22-17

A

LETER

TOTHE

AUTHOR of the CALCULATIONS

IN THE

White-Hall Evening-Post,

RELATING TO

South-Sea S T O C K.

SHEWING

The MISTAKES in the faid CALCULATIONS; and, These being Rectified, What the Present VALUE of SOUTH-SEA STOCK is.

TOGETHER WITH

An ANSWER to the Unjust Infinuations against the Estimate of the Value of South-Sea Stock, lately Published, as if that Treatise were intended to prejudice the Unhappy Sufferers, who have dealt in South-Sea Stock, or to hurt the Publick Credit.

By a Member of the House of Commons.



LONDON:
Printed in the YEAR MDCCXX.

HE following LETTER, with the Other Tracts, which have been Published by the Author thereof, relating to South-Sea Stock; and also, some Other Calculations and Remarks on the same Subject, which have not hitherto been made Publick; will be contained in One Volume, and will be ready to be delivered to the Members of the House of Commons, at the Meeting of the Parlia-

To the AUTHOR of the

CALCULATIONS

INTHE

White-Hall EVENING-POST.



OU have obliged the Publick with your Calculations relating to the South-Sea Company, and I cannot better make my particular Acknowledgments, than by taking notice of the Mistakes which I think you have made therein.

I shall premise, That I take the Times of Payment of the first Four Money-Subscriptions, and the Alterations made by the Directors, to be exactly as you have stated them in your Evening-Post of the 4th Instant; and that the Publick Debts, subscribed and unsubscribed, are as you have stated them in your Evening-Post of the 24th of last Month, excepting only as to a Half-penny per Annum, which you short state the Long Annuities, as you may see in Page 177. of the late Act of Parliament, For inabling the South-Sea Company to increase their Capital; and with this small Alteration, the Matter will stand thus:

Pangli di benganggan mga kebenganggan ang angkalaka kalang ni 🔟 🗀 angkalanggan kangkangkang ng kebengan kangkang

1st Subscription. 2d Subscription. Both Subscriptions Remains. Lon. Annu. per A. 427,340: 18: 9 125,392: 17: 6
64,120: 04: 0 33,656: 06: 0 114,087:12:01 666,821:8:3 97,776: 10: 29,483 : 16 : 1 127,260:6:1 Subscribed. Total. The Redeemable Debts -14,393,788 - - - 2,152,694:07:1 16,546,482:7:1

1. The aforesaid Half-penny per Annum being omitted, the first Sum in your Evening-Post of the 11th Instant, is short stated	646
2. In Page 176 of the aforesaid Act of Parliament, you will find the Old Capital of the South-Sea Company, to be stated at	11,746,844 : 08 : 10
But in your faid Evening-Post, you make it only	11,202,710 : 00 : 00
The Difference is	544,134 : 08 : 10

