Hindrance to their Learning, since three Years are certainly sufficient for their reading, writing, and accounting.

*A summary View of the Charity-schools in Great Britain and Ireland, 1749.*

	Schools	Boys.	Girls.
In London	149	3406	2172
In other Parts of South Britain	1320	19506	3915
Welsh Schools	136	6223	
In North Britain	134	5187	2618
In Ireland	168	2406	600
In Do.	30	885	
Apprenticed only	509		
Total of Schools	1946	37613	9305
		9305	
		46918	

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The Number of Boys discharged yearly we may reckon at a Medium to be 6000, but if there are only 2000 of the hardiest Children sent to Sea with the Masters of Fishing-vessels, we may at a moderate Computation, allowing for Death and other Accidents, reckon the Number of such Persons in 20 Years to amount to 23500.

What a prodigious Increase of Sailors will this Method occasion! and I may venture to prognosticate, that we'll find them in Time vie with the best of that Profession in the Kingdom, since almost all those Children are bred in the same Manner, as *Lycurgus* prescribed for the Education of the *Spartan* Youth.

Suppose in *Great Britain* there are 10000 Parishes, and that in each there are 10 employed who before were idle, the Number of employed Persons is 100000, who if they wrought 300 Days in a Year, at one Penny per Day, would yearly produce the Sum of 125000.

A naked Representation of this great and glorious Undertaking, I hope will be a stronger Recommendation than the most laboured Encomiums—'Tis a Provision for those, whose Lives otherwise are only Scenes of Idleness, Misery, and Distress. Can he who is possessed of an Affluence of the good Things of this Life, and of a humane Disposition, calmly lay his Hand on his Breast, and say I have answered the End of my Creation, while he sees and hears of Thousands of Infants reduced to the worst of Circumstances, by the Poverty of their Parents, incapable of earning a Subsistence for themselves, or being beneficial to the Country in any Respect.

Nor can it be expected to be otherwise, since the only Instruction they receive from their Parents, is Idleness and Ignorance, transmitted from theirs, and which successively continues from Generation to Generation; so that one Link being continually added to the Chain of Distress, the whole becomes a Series of Poverty and Wretchedness. On the other Hand, let us imagine we behold those Objects, by a well timed Care, transformed into regular Communities, living in such Circumstances as will bear the Name of social Life, covered with proper Cloathing, and nourished with wholesome Food, dwelling in warm and comfortable Houses, exchanging Idleness

for

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for Industry, and reconciled to our excellent Protestant Constitution by early Instruction and Discipline.

And if either *Gibraltar* or *Port-mahon* was made a Free-port, it would not only greatly contribute to lessen the Expence of carrying on the Fisheries, but of all other Trade we drive on in the *Mediterranean*. Suppose a Ship loaded with Fish, or any other Merchandize, comes to a Market already glutted with the same Goods she has on board, what must she do? is she to pay the Charges in that Port and go to another where she must perhaps do the same? or is she to be turned into a Ware-house and lie there rotting in Expectation of the Market rising? But perhaps it may be said she may leave her Cargo to be sold, and take in Ballast and return home, or she may go as far as *Leghorn*, which is a Free-port, where Merchants may keep their Goods at a small Expence, till the Demand at Market offers for the sending them up and down the *Mediterranean*.

Dispatch is the very Soul of Trade, and without it all Business must languish and decay: What Merchandize have we that will bear such Expence, or what do we deal in, that we are not rival'd in by others? and yet we take no Methods to enable us to undersell them.

