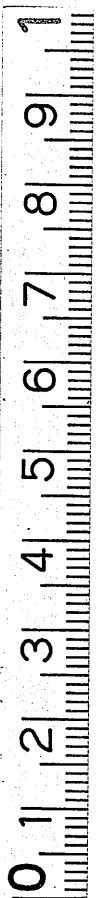


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THE
PRESENT STATE
OF THE
REVENUES and FORCES,
BY
SEA and *LAND*,
OF
FRANCE and SPAIN.
Compar'd with Those of
GREAT BRITAIN.

BEING
An ESSAY to demonstrate the Disadvantages under which *FRANCE* must enter into the present WAR, if the natural Force of *BRITAIN* is vigorously exerted.

To which is added,

An APPENDIX:

Containing a VIEW of those Countries of the *Spanish West Indies* that will probably be the Seat of the present War.

LONDON:
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INTRODUCTION.

THE following Sheets, the Substance of which were wrote at a Time when the Voice of all Britain cry'd out for a War with Spain, contain such a Demonstration of the Incapacity which the United Power of both France and Spain is under to distress this Nation, if our national Strength is properly exerted, that it is hop'd the Publication of them at present will be no unuseful Entertainment to the Nation.

As the Conduct of the Court of France has made a Rupture with that Power apparently unavoidable, the Strength of his most Christian Majesty is now become pretty much the Subject of political Speculation. The Author of the following Sheets having made it his Business to examine the whole of that Affair
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to the Bottom, and from the best Authorities, will have the Pleasure of disabusing such of his Countrymen, who, from a groundless Apprehension of their Strength and our Weakness, imagine, that we ought to put up with the most notorious Insults and Violations of Treaties, rather than resent them in such a Manner, as may give us an Opportunity of retrieving some of the most valuable Branches of Commerce which the French have invaded, and which their late ruinous Neutrality gave them an Opportunity of engrossing. Were it plain, indeed, that the French were so much our Superiors in Strength, as that the Match was unequal, perhaps a little political Forbearance might be proper; but a brave People will endeavour, if their Liberty, and, what is the Support of Liberty, their Commerce, is to be ruined, rather to have one Struggle in the Fall, than by an inglorious and tame Submission to give their Enemy Time, not only to rivet their Chains, but Reason to insult over their Misery.

When the Injuries of the Nation made it impossible to avoid, even at the Expence of sacrificing a great Part of the National Honour and Interest, unless we gave up the Whole, our entering into a War with Spain, it was easy to be foreseen that one of two Things must hap-

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happen: Either the French wou'd interpose in obliging Spain to a Compliance with our just Demands, that the great Interest which they have in the Annual Returns of Treasure from New Spain might not be endangered by the Rupture; or that, as soon as we took the proper Measures of Redress, which we could only do by distressing the Spaniards in the West Indies, and making proper Settlements there, they would for the like Reason join with Spain in hindering us. Therefore the most shallow Apprehension might easily have conceiv'd, that it was impossible, if the War continu'd betwixt us and Spain, that France must not become a Party. But, contrary to the Expectation of every Party concern'd, and, I believe, to the Amazement of all Europe, the War was on our Part carried on in such a Manner, as put France to no Uneasiness with regard to the Property of the Spaniards in America, nor gave them any Jealousy of our Attempts: But as soon as it appear'd that we design'd to act in earnest, she then took the proper Precautions to prevent our Progress; and, contrary to the express Words of Treaties, repair'd, or rather fortify'd, Dunkirk anew. This is such a Discovery of her Intention to come to a Rupture, that it did not require her sending her Squadrons to America, or the Publication of her insolent Manifesto to make it more plain. But the fol-

following Pages will sufficiently discover her Incapacity to affect us here, if we act only as a Maritime Power, and the little Necessity we are under to have Allies to do ourselves Justice.

As a proper Supplement, we have added to this, an Account from a good Hand of the Spanish West Indies, which will apparently be the Scene of the most critical, and we hope the most advantageous War this Nation ever was engaged in. It being to be hoped, that it will be soon in our Power there to strike at the Root of all that supports the Haughtiness of Spain, or the Injustice of France.



The

The Present State of the Revenues and Forces of France and Spain, compar'd with those of Great Britain.

The Land-Forces of France.

THE French have now in Pay about 100,000 Foot, and 20,000 Horse, regular Troops, besides 60,000 Militia, which in Time of War they incorporate into their regular Forces.

The Infantry are reformed since the last War, from 70 to 35 Men a Company. Every Battalion at the End of the War was of 13 Companies, but are now reduced to 10; so that in the Time of the War a Battalion consisted of 910 Men, whereas now a Battalion makes only 350 Men.

Their Horse and Dragoons are, in Time of War, 3 Troops to a Squadron,
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and 3 Squadrons to a Regiment, each Troop of 70 Men, which makes 630 Men to a Regiment; but the Regiments are now reduced to 2 Squadrons of 3 Troops each, 35 Men only to a Troop, whereof 15 have Horses, and 10 are on Foot; so that each Regiment consists now only of 150 Men, *viz.* 90 with Horses, and 60 without.

In case of a War, the Government gives Commission to Gentlemen that are willing, to raise the Companies and Troops they want for compleating their Regiments, at their own Expence, who at the End of the War are broke, and generally ruined. The other Companies and Troops are brought up to their full Compliment, out of the Militia, by 10 or 20 at a Time, as the Militia can recruit themselves from their Parishes.

The Militia have only Cloaths in Time of Peace, but no Pay; in Time of War they are paid the same with the regular Troops.

The Pay of the French Land-Forces.

Every Foot Soldier in *France* is paid according to the Advance-Money he receives at his Entrance, and according to the Number of Years he engages to serve; *viz.* He that takes 10 *French Pistoles*, or 100 *French Livres*, to serve three

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three Years, has only 2 Sols in Money, and 2 Sols in Bread a Day, for the 3 Years; he that takes 50 Livres to serve 3 Years, has 3 Sols in Money, and 2 in Bread; he that takes only 24 Livres to serve 3 Years, has 4 Sols in Money, and 2 in Bread.

In Time of War they are all obliged to serve to the End of the War; only the first Class have one Sol *per Day* added to their Pay; and the same Addition is added to every Foot Soldier when he is draughted to be a Grenadier.

Therefore, to compute the Pay of the Foot, they take it in Gros, and reckon that every Foot Soldier costs the King 6 Sols a Day, the Non-Commission Officers included. As each Company has a Captain, Lieutenant and Ensign, and likewise a Captain, Lieutenant and Ensign reform'd, together with their Field-Officers, which are double also, they compute the Pay of the Officers of each Regiment to amount to as much as that of the private Men.

N. B. The Reformed Officers of each Regiment, (excepting the Field-Officers) always march in Ranks with Arms as the private Men do, and fight as they do in the Field, but not at Sieges; so that

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100,000 Men, each at 6 Sols *per* Day, comes to 30,000 Livres *per* Day; and 30,000 ditto for their Officers, makes 60,000 Livres *per* Day, which amounts to 21,900,000 Livres *per* Ann. which is the annual Expence of the Foot in Time of Peace.

The Horse. As the Agreements made with the Horse and Dragoons at their Entry are in the same Manner as with the Foot, the *French* themselves likewise compute their Pay in Gros, viz. Each Man and his Horse at 15 Sols *per* Day, including the Non-Commission Officers; and the Horse being also double Officer'd, as well as the Foot, the Pay of the Officers is likewise reckoned to amount to as much as that of the Private Men.