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3. In your Article for the Stock given the Long Annuitants of the First Sub- fcription, you short state the same
4. In your Article for the Stock given the Long Annuitants of the Second Sub- feription, you short state it : 02 : 06
5. In your Article of the Stock for the Short Annuitants of the Second Subscription, you over-state the same 25,000: 00: 00
6. In your Evening Post of the 13th Instant, in your Article of the Price paid by the Long and Short Annuitants of the First Subscription, you under state the same \(\frac{1}{4} \)
7. In the Article of the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities of the Second Subscription, you over-state the same 99,999: 10:00
On a Re-Examination of the Long and Short Annuities of the First and Second Subscriptions, and stating the same at the Rates you mention in your said Two Evening-Posts, you will find, that you have mistaken in the aforesaid Particulars; and those and the 10 d. Error in the Valuation of the Total of the Long Annuities, and the under Computation of the Old Capital of the South-Sea Company, being amended, your Calculations in your Evening-Post of the 11th Instant, will come out as followeth; viz.
The present Capital will then be 33,753,600:03:082
The prefent remaining Stock to be 3 4,810,579: 10: 0175
The Sum to which the Company may at prefent increase their Capital, 38,564,179: 13: 10 will then be
The further Stock to be disposed of when all the said re- 3 4,847,219: 13:01
And then the Capital of the South Sea Company will be 3 43,411,399:06:11
And then the Sum which in your Evening-Post of the 13th Instant, you state at \ 22,006,755: 14: 10 \frac{2}{10}
And add thereto the Old Capital of the South-Sea Company 11,746,844:08:10
And it compleats the present Capital, as it is, when truly stated 33,753,600: 03: 08,000
And, accordingly, the Sum which in your faid Evening? Post of the 13th Instant, you make to amount to 72,789,019 !. 72,689,019 : 14:02 4 2 s. will come out only
Add thereto the Price paid by the Proprietors of the Old South-Sea Stock, for their Share of the present increased Ca- 11,746,844:08:10 pital, being their Original Capital at Pur
And then the Price paid by all the Proprietors of the pre- 3 84,435,864: 03:00 14 fent increased Capital, will amount to
 But, confidering the Times of Payment, according to your Evening-Post of the 4th Instant, for the first Two Money-Subscriptions, and also for the Third and Fourth Money-Subscriptions, 'till Sept. 29. 1720, at which Time they commenced to pay Interest, and that the Bank likewise have their Annuity for their Debt 'till that Time, there will be wanting, to make the said Four Money-Subscriptions and the Bank Debt, equal to a Payment of the Sum subscribed as at Midsummer, 1720.
Which being deducted, will reduce the Price paid by all the Proprietors of the prefent Capital for the whole Stock as at Midsummer, 1720, to = \$83,812,722: 11:01 }
보고 있었다. 그런 그는 것이 그 그렇게 되는 것이 되었다. 그런

Note that the second of the se	Brought over	83,812,722:11:01
The Capital Stock of the present Proprietors is		33,753,600:03:08:0
By your Evening-Post of the 13th Instant, you the Profits arising to the Company by the Subscript to be	nake \	
But the Discounts before taken no-	# 10/章 編 - 13/2/2 - 13/2 - 14/2 : 10/章 編 - 13/2/2 - 13/2/2 - 14/	n to the first of the control of the second
The other Mistakes taken notice of in your Computations, amount to - \} 126,912:19		
Which deducted, the faid Profits by Subscriptions, wout only	750,054: 11: 07½	6 - 50,059,122:07:04 ¹⁷
This Difference will make no great Variation in the you have omitted Two other Particulars, which will may ration, and greatly leften the faid Profits arifing by the Money payable to the Publick for this Bargain; and, T 3 Years Purchase, allowed by the Company to the Propri Annuities, who have subscribed over and above what is a lick for the same. For the said Annuitants, for the St have paid only their Annuities, and the Publick have all same, only 20 and 14 Years Purchase: And these Two amount to	ke a very confiderable Alte- e Subscriptions; viz. The 'he Surplus Prices of 12 and etors of the Long and Short- illowed to them by the Pub- tock and Bonds given them, owed the Company for the	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
Which being deducted, reduceth the Net Profits ariffir whereof the remaining Stock of 4,810,579 l. 10 s. 115, present Right to dispose of, is Part) to	g by the Subscriptions (and which the Company have a	35,935,296: 17: 03 ¹⁷
If the Profits arising by Subscriptions were 50,809,176/ as you have stated them, then the Proportion of every 10 Fractions under 1 d.	o i. Stock of these Fronts, v	l only 33,182,552 l. 3 s. would be, omitting the
Add thereto the Value of 100 & Stock, exclusive of the	faid Profits 3 100	
And then the Value of 100 L Stock would be		253 8 62 3 4
But if the present Capital be as I suppose it, viz. 33, and the Net Profits arising by the Subscriptions, be only 3½7; then the Proportion of 100l. Stock of these Profithe Fractions under 1d.		And Morrod of Strait and Antonion of the Strain of the Str
Add thereto the Value of 100 l. Stock, exclusive of the	faid Profits 2 2 100	:0:0
And then the Value is	g period es propositiones de la recentación de la contractiones de la contractione de la contrac	206 : 09 : 3
The Difference between these Two Computations,	្ឋាន្ទីទី២១៩៩២៩ ប្រែងក្រុមមាន p.isp (១៩៩) «សំនាយាស់ ទី២១៩សំនៅ សំនៅ សំនាយាស់ សំនាយា	2 46 : 13 : 1
In your Remark after your Calculations of the 13th the Company, merely by the Difposal of their Stock, be can dispose of the remaining Stock at the Rate of 400 / will then amount to above 80 Millions; and this besides Gains by Loans, by Interest, &c.	eing at present above so Mi	llions: and that if they
I have already shewn, That your 50 Millions is unde of what you mention, even if the remaining Stock shou tho by such a Bargain, the Purchasers would lose above	lld be fubscribed for at the b	ner Gains will fall short Rate of 400 l. per Cent.
		N. D.