Ars the Profits upon Goods sent to the Streights so great, that a Merchant can afford to keep his Ship for Months idle in a Harbour, feeding and paying the Men, &c. and all purely for the Sake of waiting for a Market? No! so much to the contrary, that if the Merchant is not very rich, the Meeting with two or three of these Misfortunes is his Ruin, as was the Case of a Merchant in *North Britain* to my Knowledge, who had sent a Vessel of 100 Tun loaded with Salmon to the *Streights*, and coming to a bad Market, was told if he stay'd some Time the Price would probably rise; which he accordingly did, but it was so long after indeed, that the Ship had run considerably in Debt, and the Merchant instead of getting any Profit, was obliged to put up with an extraordinary Loss, and this and other little Misfortunes happening more than once to him, he was obliged to give Way at last. Others might say that she might have left her Cargo to be sold after she was gone; but I am afraid those don't at the same Time consider, that for the Money

Money her Cargo might amount to, she was to purchase Goods and so return—in Place of which she takes in Ballast and comes home. The Factor in the mean time sells the Goods, charges Factorage, and informs the Owner; which whenever he hears perhaps sends a Ship to take in the Goods of that Country in Exchange, for which the Factor also charges Commission.

Now what an endless Trouble and Expence is this! here are two Voyages perhaps made when one would have served; besides many other incidental Expences might be saved, by making *Gibraltar* a Free-port, whose convenient Situation (being in the Mouth of the *Streights*) might make it a common Market for all Goods sent to and from the *Mediterranean*, as Merchants there could have a quicker Advice whenever there should be a Demand for Goods, in any Part on each Side of the *Mediterranean's* extensive Coasts.

However if it is not thought necessary to make such a Port for the Advantage of Commerce, yet it ought to be by no Means under a military Government; for I believe it was never known that ever Trade flourished under such a Government, but under the Administration of a Mayor, Aldermen, &c. We might not only preserve the Advantages that it brings us at present, but by granting Leases to build for a certain Number of Years, after which to fall to the Crown, so that the Rents of the Houses together with a small Excise, would be sufficient to support the Garrison, and ease us of our present yearly Expence.

For the Satisfaction of those who do not know the Charges of Vessels in foreign Ports, I have given a Specimen of it, by inserting the Port-charges in *Lisbon*.

Consulage	_____	12 ff 000
Protest	_____	3 ff 200
Contribution	_____	19 ff 700
Custom-house Entry	_____	1 ff 100
Entry of the Fish	_____	ff 480
Waiters	_____	1 ff 600
Discha. and Scriviner	_____	1 ff 200
Tunnage and Anchorage	_____	9 ff 004
Custom house Dispatch	_____	ff 480
Ballast	_____	4 ff 800

A Ball Dispatch	_____	1 ff 400
Consulado	_____	1 ff 480
Entry	_____	1 ff 100
Product Officers	_____	1 ff 700
Providor of Health	_____	ff 200
Doctor	_____	1 ff 200
Clearance to <i>Lisbon</i>	_____	ff 200
Franchise	_____	ff 480
Custom Visit	_____	2 ff 700
Vice Consul	_____	1 ff 100
Cattle	_____	2 ff 100
Waiters	_____	1 ff

62 ff 224

£ 18. 14 s. 6 d.

Nor are they satisfied with having this exorbitant Sum paid once, but frequently make Ships pay a second Time; as was the Case of one from *Newfoundland* lately, that delivered her Cargo of Fish in *Lisbon*, and went in ballast for *Faro* (a Port in *Portugal*) to load Fruit for *London*, where she paid the *Faro* Port-charges being 10 l. 11. 6 d. and sailing next Day, met with bad Weather which forced her into *Lisbon*, where she was fired at, to bring her above the Castle to make her pay the *Lisbon* Charges a second Time, though the Master told them he had a perishable Cargo on board, and would pay them their Port-charges if they would let him lie there; nevertheless they took two of his Hands and imprisoned them in the Castle, till the Ship came above it, where she was so long detained, that her Cargo was spoiled when she came into *England*; and to add to the Owner's Comfort, she had paid twice 18 l. 15 s. 6 d. and once 10 l. 11 s. 6 d. for Port-charges, in what may be reckoned but one Voyage.

H

Remarks

REMARKS on the Nature of HERRING,  
LING and COD; with an Account of the al-  
most incredible Increase of COD-FISH.