So that

20,000 Horse and Dragoons, at 15 Sols *per* Day each, comes to 15,000 Livres *per* Day, and 15,000 more to pay their Officers, makes 30,000 Livres *per* Day, which amounts to 10,950,000 Livres, *per* Annum, which is the annual Expence of their Horse and Dragoons in Time of Peace.

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	Livres <i>per</i> Ann.
The Pay of 100,000 Foot is	21,900,000
The Pay of 20,000 Horse and Dragoons	} 10,950,000
<hr/>	
The yearly Pay of both is	32,850,000
	<i>French</i> Livres.

In *France* they reckon, that Cloathing The this Army, the Officers being cloathed by Charge of the King as well as the private Men, the Cloathing, Charges of the Barracks for the Soldiers, Barracks, the keeping in Repair their numerous Gar- and Artillifons, their Artillery, &c. amount to no lery, &c. less than 30,000,000 *French* Livres *per* Ann.

It is to be observ'd, that during their last War, when their Corps were at their full Compliment, the *French* Army consisted of 220,000 regular Foot,
60,000 Horse and Dragoons,
And 80,000 Militia.

In all — 360,000 Men.

So that the Pay of this additional Number of 120,000 Foot, without Officers, comes to 13,140,000 Livres *per* Ann. of the additional 40,000 Horse and Dragoons, to 10,950,000 Livres *per* Ann. and of the 80,000 Militia, receiving now Pay, both Officers and Soldiers, at 12 Sols *per* Day, each Officer included, to 17,520,000 Livres *per* Ann.

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The Additional Expence in Time of War.

	Livres per Ann.
For 120,000 Foot ———	13,140,000
40,000 Horse and } Dragoons —	10,950,000
80,000 Militia ———	17,520,000
<hr/>	
Total of Livres per Ann. —	41,610,000

N. B. The reduced Officers have only 400 Livres a Year to a Captain, and so in Proportion to the rest.

The Maritime Force of France.

Ships of the Line for Service ———	25
Frigates which may be fitted for } Service in 8 or 10 Months—	18
<hr/>	
In all —	43
Old Ships which may be fitted for } Service, with Time and Ex- } pence, in case of need —	12

At *Toulon, Brest, La Rochelle, St. Malo,* and *Havre de Grace,* they are at present so poorly furnish'd with Stores, that in case of a Sea-war with *England,* they would have great Difficulty to fit out the above-mention'd Ships, as they have neither Mafts, Yards, Pitch, Tar, Cordage, Spoke, nor

Their
Arsenals.

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nor Trunnel, but what they have from the *English* Plantations in *America,* or at a much dearer Rate from the *Baltick,* from whence they have all their Iron.

All the Sailors for the King's Service Their Sea-are classed, which at present do not amount to above 11,000 Men.

In *France* there are not above 600 Sail of Merchants Ships, of all sizes, at the most; and reckoning twenty five Men to each Ship, one with another, the whole Seamen of *France* are not above 28,000 or 30,000 Men, the above 11,000 classed Seamen included; who have Leave to serve on Board the Merchant Ships till they are wanted for the King's Service, having Pay from the King only when they are in actual Service on board the Men of War, and then but 14 Livres per Month.

At *Marseilles* there are 16 Gallies with 500 Slaves, 30 Sailors, and 50 Foot Soldiers armed to each Galley, which makes to the whole ———

8000 Slaves,
800 Soldiers,
480 Sailors,

In all ——— 9280 Men.

The

The Revenue of France.

Their Revenue consists chiefly of the Taxes call'd *La Taille*, *La Capitation*, and the Duties upon Salt and Tobacco.

La Taille. *La Taille* is a Tax upon Land and Houses, every Province being taxed at a certain Sum, which the Intendants levy upon their respective Provinces; viz. so much on the Produce of the Lands of every Division, and the rest upon the wall'd Towns, whose Proportions are levy'd by their own Magistrates by a Duty upon the Houses, and upon all manner of Provisions that enter their Town. This *Taille* amounts to 24 Millions *French per Ann.*

La Capitation. *La Capitation*, which is in the Nature of our Poll-Tax, is raised at the Discretion of the several Intendants of the Provinces upon each Family, and amounts to about 18 Millions *French Livres per Ann.*

Le Sel & le Tabac. The Farmers generally furnish Salt and Tobacco to the whole Kingdom, for which they pay to the King about 30 Millions *French per Ann.*

Le Duché de Lorraine. The Duchy of *Lorraine* is now Farm'd out at 20 Millions *French per Ann.*

So

So that the whole yearly Revenue of *France* is as follows :

<i>La Taille</i>	————	24 Mill. <i>French.</i>
<i>La Capitation</i>	———	18
<i>Le Sel & Tabac</i>	—	30
<i>Le Duché de Lorraine</i>	20	

In all ——— 92 Mill. *French.*

Which is 4,181,818 *l.* Sterling *per Ann.*

In Time of War they raise one Tenth upon all Places of Profit, which is called *La Dixième, ou la Dime.* and which amounts to 16 Millions *French* yearly; as also a Free Gift of the Clergy, in their greatest Necessity, which amounts to 20 Millions *French* yearly more: These two extraordinary Sums together make about 36 Millions *French* yearly, which is 1,636,363 *l.* Sterling *per Ann.* *The Free Gift of the Clergy.*

But it must be observed, that in case of a War with *England*, the Subjects of *France* cannot pay above one half of this Sum yearly, by reason that the Sale of their Wines, Brandies, Cambricks, and other Merchandize of the Growth of *France*, will be entirely at a stop; and likewise their *West India* and *Levant* Trade, and their *Newfoundland* Fishery, will all be very much obstructed, if not quite at a stop too; neither can the Publick borrow one Shilling of the Subject, as there is

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neither Company nor private Person in all *France* in a Condition to lend.

It is likewise to be observ'd, that at present the Charge of King *Stanislaus's* Court in *Lorrain*, amounts to near the whole Revenue of that Dukedom; and also, that the greatest part of the Nobility and General Officers of *France*, receiving large annual Pensions and Gratifications over and above their Pay, and other Emmoluments, a very large Sum is employ'd yearly out of the Revenue upon this Head.

N. B. The Officers in *France* employ'd by the Intendants, &c. for the Collection of the above Taxes, are above four times the Number of those in *England* for the same Purposes, and are all paid out of the Revenue.

So that the whole Revenue of *France*, in case of a War with *England*, cannot amount to more than 5,818,181*l.* *Sterl.* of which, after the first Year, the Subjects will not be able to pay above one Half.

Whereas

Whereas the Expence of *France* in time of War, is as follows; *viz.*

	<i>Livres per Ann.</i>
For 100,000 Foot —	21,900,000
20,000 Horfe and Dragoons —	} 10,950,000
120,000 additional Foot	13,140,000
40,000 additional Horfe and Dra- goons —	} 10,950,000
Cloaths, Barracks, Gar- rifons and Ar- tillery, &c. —	} 30,000,000
	86,940,000
For the Sea Service —	31,800,000
Total annual Expence in time of War in <i>Fren. Liv.</i> }	118,740,000
Which is 6,193,636 <i>Sterl.</i> per Annum.	

By this State it appears, that the great Strength of *France* is by Land.