It is certain, that the Gain of that Part of the Company which confifts of the Old Proprietors, is very great, and would have been vastly greater, if the Directors could have supported their Scheme as it was at first projected: But there is no Gain to the New Purchasers; but, on the contrary, a very considerable Loss. To state this Matter, therefore, with Clearness, you should, from the Calculations you have made, have shewn the Value of 100 l. Stock in the present Capital; and also, what the same might be on any Supposition you thought sit to make; and thereby it would have plainly appeared, how much the Stock of the Old Proprietors had been improved above the Original Value thereof; and also, what the several New Purchasers have lost, or shall lose, according to the Prices which they have given, or shall give, for this Stock.

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If the remaining Debts are taken in by the Company, and the Long Amuities at 32, and the Short at 17 Years Purchase, and the whole remaining Stock be preserved for the Benefit of the present Proprietors, 100 l. South-Sea Stock will not then be worth 200 l. 11 s. 5 d. which is 5 l. 17 s. 11 d. worse than it is at present. If the said remaining Stock be fold, or subscribed for, at the real Value thereof, no Profit can possibly arife thereby to the Proprietors of the prefent Capital, nor, indeed, any Lofs to the New Purchasers; for after such a Sale or Subscription, the Value of 100 l. Stock in the new Increased Capital will be exactly the same as it was in the preceding Capital. Indeed, if the said remaining Stock be sold for more than the real Value thereof, that will be a Gain to the prefent Proprietors, but an apparent Loss to the New Purchasers 5 but, surely, the Deceit and Fraud which has been so long practised with Success, is now too perspicuous to prevail for the sure. For if the remaining Stock could be sold, as you suppose, at the Rate of 400 l. per Cent. the Value of 100 l. Stock in the increased Capital of 43,411,399 l. 6 s. 11 d. would even then be under 244 l. 18 s. 9 d.; and, consequently, the New Purchasers at 400 l. per Cent. will make a Gift to the present Proprietors of above 155 l. 1 s. 3 d. for every 100 l. Stock by them purchased.

You are fufficiently furnished with the Materials necessary for these Calculations; and, therefore, I doubt not, but, on a Re-examination, you will do your self and the Publick the Justice to rectify the Mistakes which you have made: And, if I have mistaken you, or mis-computed, you will oblige me by your Explanation thereof. And I shall here give you a short View, how the present Capital of the South-Sea Company, the Value thereof in the Whole, and per Cent. appears to me, and how the same would be, if the Company take in the remaining Publick Debts, and preserve the Stock for the Benefit of the present Proprietors; and also, how the same would be, if the remaining Stock of 9,657,799 l. 3 s. 2 d. To should be sold at the Rate of 400 l. per Cent. as you suppose it.

The Capitals - - -33,753,600: 3:8-The Value of the whole Capitals 69,688,897: 1:03 Decim. The Value of 100 /. Stock in the ? faid Capitals - - - S.