THE HERRING is in greater Repute among other Nations than in *Britain* (chiefly owing, I believe, to our endeavouring to vend our own ill cured Herring among ourselves.) It is generally from ten to twelve Inches long, the Sides of a Silver Colour, the Belly sharp like a Wedge, the Eyes red, the Tail forked, large Scales, and the lower Jaw longer than the upper and full of Teeth.

It dies instantly when taken out of the Water, from whence I suppose the Proverb arose, *as dead as a Herring*; the Fish when in Perfection is very delicious, if dressed when taken, which is about the autumnal Equinox before they spawn, are easily digested and very nourishing.

They come yearly in vast Shoals, as it were by divine Appointment, from the North-West; not only for Sustenance, but to enrich us by our Captures for others. Their Voyage is perform'd with great Exactness, and the Tract known by the hovering of Sea-fowl in Expectation of Prey, and the Smoothness of the Water; nor do they ever differ above ten or twelve Days in Time, and that is always owing to strong South-East Winds.

When they come off the *Lewis*, the Shoal divides, one Half going to the *Orkney* and *Zetland* Isles, and the others staying among the western, where they immediately meet with Nourishment; the Number of Rivers and Loughs in those Parts daily carrying from the Land an infinite Variety of Worms and other Insects, on which they feed, and to this immediate Sustenance, we may ascribe the Cause of their being always better than those of *Orkney* and *Zetland*.

The LING is longer in Proportion to its Thickness than a Cod, is from 2 to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  Feet long, covered with small Scales of an Ash and grey Colour, a round Tail and Barb on the lower Jaw.

It

It is a delicious Fish when fresh, and when rightly dry-cured is transparent, and is preferred before any other Salt-fish.

They are to be had all the Year among the western and northern Isles, and at particular Times off *Pensance* in *England*.

The COD Fish is from 2 to  $3\frac{1}{4}$  Feet long, those smaller are called Codlings; it is a thick round Fish, with a large Head and Belly, the Back brown, and Belly whitish, the Eyes large, the Scales small, and the whole Fish full of yellow Spots.

They are distinguished into six different Sorts, from the Manner of curing, and Places from whence it comes, *viz. Aberdeen Fish, Iceland Fish, Green Fish, Stock Fish, North-Sea Cod, Poor Jobn, and Barrel'd Cod.*

It is much esteemed and much used; the Head of a large Cod, when fresh is reckoned a delicious Dish; when they are used salted, they are generally steeped in Water before they are boiled, are easily digested and very nourishing; they are taken in great Quantities on the eastern and western Coasts of *Scotland*.

Perhaps some may imagine, that if we carry on this Trade effectually, there won't be Fish for all the Fishers, for which Reason I shall give an Account of their prodigious and almost incredible Increase, which is so great that if there was but two Males and two Females left in the Sea this Season, there would be as many the next as there were the preceding; providing there was none of their Young to be devoured by other Fish.

*The Number of Animalcules supposed to be in the Melt or Semen Masculinum of a COD.*

Mr. *Leeuwenhouk*, a very curious Observer of Nature, having viewed the Melt or *Semen Masculinum* of a Cod-fish, found such Numbers of Animalcules with long Tails, that he supposed there must be at least 10,000 in the Bulk of a Grain of Sand; from whence he concludes there must be more Animalcules in the Melt of one Cod-fish, than there are Inhabitants alive upon the whole Face of the Earth at one and the same Time.

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He computes that one Hundred make the Diameter of an Inch, so that in an Inch there must be a Million of such Particles of Sand, and as he has found the Melt of the Cod-fish to be about 15 cubical Inches, then of Consequence there must be 15,000,000 of Quantities as big as a Grain of Sand; now, if each of these Quantities contain 10,000 Animalcules, there must be in the whole 150,000,000.