In case of a Sea War with *England*, supposing the *French* are not attack'd by any other Power by Land, they will have no need of the additional Land-Forces. So in that Case, their whole Expence by Land will only amount to 32,850,000 *French Livres per Ann.* But then they will be obliged to augment their Fleet to what it was the last War;

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viz. 120 Men of War and 40 Gallies,
which will more than treble the Sea Ex-
pence, computed above at 31,800,000
Livres *per ann.* which multiply'd by 3,
amounts to — 95,400,000 Livres;
to which add — 32,850,000

French Livres per ann. 128,250,000

Will at least be their Expence, in case
of a Sea-War only with *England*; which
is 7,193,181*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* *Sterl. per ann.*

At the beginning of the last War, *France*
had about 300,000 Land Forces, 120
Men of War, and 40 Gallies well Mann'd
and fitted out; but at that Time they
had the Revenues of *Spain, Naples, Sici-
ly, the Milanese, and Flanders,* and a large
Treasure from the *West-Indies* every
Year, to pay this great Expence.

Their Arsenals at that Time, were well
furnished with all manner of Stores for
this Fleet for seven Years.

Whereas now they have none of those
Countries to help them, no Treasure
from the *West-Indies,* nor not so much
as Stores to fit out their 43 Men of
War.

It is to be observed, that with all these
Helps, they were so necessitated for
Money,

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Money, before the War had been car-
ried on 3 Years, that they were obliged to
begin to raise Money by selling their Civil
Employments, and borrowing Money
of the Corporations in all the Provinces
of *France*; which two Articles, before
the End of the War, amounted to above
60 Millions *Sterl.* which are not repaid
to this Day.



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The Force of Spain.

THE *Spaniards* have about 70,000 Land Forces, Horse and Foot; their Pay is about one fourth more than the *French*. They have few Garrisons to keep in repair in *Old Spain*. They have about 36 large Men of War and 12 Gallies. They have neither Masts, Yards, Pitch, Tar, Cordage, Spok, nor Trennel, except what they have from the *English* Plantations in *America*, or at a much dearer Rate from the *Baltick*; from whence they have all their Iron: So that now they are in a War with *England*, they have great Difficulty to fit out the Ships they have, and can never build any more.

They have not Sailors to half Man the above Ships, and those they have are most *English*, and other Foreigners. Their Sea Officers are very bad.

As to their Revenue, it depends mostly upon their yearly Treasure from the *West-Indies*; which will be reduced to inconsiderable, if not totally lost by a War with *England*.

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It is difficult to compute what Number of Land Forces they have in the *West-Indies*, but 'tis pretty well known that they have at this Time in the Island of *Cuba*, *Hispaniola*, *Port St. Augustine*, and their other small Ports in that Neighbourhood, about 10,000 Men, the greatest Part Foot; and about as many more dispersed over the Continent of *America*, particularly in *New Spain*, to keep the neighbouring *Indians* in Awe, (who are very Numerous, but without Arms) and likewise their Negroes.

Their Garrison of *Port St. Augustine*, and their other small Forts on that Side, cannot subsist without being supplied with all sorts of Provisions from the *English* Plantations, not daring to stir out of their Garrisons to get Provisions in the Inland Country, for fear of the neighbouring *Indians*, who would overpower them if they were supply'd with Arms, and who hate the *Spaniards* mortally.

The Inhabitants of *Cuba* are so indolent, altho' they have 7 Negroes to each white Man, that they are obliged to buy from the *English* above half the Provisions they consume, as the *Spaniards* do also in divers Parts of *New Spain*.

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The Man-
ner in
which the
English
carry on
the contra-
band
Trade up-
on the
Coast of
New Spain

The Ships that carry these Provisions to the *Spaniards*, either go to *Jamaica* for a Freight Home, or down to the Bays of *Mexico*, *Honduras*, *Campeachy*, &c. to carry on the contraband Trade with the *Spaniards*, for Pistres for such Part of their Cargoes as they have not sold at *St. Augustine* and *Cuba*, or to get Logwood, which last they generally meet with as they beat about the Coast of *New Spain*, being there are a number of *English* Sailors, who go by threes and fours in a Company, in a Periagua from *Jamaica*, to the small Creeks on the Continent of *New Spain*, where they get into different Parts of the Woods, and cut as much Logwood as will load a Ship; then they put out Signals in the Night, to give notice to such *English* Ships as come that way in search of Logwood, who answer them with other Signals, upon which the Sailors from the Woods go on Board, and conduct them to the Place where they can load their Ships; and after they have agreed with the Captains for a certain Share for themselves of the Profit of the Logwood when sold in *Europe*, they all assist in loading the Ship, and take their Passage in her back to *Jamaica*; from whence those Ships always take their Departure as if they loaded there; and if taken by the *Spaniards*, who wait for them in the Gulf between *Cuba* and *St. Augustine*, the Owners generally in their

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their Complaint here, as well as to the *Spaniards*, set forth, that they received their Logwood or Pistres at *Jamaica*, in the same Manner as Ships that do really take in their Logwood and Pistres there.

The *Spaniards* alledge, as Logwood The Rea-
and Pistres are the Product of *New Spain*, and as the People of *Jamaica* ^{son the}
have them no other way but by a contra- ^{*Spaniards*} ^{give for}
band Trade, that they have the same ^{the *English*} ^{searching}
right to stop them coming from *Jamaica*, ^{Ships.}
since the *English* have no Right to any
Trade at *New Spain*, except what comes
by the annual *South Sea* Ship, which
they very well know brings all her Mer-
chandize directly to *England* and never
sells any at *Jamaica*.

The *Spaniards* likewise observe, that
if they were to let all *English* Ships pass
on pretence of coming from *Jamaica*,
they would lose near one half of their an-
nual Treasure that comes from *New Spain*,
which every reasonable Man must admit
to be true; because if the *English* were
suffer'd to pass that Way uninterrupted,
they would draw away the best half of
their *Spanish* Treasure by the contraband
Trade, in spite of all that could be done
by the *Spanish* Officers on Shore, as they
can sell to the Inhabitants all such Com-
modities as they want, above a hundred
perCent, cheaper than they can have them
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from *Old Spain*, and above fifty *per Cen* cheaper than they can have them from the Assient Ships, by reason that the People of our Plantations get such part of those Commodities as they want, from *England*, in barter for the Commodities of their own Country, and are at no Charge of keeping Factors abroad, or paying Sailors at home, as the *South Sea* Company do.

The Reason why the *English* cannot suffer their Ships to be searched by the *Spaniards* in the *West-Indies*.

This is the true Reason for the present Dispute which the Court of *Spain* has with us, and which they set on Foot as soon as they understood the Nature of our Trade in the *West-Indies*.

But these Pretences on the Part of *Spain* to justify the Captures she has so often and so unjustly made, are both false and frivolous. The *English* Right to cut Logwood in the Bay of *Campeachy*, published before the Treaty of 1670, appears plainly from the Report of the Lords of Trade and Plantations, when they were violently dispossessed of that Right by the *Spaniards*, and the Affair was remitted to the Board of Trade by his late Majesty. In the Year 1667 this Trade was by the then Governor of *Jamaica* put under Regulations, so that this Nation had an undoubted Right to it by the Article of *Uti possidetis* in the *American* Treaty. The *Spaniards* since the violent Dispossession of the *English*, pretended indeed a Right by the *South Sea* Company

Company owning their Claim so far, as to take a Lease of that Trade from them; but it is a great Question if the Deed of any Company can deprive the Nation of its just Rights and Privileges.