Firft. Second. Third. s. d. 33,753,600: 3:8 43,411,399 : 6 : 11 67,699,410:13:9 106,330,607:6: 5 Decim. 206 46359697013 200 56945 130129 244 93706474909

I perceive, that in feveral printed Papers, great Things are faid of the Generofity of the Directors of the South-Sea Company, towards the Subscribers of the Publick Debts; and their Moderation, it seems, cannot be enough extosted, in reducing the Price of their Stock from 800 l. to 400 l. per Cent. in savour of the last Subscribers of the Absolute Terms, and of the Redeemable Debts; and also of the Money-Subscriptions which were at 1000 l. per Cent. But notwithstanding this great Reformation, it appears, That the Money-Subscribers have still a very bad Bargain; and also the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Company of the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Company of the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Company of the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Company of the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Company of the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Proprietors of the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities are allered by the Proprietors of the lowed by the Company a very great nominal Price; yet, in Reality, according to the intrinfick Value of lowed by the Company a very great nominal Price; yet, in Reality, according to the intrinsick Value of this Stock, they have fared much worse, by submitting themselves, with an implicit Faith, to the Discretion of the Directors of the South-Sea Company, than they would have done, if the same Considence had been reposed by them in a British House of Commons. But these Creditors having, in a very particular manner, a Claim to the Justice of the Legislative Authority. I hope, this one imprudent Step of theirs, will no ways deprive them thereof; and that a British Parliament, which has been always so tender of Publick Faith, will not suffer their just Creditors to be defrauded by the Artissices of wicked Men, who have crastily lain in wait to deceive. You may easily compute what Prices the First and Second Subscribers of the Long and Short Annuities have had for 100 l. per Annum, according to the present intrinsick Value of the Stock; and also what Satisfaction has been made to the Proprietors of the Redeemable Debts. And I shall here give also, what Satisfaction has been made to the Proprietors of the Redeemable Debts. And I shall here give you a short View, how that Matter appears to me; which you may at your Leifure examine.

100 Ler Annum in the Long Annuities.		Ditto in the Short Annuities.		100 % of the Redeemable Debts.	
4	Ist Subscription.	2d Subscription.	1st Subscription.	2d Subscription.	graph Feet
7.4	2,164:15:5	1,816: 17:8	1,108:8:10	965:04:5	56: 15: 7

Prices paid - - -

The Price paid to the Proprietors of the Redeemable Debts does not amount to 11 s. 5 d. in the Pound; and the Case is pretty near the same of all the Money-Subscribers at 400 l. per Cent.

As to the other Ways, of gaining by Loans, and by Interest, &c. you only hint at the same in your Remarks, but make no particular Calculation what the Value of those Gains may be: And since, I presume, you can so easily come at the necessary Information, 'twill be of Service to the Publick to state this particularly; and when you go about this Matter, you will, no doubt, state what the Company have gained

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or lost, by lending 400 l. and greater Sums, on the Security only of 100 l. Stock. And it will also well deferve your Confideration, Whether the remaining Payments of the Third Money-Subscription (being 300 l. be better explained than it has been hitherto done by any of the Advocates of the Directors of the South-

This, Sir, is what I have thought needful to observe in relation to your Calculations and Remarks; and now give me leave to recommend what follows to yours, and the serious Consideration of the Directors of the South-Sea Company; viz. That to indemnify the Purchasers, who by the Conduct and Example of the faid Directors, have been drawn in to give high Prices for this Stock, it will be necessary to support the Value thereof at the Rate of 1000 l. per Cent.; and, according to that Price, the Value of the present Capital 337,536,001:17:5

But the real Value of the faid Capital is only 69,688,897: 1: 0 15

So that to make this Capital worth 1000 l. per Cent. there is a Deficiency of 267,847,104: 16: 4 20

That to support the Value of this Stock at the Rate of 400 l. per Cent. the faid Capital must be estima-135,014,400: 14: 11 12

But the real Value thereof is only 69,688,897: 1: 0 15

So that to make the same worth 400 l. per Cent. there is a Deficiency of - 65,325,503: 13: 10 17