*An ABSTRACT of the Ordonances of the States of Holland and West-Friesland, concerning the Managing of the Great Fishery.*

**N**O Vessel sailing out of *Holland* or *West-Friesland*, shall be allowed to go to the Great Fishery, without the Consent of the Burgomaster of the Town from whence he sails; and that he make Oath, that he will not sell, give in Presents at Sea, or cure on Shore, any Herrings, under Penalty of 24 Guilders for each Barrel, and Confiscation of the Fish: And further, that he shall separate the Herrings caught in one Night, from those caught in another, and shall declare on what Night each were taken, on Forfeiture of the Cargo and Ship, and Degradation of the Master.

Nor shall any Master deal for Herring with any but those authorized by the Chief Magistrate in the Place where the Herring-Trade is established. Further, they shall not at Sea, ship Herrings on board any other Vessel than those so authorized, under Penalty of the said Herring, or their Value, and a Fine of 600 Guilders, and the Master rendered incapable of ever acting in that Capacity for the future.

That the Masters of Juggers make Oath, that they will not take on board Herrings from any others but Subjects of *Holland* and *West-Friesland*; taking care to get a Certificate from the Master, signed by himself, and two or three Sailors, with the Ship's Name and Port she sailed from, the  
Quantity

Quantity delivered, and that they were taken after *St. John's Day*, cured and laid in Barrels in his Ship, on Penalty of the Herring, or Value of them; nor shall any Master ship them on board Juggers, after the 15th of *July*, Penalty as above, and the Money received for such Herrings.

That no Inhabitant of *Holland* or *West-Friesland* shall be engaged with others living out of the said Provinces, in Busses or Juggers, under Penalty of Ship and Cargo, and 600 Guilders, to be recovered though the Fact has been committed 20 Years past.

The first taken Herrings are not to be sold, unless they have been ten Days in Pickle; and not then, till marked by the Inspectors between the Neck and Belly Hoop, on Penalty of 300 Guilders; and, in case of Non-payment, to be confined to Bread and Water for a Month; and all Herrings brought into the said Provinces, without such Mark, to be publickly thrown into the Sea.

Each Master of a Bus, is to declare to the Secretary of the Port from whence he sails, where he is going to fish, to what Port he is to return, and what Mark he is to use, that it may be registered, under the Penalty of 120 Guilders.

The Curing of the Herring shall be completed three Weeks after they arrive, whether they be sold or not, and shall be repacked more than once, according to the Nature of the Herring, and Custom of the Place; if not in the above limited Time, the Buyer to have no Redress.

Herrings shall not be repacked or heightened with fresh Pickle, but in the publick Streets or customary Places, with open Doors, where any may enter, under Penalty of 240 Groats.

No Herrings to be packed or heightened to be sent abroad, before the Cure-Master has inspected them, and ascertained that they are duly packed. Nor are small Herrings to be packed up with great, but each shall be filled up with those of a like Kind, and taken at the same time and branded with theirs and the City's Mark.

No Barrels sent abroad shall have less than fourteen Hoops.

The

The Herrings caught after St. James's Day, and salted with fine Salt, may be exported as Wreck westward; the Barrel to be bound with sixteen Hoops, having the Date of the Year on the Belly, and Mark of the Purchaser thereon.

No Spanish or Portugal Salt shall be put in Casks, before the Cure-Master has examined it, on Penalty of 25 Guilders for every Hundred Weight; nor shall they carry to Sea any other but the above for the Herring Fishery, and that twice to be examined by the Cure-Master, who must open each Barrel before it is shipped, and stamp them with his Mark; in case of Failure, the Master to forfeit 36 Guilders, and he is likewise to declare, that these Herrings were cured with the said Salt.

Each Cure-Master may make the Master of the Buss open his Barrels twice in his View, to have two Inspections, and at each time to pay Half a Farthing, the one to be paid by the Buyer, and the other by the Seller.

Any Person who cures Herrings with French Salt from St. Martins, Olderdame, Borea, Browart, South France, the West-Indies, or Isle of May, to forfeit the Herrings.

Fish taken after St. James's Day, and Bartholomewtide, may be salted with fine Salt, boiled with Sea-Water, according to Agreement with the City of Cogn.