As to the *Spanish* Pretence of searching for *Spanish* Commodities, it is absolutely inconsistent with positive Treaties, which stipulate the Freedom of Navigation betwixt one Part of his Majesty's Dominions and another; and if the *English* carry on an illicit Trade with their Plantations; it is the Business of *Spain* to prevent it, which she can do consistently with Treaties, but not to break thro' all Treaties, in order to remedy an Evil which *England* never disputed but that she might prevent. The Treaty of 1670, and all subsequent ones, stipulate an Exclusion of all Nations from trading with the *Spanish West Indies*; but the Government here has no reason to be their *Guarda Costas*, or to punish their Subjects for trading with the *Spaniards*, any more than the *French* are obliged to punish theirs for running over the *English* Wood to *France*.

Besides, if the *English* suffer these Ships to be visited or taken, they may as well give up all the *English* Plantations to the *Spaniards*, as they have no other Way of getting one Shilling of ready Money for their Commodities, but by this Sort of Trade to the Coast of *New Spain*

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Spain, which plainly appears from their not having one Penny of Gold or Silver, but *Spanish* Money in their Country; and as all the Trade they have to *England*, and all the rest of the World, besides *New Spain*, does not furnish them with the tenth Part of their Subsistence.

So that this Affair is brought to this Dilemma, that the *Spaniards* must either act consistently with Treaties, or the *English* must give up their Plantations, and entirely lose their *West India* Trade; therefore it is clear that this Dispute could never have been determined but by a War, by which Means the strongest will have an Opportunity of making such Conquests as are necessary for securing their Trade from being disturbed for Ages to come, and of augmenting the same; and the Nature of this Dispute appears to be such as will never bear being settled by a Treaty.

Reasons for a War against Spain, tho' assisted by France.

THe next Thing we are to consider, is the Connection that is betwixt *France* and *Spain*, who are both equally engaged in Interest, either to render the *English* Attempts upon *New Spain* fruitless, or procuring a Peace that may secure them in what they possess.

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But the *French*, whatever they may pretend from their being Guaranties of the Treaty of *Utrecht*, can never have a justifiable Cause for taking Part with *Spain* in this War. The Treaty of *Utrecht* has been long broken on the Part of *Spain*, who, contrary to what is therein stipulated, robb'd and plunder'd the *English* Ships upon the High Seas. We very justly thought that the Treaty of *Utrecht* was thereby violated, and look'd upon the *Spaniards* as the Aggressors, therefore we declared War; but as the War on our Parts was justifiable, so no Power, however she may be a Guarantee, can have any justifiable Pretence for assisting the Enemy under that Colour. She might indeed be justified in assisting the *English* to reduce the *Spaniards* to an Observance of the Treaty of *Utrecht*, but every Step she takes in favour of *Spain*, is a Violation of what she pretends to guarantee.

As to the Pretext drawn from the Interest she has in the *Spanish* Galleons, it is condemned upon the very Face of the Treaty of *Utrecht*; for by that Treaty, no Nation in *Europe* can have any Interest in the *Spanish* Trade; and the Court of *France* making that a Pretence, as she does, for limiting the Operations of this War, is an evident Breach, both of that Treaty, and her Neutrality.

But

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But as the *Spaniards*, by entering into this Dispute, have brought a War upon themselves with *England*, we should be fond of the Opportunity to secure our *West-India* Trade, the Nature of which is but too well understood by *Spain*; especially considering the following Reasons, whereby we can't doubt of Success in a Sea War, even tho' *France* should take Part in their Quarrel, and then we should engage in this War upon our own Bottom, without any Allies.

I. It may be remembered, that the last War between *France* and the Allies, was carried on upon the sole Strength of *England*, altho' we were then in a very weak Condition after King *William's* War, our Land-forces in a sad Condition, as well as our Fleet, having no Proportion of Ships or Sea-Men, to what we have now; *Ireland* and *Scotland* discontented, our Plantations in *America* but poorly inhabited, and not in a Condition to do any Thing for themselves; the *French* King with a numerous Fleet in our Seas, and above thirty Men of War in the *West-Indies*, possessed of vast Dominions, his Coffers full with Money, his Arsenals with Stores, and his powerful Armies attacking all his Neighbours: Whereas now we have above double the
Number

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Number of Ships that both *France* and *Spain* have together, and Sailors at will to man them; which will appear from the Number of Merchant Ships at present belonging to *England*, *Ireland*, and our Plantations, which by a moderate Computation, amounts to 50,000; so that reckoning 6 Men only to each Ship, there are 300,000 Sailors, one fourth Part of which will more than suffice.

N. B. By the general Computation collected from all the Ports of these Kingdoms and the Plantations, it is found that we have above 100,000 Sail of Merchant Ships, great and small; which, admitting that one with another, they carry only 6 Men, makes 600,000 Sailors; so that we compute them above, only at one half.

II. Our Plantations in *America* are at present so well peopled, and have such a Number of Ships and Sailors, that they are both able and willing to put out 40 or 50 large Ships of Force at their own Expence, to carry on this War against the *Spaniards* in *America*; they are likewise so well provided with all Sorts of Provisions, that they can furnish our Fleet at very reasonable Rates with all Necessaries.

They are in a Condition likewise to raise as many Land Forces as would be necessary

necessary to make Descents where the Government should think fit to attack the Spaniards: Whereas the Spaniards have no Force in the West-Indies, but what may be entirely destroyed the first Year by our Men of War, who need stay but one Year there, and leave the rest to our Plantations to do.

Gallies to be provided by the Plantations in America.

By New England	—	—	6
Rhode Island	—	—	2
New York	—	—	6
Pensylvania	—	—	3
Maryland	—	—	3
Virginia	—	—	6
North Carolina	—	—	3
South Carolina	—	—	1
Jamaica	—	—	4
St. Christophers	—	—	2
Antegoa	—	—	2
Montserat	—	—	1
Newis	—	—	1

In all— 40

If the Plantations furnish 40 Gallies of 500 Men each, built in the Nature of the French or Spanish Gallies, their Men exercised to Arms as our Foot are, they can

can easily make themselves Masters of Port St. Augustine and the small Forts near it, and afterwards they will have no Difficulty to take Cuba, Hispaniola, and Porto Rico, which will give us the Key of the whole Trade of New Spain, that nothing can go in or out without our Leave. They will be able also to ravage the whole Coast of New Spain; but this last we shall have no Occasion to do, because the People of New Spain are so tir'd of the grievous Oppressions of Old Spain, and so sensible of the great Benefit they would receive by a direct Trade with our Plantations, that so soon as they found themselves at Liberty, they will chuse their own Governors, drive out all the Old Spaniards, and declare for us; and our Plantations will do all this at a less Charge than they were at in furnishing Ships the last War; and they will be very well satisfied with what Plunder they get for their Labours.

Our Gallies thus mann'd with such brave People as the Americans are, will beat 5 French or Spanish Gallies of equal Number of Men, because their Gallies are mann'd with Slaves, who are kept chain'd to their Oars without Arms, and but 50 fighting Men on board each Galley. The West India Seas being like that of the Mediterranean, those sort of Vessels are most proper for that Service, many Examples of which we have from

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the *Grecians* and *Romans*, who in all their Conquests in the *Mediterranean* used Gallies of this sort, exercising their Men to Arms, who row'd or fought as Occasion requir'd, and could land at Will.