It will not, furely, be pretended, That the Profits of the Company's Trade, and all the other Privileges and Advantages to which they are at present intituled, will be in any manner sufficient to enable them to make good the least of the atoresaid great Desiciencies in the present Value of their Stock. By the late Alterations in the South Sea Scheme, the Directors seem to admit, that it cannot be supported at a higher privileges and thereby plainly asknowledge that more than a Mister of the Least supported as a higher Afterations in the South Sea Scheme, the Directors leem to admit, that it cannot be supported at a nighter Price than 400 l. per Cent.; and thereby plainly acknowledge, that more than a Moiety of the Lofs sustained by the Dealers in this Stock is altogether irreparable: And what then can be possibly offered in the Justification of a Conduct which has brought Ruin and Destruction upon so many innocent Families and Persons? But if the Stock cannot be supported at above one half of the Price at which they have now set it, How greatly must the general Calamity be increased? And, I believe, it may be said with Truth, That the Executioners of this Scheme have done more Mischief to particular Persons, and to the Nation in general, in a few Months, than the most expensive War we have been at any Time ingaged in.

So great and general a Calamity to the whole Nation, must, in some Degree, affect every Member of the Community, tho' none so nearly, as those who have been the immediate Sufferers thereby. And, I believe, there are many Persons who have been intirely unconcerned in the Stocks, who will be hurt by the Distress which has been brought upon others, and who have the Mortification to fee many of their near Relations and particular Friends ruined and undone; and, which is still more moving, the Defolation of numberless and particular Friends ruined and undone; and, which is full more moving, the Defolation of numberless Families and Perfons. And, furely, when so much Misery is in full View, a good-natured Man, even in Agonies then must these Men seel, who have been the chief Authors of suggest a Woo! and who are in the Possessian of large Estates got out of the Plunder of their Country, and the Spoils of their Fellow-Citizens! The sad Prospect of the Miseries they have occasioned, must necessarily fill them with Dread and their Minds small be like the troubled Sea when it cannot refer and their Anguish approach and Horror; their Minds must be like the troubled Sea when it cannot rest, and their Anguish approach near to that of the Damn'd below. And in order to cure their present, and prevent their suture Pains, it is to be hoped, that their Consciences will lash them into a full and thorough Restitution of their illit is to be hoped, that their Confciences will IaIh them into a full and thorough Restitution of their illgotten Wealth, and to do all that is in their Power to repair the Mischiefs they have done. As to those
who have gained by Trading in the Stocks, without using any Deceit or Fraud,, and who were not in the
Secret of this Mystery of Iniquity, their Case is very different; but even they, I hope, will think it more
reasonable, that their great Gains should be moderated, than that others should be intirely ruined, or that a
heavy Tax should be laid upon the Nation, to repair those Losses, and to sanctify the Estates which have

The Evil complained of, is plainly seen and felt; and I would to God, it were now as easy to redress, as it was once to have prevented it. A moderate Avarice in the Directors of the South Sea Company, and a moderate Degree of Madness in the Dealers in this Stock, had been sufficient for the latter; but how to find a Plaister large enough for so great a Sore, Hoc Opus, hic Labor est, will be a Work of great Difficulty; and, if it can be thoroughly effected, will remain a lasting Monument to all future Ages, of the consummate Wisdom and Goodness of the British Legislature.

I shall not at present express my self fully on this important Subject; because, I hope to have soon an Opportunity of doing it, where it may be of more Use to the Sufferers in particular, and to my Country in general. I shall, however, mention some sew Things, from which, perhaps, my Sentiments in this Matter

2. I am perswaded, that there is not any one Sufferer who can be so partial, even to his own Missfortunes, as to expect, that the Parliament, by effectual Funds, will make good the Value of South-Sea Stock at the Rate of rooo l. per Cent.; for that would be to incumber the Nation with a new Debt of above 267 Millions, in lieu only of about 7 Millions which the Publick is to receive from the Company; and if it should be made good only at the Rate of 400 l. per Cent. this would not repair a Moiety of the Loss which has been suffained by the detestable Execution of this Scheme, and yet it would amount to above 65 Millions; and deducting therefrom the Money payable by the Company to the Publick, the Debt of the Nation, instead of being lessened by this Scheme, would be increased to above double what it was in the Month of March last. A Redress, therefore, of this kind, cannot, surely, be hoped for; and the rather, that the Gainers by this Scheme would reap more Benefit from a Relief of this sort, than those who have been the Sufferers thereby; and 'tis their Case only which deserves the Consideration and Compassion of a British Parliament.