There shall not be sent abroad to the Westward, or France, Flanders, and Brabant, any Herrings, but what have been taken and packed after Bartholomewtide, and marked with the grand Rouen Brand: Nor shall any be sent to Hamburgh, Bremen, Cogn, or other Ports, that may be cured with coarse Salt, whether they be Wrack, or Refusal Fish, on Penalty of six Guilders each Barrel, and naval Correction.

Herrings once exported, shall not be brought back, or cured anew, on pain of Forfeiture of the Fish.

A

*A Warning against the not Handling, Sorting, Salting, and Laying of the Herrings in a proper Manner by the Masters.*

THE Lords Deputies of the Great Fishery of Holland and West-Friesland, with the utmost Indignation having been certainly informed, that some Masters, neglecting their Duty, do not manage, sort, salt, or lay in a proper manner the Herrings, notwithstanding the good Orders given by the General Placart, respecting the Catching, Salting, and Management of the Herrings, renewed by their High Mightinesses the Lords States of Holland and West-Friesland, dated the 10th of May, 1651, and amplified the 30th of May, 1656, especially enjoined in the 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th Articles, and of which, pursuant to the 41st Article of the said Ordinance, an Exemplar is annually given to the Masters, and solemnly sworn to, as a further Warning to prevent all Abuses and Neglects, decreed by the aforesaid Lords Deputies, by Virtue and Authority of the said Placart; from whence it is to be apprehended, that the now already much lessened foreign Sale of the Dutch Herrings, and the good Repute thereof, will entirely cease, and, on the contrary, become in Disesteem, to the great Detriment and Prejudice of the Trade, and consequently to the Ruin of the Great Herring Fishery; being so apparent a Loss to the Trade and Welfare of the Country, and the Inhabitants thereof, in case it is not speedily and rigorously examined into.—The Lords Deputies aforesaid, by the Advice and Consent of the Committee consisting of Owners of Ships, Merchants, and Herring-Traders, for the Prevention of those enormous Abuses, and Neglect of Duty, and for the Conservation and Restoration of the Great Herring Fishery, have thought proper to desire and ordain, and do hereby desire and ordain, by way of Renovation and Amplification of the before-mentioned good Orders, That the Herring Masters shall not mix different Sorts together or sort them; as, first sort, (which is full, middle, and small) by first, second ditto by second, third sort by third; and on occasion of an

extraordinary great Capture, the Time not permitting to fort them properly, the Masters, at their coming on shore, shall be obliged to report them as unsorted Herrings to his Owners: That, farther, the Herrings shall be properly salted, and the large Barrel Herrings be salted in no less a Proportion than four Barrels of Salt to every Last, (*i. e.* 12 Barrels) the smallest Sort of Barrels excepted; the Herrings to be likewise properly gutted, and afterwards laid close crossways in the Barrel; Ordering all and every Master to conform themselves to this Rule, under pain of 300 Guilders, over and above the Action, in case of Perjury, at the Charge of the Masters whose Herrings shall not be properly sorted, in manner as beforementioned; to whom likewise no further Grant shall be given for the Catching of Herrings: But with respect to the Herrings not being laid close crossways in the Barrel, a Penalty shall be levied of six Guilders *per* Barrel; the aforesaid Penalties to be in Conformity to the 40th Article of the Placart beforementioned; one Third to the Informer or Informers, whether they be Sailors or other Persons; one Third for the Officer who makes the Challenge; and the last Third Part for the Poor. The Herrings so improperly salted, *viz.* the first Sort mixed with the second; *item*, the second Sort mixed with the first, to be reckoned unsorted; and with respect to the mixt first and second Sort, to be sold with the third Sort as third Sort, and to be reckoned and paid in that manner by the Buyer; likewise at the Charge of the Master. All the rest of the beforementioned given Orders, and thereunto annexed Penalties, remaining in their full Force: And to the End that no one should be able to pretend Ignorance thereof, the Lords Deputies aforesaid order, that these shall be published and affixed in all proper Places. Done at *Delft*, the 23d Day of *May*, 1749. By Order of the Lords Deputies,

M. L. Secretary.

1749.