III. Our Men of War being thus at Leisure to watch the Motions of the *French* and *Spaniards* at Home, our People in *America* can meet with little or no Opposition, since it will be difficult for the Enemy to find Means to send Succours to their Friends in the *West Indies*, when our Fleet are Masters of the Seas at Home; and our Fleet being at Home will likewise preserve us from any Descents upon *England*; so that let their Land Forces be never so numerous or superior to ours, we can have nothing to apprehend from them except in the narrow Seas betwixt *Dover* and *Calais*, where they may ship over in Calms; but this likewise may be prevented easily, by building 20 such Gallies in the River *Thames*, mann'd with 500 Watermen each, exercised to Arms as above. By this Method the Land Forces which are on Foot at present, will be sufficient to protect this Kingdom against all Manner of Invasions and Attempts whatsoever. The Building, Rigging, and compleatly Equipping one of these Gallies, will not cost above 3000 *l. sterl.* and the Men must be put upon the same Foot as our

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our Marines were in the Time of the last War.

If we have only *Spain* to deal with, we fear not any Descent from them; so that in this Case there will be no Occasion for this last Expence of these Gallies at Home.

The Traject from *Spain* to *England* is so wide and rough at Sea, that the *Spaniards* can make Use of no small Vessels upon any such Expedition, and our Men of War will always be able to meet with and master their large Ships. No Expedition for *England* can hope for Success, under 30 or 40,000 regular Troops, which must have 500 Ships at least to transport them. In all Expeditions of this Kind, Troops that cross the Seas are liable to Sicknefs, and so many Accidents, that they are not worth half that Number at their Landing; even in the *Mediterranean*, where they have a smooth Sea and a bold Shore to land, which is a quite different Case on our Coast, the Sea having always a great Swell, and the Shore generally flat; where Boats cannot land Men but with great Difficulty, and where consequently great Numbers must be lost in landing; therefore 5000 good Troops on Shore, assisted by the Militia of the Country, will always be able to defeat an Armament of 40,000 Men: This is proved by our

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Expedition to *La Hogue* last War, the last *Oran* Expedition by the *Spaniards*, and the constant Experience in such Cases.

In case the *French* should join the *Spaniards* against us, and should intend a Descent upon *England*, 'tis natural to imagine, that it will be from the nearest Land to *England*, viz. *Dunkirk*, *Calais*, *Boulogne*, &c. Suppose such an Expedition be intended with 30,000 Men, these Troops cannot assemble and be in Readiness to embark under a Month's Time at least, witness the Invasion in 1708, and must employ 4 or 500 Sail; such a Number of Ships can never assemble without our having timely Notice to guard our Coasts by Sea and Land; and by the Use of such Gallies as are mentioned above, we shall be always able to prevent any small Ship that may endeavour to pass through our Fleet in Calms, Fogs, &c. because these Gallies can row from Creek to Creek, as Occasion shall require, and may land their Men to join the Troops on Shore, and oppose the Enemies landing.

IV. A War of this Kind, carried on upon our own Foot, must be more certain of Success to us, than if we had all the Princes in Alliance with us, who were included in the Grand Alliance last War; because as the chief Force of *France* and *Spain* is by Land, and as they are much
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superior to their Neighbours by Land, the entering into Engagements with foreign Princes or States must always be of dangerous Consequence to *England*, upon whom the whole Expence of the War may be laid. This is fully proved by King *William's* and Queen *Ann's* Wars, which were the Occasion of the great publick Debt which has distress'd us ever since; and all this for securing and encreasing the Dominions of our Allies, being so disinterested ourselves, as to be content with the Glory of defending and encreasing their Power and Wealth; and it is evident that this Nation has been always successful when they have waged War against *France* and *Spain* upon their own Foot to defend their own Dominions, and to conquer for themselves, as in the Time of the *Edwards*, the *Henrys*, and Queen *Elizabeth*.

We are no sooner engaged in foreign Alliances, than we are obliged to advance great Sums of Money to be expended in foreign Countries, to furnish great Number of Troops; to keep vast Numbers of Transport Ships continually in our Service at a great Expence, and all to defend the Dominions of our Allies; and if we are successful, the Conquests are for them: We are likewise obliged, in order to consult their Interests, to neglect those Conquests that would be of use to *England*, as in the last War we laid aside attacking the *Spanish West Indies*, in Complaisance to the
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Emperor, who represented to us at that Time, that such an Attempt would alienate the Minds of the *Spanish* Nation from him.

For these Reasons a War upon our own Foot cannot cost us one fourth Part of the Money, which we are obliged to spend in a foreign War; where we tie ourselves to Engagements with several Princes in Alliance with us.

V. In the present Case *France* and *Spain* have no Pretence to attack their Neighbours, if not in Alliance with us; but if they do, those Princes will better exert themselves in their own Defence, when they see that they can have no Prospect of Assistance from us; witness what the Emperor did in the last War with *France*: Whereas, on the other hand, if they find they can engage us in their Quarrels, they think very wisely for themselves, and leave the Burthen of the War on us, as Principals, by which our Treasures are exhausted in paying their Troops (as they will always pretend Poverty so long as we are the Dupes to find Supplies for them) while they themselves consult their own private Interest, exclusive of that of the Alliance in general; witness the clandestine Trade which the *Dutch* carried on with the Enemy during the last War, by which Trade the *French* were able to fit out their Fleets, having no Stores of their own,

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own, as their Admirals have since own'd, and as appears from what has been mention'd above.

VI. In a War upon our own Foot, our Trade can no ways suffer, having only our own Affairs to mind, and our own Interests to defend; by which Means we shall always have Men of War sufficient to convoy our Merchant-Ships, and to spare. Neither can the Loss of our Trade with *Old Spain* during the War be of any Prejudice to us, if duly consider'd; because when once their Treasures coming from *New Spain* are obstructed, and we desist from buying their Wines, they will not be in any Condition to buy any Merchandize from us; and if our trading People in the *West Indies* do not during the War draw off the greatest part of their Treasure by a clandestine Trade, as they did the last War, it will remain in the *West Indies*, and must fall into our Hands at the End of the War, which will fully make us amends for the short Time that Trade will be interrupted by this War.

It will be well remembered, before the End of the last War, when the coming home of the Galeons was entirely obstructed, and our Ships had beat the *French* and *Spaniards* from the Coasts of *New Spain*, then our Merchant Ships went securely into the Bays upon the Coasts of *New Spain*, the Inhabitants bought our Mer-

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Merchandize in the same Manner as they wou'd have done in Time of a profound Peace, and as if we had had a free Liberty of Trade with them, by which our Plantations in *America* drew the greatest Part of the Treasure from *New Spain*, which will be the Case now. And as for our Trade with *France*, it would be well for us that we had no Trade with them, since the Balance of our Trade with them is greatly against us, and every Year growing worse. As we are so much superior by Sea to both these Nations, it would be happy for us that *France* would join in this War with the *Spaniards*.

Since it would give us very proper Occasions to destroy those great Branches of Trade they have got into since the last War, and do now too much out-do us in; *viz.*

The Fishery in *Newfoundland*,
The Sugar Trade,
The *Negroe* Trade, and
The *Levant* Trade.

And likewise we shou'd be able to possess ourselves of their Settlements in *Newfoundland*, *Mississippi* and *Hispaniola*, and render them incapable of pretending to cope with us in Trade.

N. B. There is a very necessary Remark to be made here; That if we suffer
France

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France to continue twenty Years longer in Peace, they will unavoidably, in the same Manner, steal into the greatest part of the Trade which the *English* are now in possession of; but if *France*, from an Apprehension of losing those valuable Branches of Trade which they have insensibly slip't into during the long Peace, shou'd avoid joining with the *Spaniards* against us, we shall more easily conquer the *Spaniards*, and be in Readiness to call *France* to account in a proper Time.