3. I do admit that the Dealers in this Stock have acted freely and without Compulsion; yet, considering the Diabolical Artifices which have been made use of to deceive and impose upon them, such as till now were never known or heard of in Britain; and the Instatuation, which, for some Time past, like a Pestilential Phrenzy, has seemed so universally to seize the Dealers in all kinds of Stocks; I cannot help being of Opinion, That all Bargains since the First of January last, relating to all kinds of Stocks, ought to be esteemed of no more Force or Validity, than the Bargains of Children, Lunaticks and Madmen; and that, as far as the Thing is practicable, every Body ought to be restored and reduced to the Circumstances in which they were at that Time. But without having recourse either to Fraud or Lunacy, I will mention one Instance, which, at first Sight, must strike every impartial Considerer, viz. Those who bought South-Sea Stock, or Subscriptions, at the Time when the last Two Money-Subscriptions subssisted at roool. and the last subscribers of the Absolute Annuities, and of the Redeemable Debts at 800 l. per Cent. purchased in a Stock which they had then Reason to believe to be about Forty Millions more valuable than the same is fince the Alterations of that Scheme. And is not then the Nature of their Case greatly altered from what it then was? And can an Execution of Contracts, relating to this Stock at that Time, be now compelled in a Court of Chancery, as the Laws of the Land at present are? And if not, there is the same Foundation of Justice and of Equity, to vacate those which have been actually executed, and to oblige the Sellers to refund: And should there need any Explanations of some little Districulties in a Case of so extraordinary a nature, can there be any Doubt that the British Legislature will be wanting therein? I am sensible, that the Plunderers of their Country will raise many Objections against the Doctrine I advance; and I will readily own, that it cannot effect all that I wish for, beca

4. This leads me to declare my Opinion with great Freedom, That confidering the present Situation of our Affairs, I think, the Parliament is in Justice obliged to release the Seven Millions payable to the Publick by the South-Sea Company, because it will be better to do so, than to incumber the Nation with a new Debt of 267, or of 65 Millions for so similar and because I can never suppose, that a British House of Commons will think it reasonable to discharge any Part of the Publick Debts, by sharing in Gains and Prosits, which now appear scandalous and infamous; tho it is certain, that by disposing of this Stock at the Rate of 150 l. per Cent. the Service of the Publick might have been complied with, and it would have been in the Power of the Parliament to have supported the Stock at that Price, without any Prejudice to the Nation. Such a generous Precedent, set by the Legislative Authority, must shame all particular Persons into the Imitation thereof, and leave very little Work for the Courts of Law or Equity, in deciding Controversies on this melancholy Subject: But as to those, if any such there be, whose Consciences are seared, who are deast to all the Reproofs and Exhortations of the Christian Religion (and, I hope, the Ministers of the Gospel of our blessed Saviour, will not be filent on this Occasion) who have no feeling of the Miseries of their Fellow Creatures, and who laugh at and deride the Rewards and Punishments of a Future State; I say, as to such Persons, the Honour of the Legislature is concerned to compel them to do that Justice, in which, for want of their voluntary Compliance, they will have no Share of Merit. But if all I have proposed should

egis sissilagit generi memberapa kila manna adakan meleksi<u>k</u>an dilang mengalah serken melahan mengalahan

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not be fufficient (as, perhaps, it may not, for the Reasons I have mentioned) fully to relieve those who have unhappily suffered by their own Indiscretions, the Charity of the Parliament may supply what shall be then surther wanting, and, I hope, without any great additional Burthen on the Nation. This is as much as, I think, a good-natur'd honest Man can or ought to say for the Relief of unhappy People; and those who defire more, I frankly declare, have no Share in mine, and, I think, they have no Title to the Compassion of their Country.