1749. THE Burgomasters and Regents of the City of *Schiedam* give their Consent unto *A, B, C,* that he shall be permitted to go with his Herring-Ship to the North-Sea, there to catch Herrings, and hath solemnly sworn to us by Oath, that he is properly furnished, according to the Size of his Herring-Ship, with Tackle, Salt, Barrels, Seamen, and all other Necessaries required in the Herring-Trade: Likewise, that he will not, before the 24th of *June*, nor after the 31st of *December* next coming, cast a Herring-Net in the Sea, to catch Herring; that also he will not deliver over to any body, whomsoever it might be, any Herrings whilst at Sea, nor suffer that they be given over out of his Ship by any other Person directly or indirectly, in any manner whatsoever, but only to those Ships from *Holland* and *West-Friesland*, who produce the proper Act of Consent, having on the Top a Herring-Buss, being the Seal of the Great Fishery, stamped thereon, and signed by the Secretary of that City from whence he comes: To which respective Ships he shall be empowered to deliver over his caught Herring, until the 15th of *July*, 1749, inclusive, and no longer: That he shall notify exactly upon the List of the marked Barrels, in what Night or Nights the Herrings thus delivered were caught: Farther, that he shall not fill up the Herring-Barrels more than once with pressed Herrings, and take care, that as little of the bloody Pickle thereof shall be spilt as possible: And further also, that he shall bring in all his caught Herring into the Provinces of *Holland* and *West-Friesland*; and likewise, with three of his own Sailors, enter, within three Days at farthest after his Arrival, the said caught Herrings faithfully; taking also all possible care, that the Herring may be laid even in their Lays, from the Bottom to the Top; and that the same be not cast in with Baskets or Buckets into the Barrels, mixed, wrong laid, or adulterated: That he shall not sell, change, or give away, by manner of Gift, any Salt, Pickle, Hoops, Hoop-Wood, Rigging, Thread, Hook-Lines, or any other Fishing-Tackle. *Item*, He shall not sell, barter, or give away any sort of Merchandize, under what Denomination soever might be in *Zetland*, *Scotland*, or any other Land; taking likewise no Sort of Goods for Freight to this or that Place, or suffer the

the same to be done directly or indirectly, on the Penalty mentioned in the Warning, and to regulate himself farther, according to the Placarts and Ordinances made with relation to the Herring-Fishery, and which, for that Intent, are given with him; so truly as he wishes God Almighty may help him.

The Seal of the Great Fishery is hereon stamped, and signed by the Secretary of the City the 10th Day of June, 1749.

ACTS relating to Fish, Fisheries, and Fishing, from Edward I. to the present Year 1750.

STATUTES.

- 13 Edward I. cap. 47. Salmon, &c. in Defence.
- 31 Edward III. Stat. 2. cap. 1. Herrings sold at Sea.
- 31 Edward III. Stat. 2. cap. 2. Herrings, Yarmouth, &c.
- 31 Edward III. Stat. 2. cap. 3. Stockfish of St. Botolph, Salmon of Berwick, Fish and Wines of Bristuit, &c.
- 31 Edward III. Stat. 3. cap. 1. Fishery, Blackeney, and the Coasts of Satterly, Winton, &c. in the County of—
- 31 Edward III. Stat. 3. cap. 2. Fair at Blakeney, Lob, Ling, Cod, Orgies, Selling, &c. their Nets, &c. Norfolk.
- 35 Edward III. about buying and selling Herrings, Yarmouth.
- 4 Richard II. Fishmongers Trade laid open. Query, If now in Force.
- 6 Richard II. cap. 10. Fish and Victuals to be sold by Aliens in London, enforced by Henry I. cap. 17. 14 Hen. IV. cap. 4. Query, If not since repealed.
- 7 Richard II. cap. 11. Fishers, Vintners, and Victuallers, coming to London, to be in the Rule of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen. 31 Edward III. Stat. 1. cap. 1. (N.B.) repeals the Statutes of 5 Richard II. cap. 4. and 6 Rich. II. cap. 11 and 12. touching Victuallers in London.
- 31 Richard II. cap. 19. confirms Stat. 13 Edward I. cap. 47. and appoints Conservators of it, &c.