What gives us the greater Certainty of Success in this War, is, the great Strength and vast Trade our Plantations in *America* have acquir'd since the last War: The Province of *New England* alone employs above 15,000 Sailors, and build vast Numbers of large Ships, which they load with Masts, Yards, Pitch, Tar, Cordage, Spoke and Trennel, and send to the Ports of *Spain*, *France*, and *Italy*, where they sell Ship and Cargo at a very great Profit; so that at present three fourths of the *French* Merchant Ships have been bought from the *English* Plantations in *America*. *New York*, *Pensylvania*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, and *Carolina* deal in the same Manner, and employ a great Number of Sailors, tho' not so many in proportion as *New England*.

All those Colonies will be glad to employ their whole Force against the *Spaniards*

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niards in the *West Indies*, provided proper Encouragement be given them.

If it shou'd be thought adviseable to send Troops from *England* to assist our Plantations, they may be landed at *New York*, and well refreshed there, which may be made the general Rendezvous of all the *American* Troops to join them: Our Plantations can easily furnish Transports for this Expedition with all necessary Provisions, which are very cheap and in great Plenty there. At *New York* they may all embark for *Jamaica*, from whence we shou'd make a Descent upon *Cuba*, which we can do from *Jamaica* in 12 Hours, and from whence we can supply our Troops in *Cuba* from time to time with all manner of warlike Stores and Provisions.

The Conquest of this Place, as well as any other Part of *New Spain*, will not be thought so difficult, when it is consider'd that the Slaves in *Cuba* are seven in number to every white Man (as they are all over the *Spanish West Indies*) who will readily come over to us upon Promise of Freedom; and that in all other Parts the neighbouring *Indians*, as well as their Slaves, will always be ready to join with us, if we supply the *Indians* with Arms, and promise the Slaves their Liberty.

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Jamaica, *Barbadoes*, and the *Leeward Islands*, being almost wore out and in great Decay, will likewise be very glad to employ all their Force to conquer *Cuba*, *Hispaniola*, and *Porto Rico*, in order to get Settlements in those Islands, which will be much more beneficial to them.

If at any Time it is thought necessary to employ Horse in those Expeditions, we need only send the Men from *England*, and mount them in *New England*, where good Horse are in great Numbers and very cheap.

The Conquest of *Cuba* has been thought difficult, ever since the Miscarriage of the Attempt upon *Hispaniola* in *Cromwell's* Time; but it will not appear so, when it is consider'd, that the 6000 Men sent thither by *Cromwell* had no other Resource than to live on salt Provisions, during the long Voyage from *England* thither, whereby they suffer'd very much; and when they landed, being unacquainted with the Island, they were obliged to make use of such Guides as they found, who proved to be sent in their Way by the Enemy, and who deceiving them, laid them under the Cannon of their Fortresses, where being repulsed they lost all Courage, when they consider'd they had no Place of Refuge till they return'd to *England*; which cannot be our Case at present, because we have good Places of Refuge for our

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Troops

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Troops in case of Accidents, from whence they can always be supplied with Reinforcements and fresh Provisions as Occasion shall require, which will very much contribute to their Health, and support their Courage to succeed in their Undertaking; we have also People to conduct them, who know the Country as well as the *Spaniards* themselves, and are perfectly well acquainted with the Force of the Enemy.

VIII. This War may be carried on for a very inconsiderable Sum, in respect of what the last War cost us, and by the Certainty of our Success can be of no long Duration, because the *Spaniards* in the *West Indies* (which is most essential to us) must immediately be destroy'd by the Numbers that will fall upon them from all parts of our Dominions whenever the War is declar'd, the Merchants at home desiring nothing more ardently than an Occasion to assist their Friends in those Countries both with Ships and Money, and desire no other Recompense than the Plunder they may get, and the future Security of their Trade.

Provided always, that our Men of War may not have a Power to hinder our Merchant Ships from cruising upon the Enemy, as they had in the last War, which much discouraged our Plantations from
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fitting out the Ships, which otherwise they wou'd have done.

As the Nation in general desire nothing more than this War to revenge themselves of the *Spaniards* for their Depredations and Cruelties for many Years last past, and to secure their Trade for the future; there will be no Difficulty in raising the necessary Supplies, or in borrowing what Money may be wanted upon any Emergency; more especially as our Stocks in the City, which will naturally fall a little at first, must as certainly soon rise again, when they see our whole Trade protected by our Superiority at Sea, and by strong Convoys to all Parts; and the first Success will very much raise the Spirits of the People, and consequently keep up the Credit of our publick Funds.

We must likewise observe, that the Case being as above, that the whole Nation in general cry out for this War, and that it is enter'd into intirely for the Security of our Trade, and the Advantage of all the Subjects of *England*, the most disaffected Person in the Kingdom cannot be so void of Thought or Reason as to enter into any Seme or Plot for the Pretender, in order to make a Diversion at such a Time in favour of *France* or *Spain*, against whom the whole Nation is so much exasperated, which can only tend to our Success
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ees in this popular Undertaking: So that if it is possible that there is such a Creature in the Kingdom, who can have such a Thought, he must keep it to himself, otherwise he will certainly run the Risque of being stoned by his next Neighbours.



An APPENDIX: Containing a VIEW of those Countries of the Spanish West Indies that will probably be the Seat of the present War.

THE natural born *Spaniards*, are solely vested with Command throughout all the *Spanish Indies*; they only enjoy Posts of Honour, Profit and Trust; and this it is which occasions those Draughts which have so drain'd and weaken'd their Dominions in *Europe*; for putting no Confidence even in the very first Generation of their Descendants, and absolutely prohibiting all Strangers from going thither in their Service, a necessity follows of sending thither continually large Supplies, that they may be still in a Condition to hold the Reins with equal Titeness. This Form of Government creates an irreconcilable Antipathy between the *Euro-*

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European Spaniards and the *Criolo's*, i. e. those born of *Spanish* Parents in the *West Indies*. These latter see, with Indignation, themselves equally shut out from all considerable Preferment either in Church or State; the most palpable Partiality shewn in all judicial Decisions between them and *Spaniards*; and, in a word, the whole Policy of their Governors bent to distress and to deject them. The *Spaniards*, on the other hand, no ways ignorant of their Sentiments, and moreover continually jealous of their desire to throw off the *Spanish* Yoke, entirely exert their utmost Arts to enfeeble and enslave them: They discourage, as far as they are able, all sorts of Manufactures, of which being unprovided, they must of course purchase such as are sent from *Spain*; they also endeavour to hinder Plantations (except *Estantions* or *Beef Farms*) that they may not have it in their Power to possess rich and improv'd Settlements; the Cause why those noble Countries are so little cultivated; and lastly, they make it their Aim to encrease Luxury, Idleness, and Pusillanimity amongst them, that they more easily may be kept in Obedience: Whence it apparently follows, *Buccaneers*, and such like, in small Numbers are able to do the utmost Mischief. And thus throughout all these vast rich and noble Provinces, the Inhabitants seem inspired

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spired with a Spirit of Dissension, which renders them continually restless and uneasy, making almost useless those Blessings indulgent Providence has conferr'd upon them.

As to the Religion of the *Spanish Americans*, it is universally Popish; and if there be any degree in Bigottry amongst them, it is among the Natives, who almost adore the Priests; and are severely fleec'd by them, paying them out of all they have much more than the Tythe. Amongst the Clergy, there are great Divisions, occasioned chiefly by the national Quarrels between the *Criolo's* and the *Spaniards*, which subsisted long, and seem rather to encrease than diminish; the several Orders of Friars, as in *Europe*, are exceedingly jealous of one another, tho' they all find Ways to gain so much upon the Minds of the People, that there is not perhaps in the World finer and more costly Monasteries and Religious Houses than are here; the Power, Riches, and Grandeur of the Church, rising no where higher.