- 17 Richard II. cap. 9. all Justices of Peace to be Conservators of 13 Edward I. cap. 47. and 13 Richard II. cap. 9. who are to appoint Subconservators under them, &c.
- 2 Henry IV. cap. 15. Penalty on fastening Trinck and other Nets over the Thames or other Rivers; Trinckers may fish lawfully.
- 14 Henry IV. cap. 4. Penalty on disturbing Aliens selling their Fish.
- 22 Edward IV. cap. 2. Salmon Vessels, Salmon packed, Grill packed, Herrings packed, sold in Barrels, &c. Eels barrelled, &c. Length, &c. of barrelled Fish, Thokes, &c. Tale Fish, their Length, &c.
- 11 Henry VII. cap. 23. What Gaugers, Packers, and Searchers of barrelled Salmon, Herrings, Eels, &c. are entitled to, with Penalty on their offending, &c.
- 31 Henry VIII. cap. 2. sect. 2. Penalty on Fishing in Ponds, &c. against the Will of the Owners. See Eliz. cap. 21. 2 and 3 Edward VI. cap. 6. sect. 3. Penalty on Admirals taking Money, Doles, &c. of Fishermen or Merchants, for Licences to pass to Voyages for Fish, &c.
- 5 Elizabeth, cap. 17. a general Provision for preserving of the Spawn, Brood, and Fry of Fish, made perpetual by Car. II. cap. 4.
- 5 Elizabeth, cap. 5. no Toll for Sea-Fish, except on Kingston upon Hull; Penalty on Herring or Sea-Fish, and not well salted and packed, and Cod, and Ling, to be imported loose, and not in Barrels.
- 5 Elizabeth, cap. 1. Penalty on fishing in Ponds, &c. against the Owners Consent.
- 39 Elizabeth, cap. 10. Exporting of Herrings bought in this Realm. Customs to be paid by Aliens for felled Fish and Herrings. Penalty on importing or salting bad Salt Fish, or Herrings. See 43 Eliz. cap. 9.
- 1 James I. cap. 23. sect. 3. relates to the Taking of Herring, Pilchard, and other Sea Fish in the Counties of Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall.
- 3 Jac. I. cap. 11. No Wears along the Sea-coast, and Penalty on killing, &c. of the Brood, &c. of Sea-fish, Afsize, &c. of Sea-nets.
- 13 and 14 Car. II. cap. 2. sect. 36. relates to the Exportation of Fish into any Ports of the Mediterranean.