The Inhabitants of *Spanish America* are,
 [1.] Natural born *Spaniards*. [2.] *Criolians*, of *Spanish* Parents born in *America*.
 [3.] *Mesteeze*, born of *Indian* and *Spanish* Parents. [4.] *Indians*, properly Natives. [5.]
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Negro's brought hither from *Africk*. As for the *Spaniards*, they differ little from those in *Europe*, except they are more high and lofty than in *Spain*; as they are Lords here, possessing every Thing, and living on the Labour of others. The *Criols* fall not a bit short of them in Vanity and Haughtiness; but, as I have said, are kept much under, never allow'd any considerable Preferment, and are even worse used than the *Indians* themselves; they are ignorant, lazy and pusillanimous in general, tho' here and there, especially amongst the Churchmen, some deserve a better Character. The *Indians* are a simple, well natur'd, industrious People, much lessen'd in their Numbers by the excessive Cruelty us'd at first by their Conquerors; they are yet sufficiently press'd by the Yoke of Bondage, but where-ever they are allow'd a Relaxation, they build convenient Cities, and soon make themselves rich and flourishing. The *Negroes* here, as elsewhere, are made use of as Slaves.

As to the Commodities of this Country, I shall speak more particularly, under the Description I shall give of its several Parts. In respect of its Trade, it is wholly Domestic, except what is carried on with *Spain*, a yearly Ship from *Acapulco* to the *East Indies*, and the prohibited Commerce they used

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used to carry on with the *English*. The *Spaniards* who, as I have said, own no other Maxim in their *Indian* Politicks, than to keep the *Americans* in absolute Subjection, are in nothing more careful than what relates to Traffick; having taken every Precaution they were able to hinder their Intercourse with other Nations, both by heavy Fines, and severe Punishments, which sometimes have extended even to Death itself; and by maintaining Vessels of Force in pay under the Name of *Guard du Costa's*, in order to cruise about and make Prize of whatever Ship they find within the limits of their Seas; they likewise suppress some, and carefully discourage all Manufactures from being carried on there; tho' for all that, some very tolerable Cloth is made in *Quito*; for it is here, as in some other polite Countries, a handsome Present to those in the Administration is a certain Method to strike Justice, or at least the Ministers of Justice, both blind and dumb. The Shipping here are neither numerous nor convenient; what there are continually pass to and fro between the two vast Divisions of this Empire, which as they were before the only Parts of the World known to the *Indians*, so they are now the only Places which have any Commerce together under the Government of the *Spaniards*: But as all is of late fallen under the Direction

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of the *French*, it is highly probable they soon may be alter'd.

Having thus, in general, mentioned what alike concerns all the *Spanish America*, which from the morose Gravity of the People, differ as little in their Manners as in *Spain*; we shall now descend to a kind of Geographical Description of its several Provinces, both of *Peru* and *Mexico*, as they lie along the Coast *North*, and of the *South Sea*; in which we shall consider their Extent, their Soil, their Climate, their Produce, their Trade, their Cities, Ports and Towns, with whatever else we find remarkable, in order to the giving a clear and distinct View of the Territory, Force and Riches of the *Spaniards* in this Climate.

This first great Province of the Catholick King's Dominion here, is called *Mexico* or *North-Spain*, and, as the *Spaniards* reckon them, is divided into *Mexico*, *Quivera*, *Nicaragua*, *Jucatan*, *Florida*, *Virginia*, *Norembege*, *Nova-Francia*, *Corterialis*, and *Estotlandia*. The other Vice-Royalty of *Peru*, they divide thus; *Castella Aurea*, *Guinea*, *Peru* (properly so called) *Brasil* and *Chili*. I shall consider them as they lie *North* and *South*, under modern Names, and afterwards mention the Islands.

Florida,

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Florida, is the Northern Country in the *Spanish* Dominion; it lies on the North Sea, and makes one Side of the Bay of *Mexico*; the *Spaniards* consider it as a Country of vast Extent, but then they take in a great deal of what is already settled by the *English* and *French*; the latter had some Possession of that Part of it now in the Hand of *Spain*, but the *Spaniards*, by continual Wars, at last wearied them out. The true Reason why the *Spaniards* are so careful of this Country, is, because should any other Nation fully settle it, they would have an open Road to the *Spanish* Territories, and in such a Case, the *Criolians* would, as I have said, make a very indifferent Defence. The Soil and Air of *Florida* are both exceedingly good, and the Country plentiful, and covered with a pleasant Verdure: the chief *Spanish* Garrison is that of *St. Augustin*, besides which they have but one or two more, and those not very considerable. The Natives are an ingenious, brave and honest People, who live in Clans, like the *Scots* Highlanders, under their Heads or Princes, call'd *Caciques*, who have found all who have attempted to conquer them, hard Work. Its Commodities for Trade, (I mean that Part in the *Spaniards* Hands) are little besides Furs; but if it were possessed by an industrious People, it might be greatly improv'd.

Quivira,

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Quivira, as the *Spaniards* call it, or *New Mexico*, is still far from being discovered; some suppose it to border upon *Tartary*; and it is reported that *Vasquez di Coronado*, who went thither in 1540, saw in the farther Sea Vessels, which he took to be *Cathayan* or *Chinese*. The Soil here is good, the Air and Climate excellent, the Country full of Inhabitants: but because there are no Mines there, 'tis in a great measure neglected by the *Spaniards*; however, there are some Towns. Amongst those of chief Note, are *Cibola*, *Totontaa* and *Tinguez*; the Riches of the Inhabitants consist in Cattle. Near this Country (which passes under several Names) lies, as is supposed, the Kingdom of *Anian*, giving Denomination to the Streights which have *California* on one Side, and this Part of the Continent on the other.

Next in its Order lies the Province of *Mexico* or *New Spain*, properly so called, formerly the Seat of the famous *Mexican* Empire, to which *Hernando Cortez* put an End the 13th of *August* 1521, by the Conquest of *Mexico* their Capital, and taking their last Emperor *Quabucimoc*. This noble Country is the Flower of the *Spanish* Dominion here, abounding with all Things necessary for the Life or Conveniency of Man. *Mexico* itself is a large and magnificent City, situated

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fituated like *Venice*, amongst the Waters of her famous Lake; it is the Place where resides the *Spanish* Governor for the Northern Province, an Archbishop, the Court of Chancery, and the other Offices belonging to the Crown of *Spain* in these Countries. Proper *Mexico* is divided into four Parts, viz. *Themisteitan*, *Nova Galicia*, *Mechooacan* and *Guaftacan*; in the first of these lies the City of *Mexico* itself, and the City *De los Angeles*, with some others of lesser Note. It was a very populous Country when in the Power of the *Indians*, who were a very wise and industrious People, well skill'd in melting and making Vessels of their Metals, and in the composing Feather-works, the most beautiful that could be imagined. As it stands at present in the Hands of the *Spaniards*, they draw from it immense Riches; for the Mines here, tho' they do not contain as great a Quantity of Metal in Proportion to the Oar, as those in *Peru*, yet the Metal is finer, and extracted with far less Trouble than theirs. *Mexico* is even yet populous; the City of *Angels* is also very rich, the Town of *La Vera Cruz* is the Port; and the Sums extracted from this Province are very large; the *Spanish* Officers also making much Money by their Perquisites, i. e. by their Extortions. The Vice-Roy alone, notwithstanding his noble Allowance of 100000 Ducats

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Ducats *per Annum*, squeezing them to the Amount of a Million; in which laudable Practice his Under-Governors, Presidents, Alcades and Judges, are sure to follow him; by which tho' the poor People suffer much, yet 'tis the poorest suffer most. Amongst those that are of any Rank, the highest Luxury in all Kinds is visible, twenty thousand Coaches being kept in the City of *Mexico* alone. The fine Situation, Fertility of Soil, the Seat of Government, and Conveniency of Living, has attracted hither such a Concourse of People, as may make it vye with any *European City*, both for Populoufness and for Splendor.