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- 13 and 14 Car. II. cap. 28. Penalty on fishing from June to November on the high Sea, or any Bay, Port, &c. of Cornwall or Devon, with any Drift, &c. not nearer than a League and a half to the Shore, &c.
- 15 Car. II. cap. 7. sect. 16, 17. No fresh Herring, Cod, Haddock, Cole-fish, or Grill-fish, from the North-Sea, Iceland and Westinary Fisheries, shall be imported; Penalty Ship and Fish; salted or dried Cod, Cole-fish, Ling, white Herrings, Haddocks, and Grill-fish, imported in foreign built Ships, to pay Custom.
- 15 Car. II. cap. 16. How white or red Herrings of English catching are to be packed, salted, dried. Bailiffs of Yarmouth, &c. to appoint Packers.
- 18 Car. II. cap. 2. No Ling, Herring, &c. to be imported by Foreigners. 22 and 23 Car. II. cap. 25.
- 30 Car. II. cap. 9. A general Provision for preserving the Spawn, Brood, and Fry of Fish in the River Severn.
- 32 Car. II. cap. 2. sect. 7. Stockfish and live Eels may be imported.
- 4 and 5 W. and M. cap. 23. relates to private Fisheries, &c.
- 10 and 11 W. III. cap. 24. concerning Billingsgate Market Duties, &c. Affize of Lobsters brought on Shore and sold. No Fish, except Stockfish and live Eels, to be imported or sold by Foreigners; Importation of Anchovies, Sturgeon, Botargo, and Cavear, also excepted.
- 10 W. II. cap. 25. relates to the Fisheries of Newfoundland and the Islands adjoining, with the Regulations thereof.
- 4 Anne, cap. 15. Fishery of the River Stower in Essex and Suffolk.
- 4 and 5 Anne, cap. 21. Conservation, &c. of the Fishers of the Rivers, Creeks, &c. in the Counties of Southampton and the Southern Parts of Wiltshire; Seasons, Affize of Nets, &c.
- 1 Geo. I. cap. 18. No Herring, Cod, Pilchard, Salmon, Ling, fresh or salted, dried or bloated, nor Grill, Mackerel, Whiting, Haddock, Sprat, Coal-fish, Grill-fish, Congor, nor any sort of flat Fish or fresh Fish, to be imported or sold in England, that are taken by any Foreigners or of Strangers Bottoms, except Protestant Inhab-

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- habitants; Eels, Stockfish, Anchovies, Sturgeon, Botargo, or Cavear, excepted; Affize of Drag-nets used at Sea, &c. Affize of Turbot, Brill, Pearl, Codlin, Whiting, Bass, Mullet, Sole, Plaice, Dab, and Flounders, brought to Shore, sold, or exchanged, with Penalty. Lobsters and Turbots may be imported by Foreigners; Affize of Salmon brought to London, &c. &c. Rivers Dee, Severn, &c.
- 2 Geo. II. cap. 19. concerning the Rochester Fishery.
- 5 Geo. II. An Act for encouraging the Greenland Fishery.
- 6 Geo. II. An Act for the further Encouragement of the Whale Fishery carried on by his Majesty's British Subjects.
- 9 Geo. II. cap. 33. confirming first Clause 1 Geo. I. cap. 18. about Importation of Stockfish by Foreigners, British Ships trading to the Mediterranean Sea, and Lobsters, when in Defence, on the Coast of Scotland, &c.
- 13 Geo. I. An Act for continuing the several Laws therein mentioned, relating to the Premiums upon the Importation of Masts, Yards, and Bowsprits, Tar, Pitch, and Turpentine, to British made Sail-cloth, and the Duties payable on foreign Sail-cloth, to the Greenland and to the Whale Fishery, for granting a further Bounty for all Ships employed in the Whale Fishery, during the present War, and for exempting Harpooners employed in the Greenland Fishery Trade from being impressed, &c.
- 22 Geo. II. An Act for the further Encouragement and Enlargement of the Whale Fishery, and for continuing such Laws as are therein mentioned, relating thereto; and for the Naturalization of such Foreign Protestants, as shall serve, for the Time therein mentioned, on board such Ships as shall be fitted out for the said Fishery.

F I N I S.

1. The first part of the document discusses the general principles of the law of evidence. It covers the admissibility of evidence, the burden of proof, and the standard of proof.

2. The second part of the document discusses the rules of evidence. It covers the rules of relevance, the rules of hearsay, and the rules of privilege.

3. The third part of the document discusses the methods of proving facts. It covers the methods of direct evidence, circumstantial evidence, and expert testimony.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the consequences of the rules of evidence. It covers the consequences of the exclusion of evidence, the consequences of the admission of evidence, and the consequences of the failure to prove facts.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the application of the rules of evidence to specific cases. It covers the application of the rules of evidence to criminal cases, civil cases, and administrative cases.

6. The sixth part of the document discusses the future of the law of evidence. It covers the proposed reforms of the law of evidence, the impact of technology on the law of evidence, and the role of the courts in the development of the law of evidence.