The Trade of this Province is almost altogether Inland, except what is carried yearly to *Vera Cruz*, in order to be transported to *Old Spain*, and what is sent to *Acapulco*, its Port on the *South Seas*, from which the famous annual Ship goes to the *Philipines*; by these two Sea-Ports the whole Commerce of the *Spanish North America* is sent and brought home.

Yucatan is the next Province, a Peninsula, one Side of which bounds the famous Bay of *Mexico*; 'tis about 900 Miles in Compass, a fruitful pleasant Country, abounding with *Indian Corn* or *Maiz*, Fruits,
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Physical Shrubs and Herbs, such as *Sarsaparilla*, &c. Fowls of all Sorts, and great Numbers of Cattle, whose Hides are the chief Commodity. It is divided into three Parts, *Yucatan* proper, *Queitamaha* and the Island of *Santa Cruz*. The most known Places in *Yucatan* are *Merida*, *Campeachy*, &c. In *Guatemala*, much the richest Province, are *St. Jago*, or the City of *Guatemala*, *Chiapa*, &c. finely built, large and well inhabited, both by *Spaniards* and *Indians*. The last Division of it is the Island of *St. Cruz*, so called from its chief City. The whole Peninsula points directly to the Island of *Cuba*; and tho' it furnishes all Conveniencies of Life, yet as no Mines are found in it, the *Spaniards* think but poorly of it; however it is populous, and very full of *Indians*.

Honduras is the Province adjoining to *Yucatan*, lying along the *North Sea*; a noble Country, indifferently inhabited, tho' rich, pleasant and fruitful; its chief Cities are *Valladolid*, situated exactly between the two Seas, *Gratias a Dos*, near the Gold Mines, and the famous City of *Truxillo*. *Nicaragua* lies close on the back Side of *Honduras*, and extends itself in like manner along the *South Sea*, as the other doth along the *North*; this is beyond compare the
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finest Country of all *Mexico*, full of rich Mines, and yet fruitful in Corn and Fruits, which are sometimes prefer'd to Gold. Adjacent to it lies *Costa Rica* and *Veragua*, which in some Degree resembles it, and adjoining the *Isthmus* of *Darien*, which divides this Country from *Peruana* or *South America*. On the South Sea in this *Isthmus* is *Panama*, a famous City, whither the Riches of the Southern Coast of *Mexicana* and *Peruana* are brought, and thence transported to *Porto Bello*, on the other Side of the *Isthmus*; on the North Sea; it goes on board the Galleons, who proceed to their Rendezvous at the *Havana* in the Island of *Cuba*, and thence sail to *Old Spain*.

We are now come to speak of *South America* or *Peruana*, which is still richer than *Mexico*, and is above all rendered famous for that immense Quantity of Wealth which *Spain* has drawn from her Mines of *Potosi*. *Lima* is the Seat of the Vice-Roy of *South America*; who hath also as much Power, and acquires yet greater Riches, than he of the Northern Province. We will examine this in the same Order we have done the former. The first Province then bordering upon the *Isthmus*, is the *Castella del Oro*; or, as it is usually call'd by the *Spaniards*, *Terra Firma*; in this, as we now reckon

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reckon it, *Panama* and all on the South Side is contain'd. The Country is very watery and unwholsome, but valuable for its Mines of Gold, the most famous of which is *St. Maria*, near the *Isthmus*. The chief Place here is the celebrated *Cartagena*, where the Galleons from *Spain* make their first Stay. *Guyana* lies next, which is not thoroughly in the power of the *Spaniards*, tho' much coveted for the vast Quantity of Gold found here, as it is for ever rendered famous for the unfortunate Expedition of *Sir Walter Rawleigh* against *Fort St. Thomas* in 1595. To this adjoins *Peru* itself, whose Soil and Climate were not to be boasted of, if it did not abound, as it doth, with Gold and Silver, in respect of which it may be justly called one of the richest Countries in the World. *Lima* is the Place of the Vice-Roy's Residence, and is a neat, beautiful and compact City; its Port is that of *Callao*, as the Port of *Potosi*, and its adjacent City *Imperiali*, is *Arica*, famous in our Journals at Sea. *Chili* lies next to the Province of *Peru*, and is absolutely the finest Country and richest in all *America*, whether North or South; the Inhabitants are a hardy, valiant and stubborn People, who having been ill used by the *Spaniards*, drove them out of their Country, kill'd their Governor, and are their inveterate Enemies to this

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Day; however, the *Spaniards* have now recover'd *Baldivia*, and some other Places on the Sea Coast. *Paraguay*, or rather *La Plata*, is at the Back of *Chili*, in which the Catholick King hath the valuable Settlement of *Buyenos Ayres*, one of the finest in *America*; the true *Paraguay* is entirely subject to, and form'd by the Jesuits. *Ferra Magellanica* is the last *Spanish* Settlement I have to mention, and, to say truth, is difficult enough to determine, whether it be settled or no; however they claim it, and as they reckon it part of their Possessions, so shall I. As to the Islands which they have under their Dominions, the most remarkable in the North Sea are *Cuba*, in which lies the famous Harbour of *Havana*, the largest and most commodious in the whole *American* Territories; *Hispaniola*, whose Capital, *St. Domingo*, was built by *Columbus*, and *Porto Rico*; all of considerable Bigness, and of Importance, with several others of lesser Note. In the South Sea, there is only *California* of any great Extent; and it is, as yet, not half discovered; however, there are many small ones, some of which are valuable, in their Possession; for tho', with respect had to the Compass of Land, the *Spaniards* are few, yet there are

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a vast Number of them in *America*; and were they under a politic Government there, which intended the strengthening and extending them, they would quickly grow a more formidable Empire than ever they are now like to be.

Perhaps it may be proper to observe, that I have not so much as mentioned either the Northern Extremities of *America* or *Brazil*, justly esteem'd one of the most excellent Provinces of this New World. As to the first, tho' the *Spaniards* do still claim them, yet as they are in a great part unknown, and as the greatest Part of what is known, belongs now to other Nations, they do not fall naturally within the Compass of my Design, which was to speak only of the Dominions of the *Spanish* Crown. The latter is in the Hands totally of the *Portuguese*, tho' they once lost a great part of it to the *Dutch*. As to the Extent of these vast Territories, the Northern Province, or *Mexicana*, is reckon'd 13000 Miles, and the Southern or *Peruana* 17000 in Circumference; tho' these are but round Numbers, and I suspect the first especially, is not very exact. As to the Number of People, tho' it must be allowed vast Multitudes were

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were kill'd in the Conquest by *Pizaro Cortez Almagro*, and other *Spanish Captains*, yet it may be easily proved, that *America* was never populous, tho' the Causes of that *Thinness* are not so easily to be found out.

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