This leads me to take Notice of Two Objections, which, I am informed, are made against the Estimate of the Value of South-Sea Stock, which I lately published, viz. That the Design thereof is barbarously cruel, to prevent all Possibility of Relief to those who have unhappily suffered by their Trading in this Stock; and that it also tends to hurt the Publick Credit. This is, indeed, a very severe Accusation, and, were it true, would prove me to be one of the worst of Men: My Conduct in private Life, and since I have had the Honour to sit in Parliament, I hope, has justly intituled me to a very different Character from what the Plunderers of the Nation would endeavour to fix upon me. They, no doubt, think it of Importance, to divert from themselves the Cry of the unhappy Sufferers, of whose Ruin they have been the wicked Authors, and to turn it upon me, who have taken great Pains, in hopes to have prevented the Miseries which I foresaw, and which have since happened. And I can affirm, with Truth, That I have as tender a Sense of their Missortunes, and am as Charitably disposed to contribute towards their Relief, as any Member of the House of Commons, or as any Man in Britain. I thought I had sufficiently obviated any unjust Suspicions of this kind, in the Ninth Paragraph of my Second Possificrips, where I express my self thus, viz. I declare sincerely, That my Heart bleeds for those who have been innocently drawn into their Ruin and Destruction. Many of these Cases are within my own Knowledge, and have affected some of my particular Friends and very near Relations. And if any Thing can be done for their Relief in the succeeding Sessions of Parliament, consistent with the Interest of Great Britain, I shall as heartily concur therein, as any Member of the House of Commons: But there is one Length which I will never go, were it to preserve the Mother who bore me, from Penury and Want, viz. To contribute to the supporting, for a while, what appears to me to be a Fraud, to the Intent only, that the present too great Ga

Great Allowances are to be made to the Passions of Men under the Anguish of shatter'd Fortunes; but, surely, they should not point their Resentments against their very best Friends; and, I am persuaded, when they come to consider coolly what I have wrote, they will esteem me in the Number of them: And, I believe, they will be thoroughly convinced, That new Opportunities of Deceiving, would go but a little way towards their Relief, were that Method either Just or Honourable. I believe, that before the late Inundation of Corruption, a Shopkeeper, or other Trader, would have been thought to have forfeited the Character of an Honest Man, if he had knowingly offer'd in Payment a Counterfeit Guinea, or Crown Piece, altho' he himself had been imposed upon thereby. The Sufferers, I doubt not, will also esteem that Relief the best and most agreeable, which is the least expensive and burthensome to their Country, and in which those by whom they have been plunder'd and deceived, will have no Share. But if a Majority of the House of Commons shall think differently from me in this particular, I shall, as it is my Duty, acquiesce in their Determination, and rejoyce if any better or juster Method can be found out, for the Relief of these Sufferers, than that which I have pointed at.

I cannot omit to acquaint the Reader, That I have heard, that I am threatned with great Mischiefs on account of my declared Enmity to the Vile Execution of the South-Sea Scheme; viz. That I shall be sent to the Tower, and expell'd the House of Commons, at the Meeting of the Parliament; and, That my Life is in Danger from the Resentments of those, who think themselves injur'd by what I have wrote.

As to the first of these Meraces, I laugh at, and despise it, having the Honour to know the Gentlemen with whom I sit. Indeed, if a New Parliament had been chosen by the Instruction and Power of the Directors of the South-Sea Company, I know not what might have been my Fate: But, its very probable, I should not have sat in such a Parliament; and if I had, the Loss of my Seat therein would not have much afflicted me.

As to my Life, I have the Security of the Laws of my Country, and I defire no more: And if I should happen to fall by the Hands of an Asiassine, or a Russian, 'tis a Disaster against which the Guards of the greatest Prince or Emperor in the World, can give no Protection; for, Qui vitam suam despicit, Magister est time. All I shall add on this Head is, That from my Youth I have been of Opinion, That a Coward cannot be thoroughly an Honest Man; and that he who will be frighted from doing his Duty thro Fear of Death, does not really deserve to live. I am now an Old Man, and cannot hope to spin out the Thread of Life much longer; but were I in the Vigor of Youth and Health; and in possession of the greatest Estate in Britain, I would sacrifice all with Pleasure, to support the Liberties and True Interest of my Country. Salus Populi suprema Lex esto, is a Principle which I imbibed early, and from which, by the Help of God, I never will depart.

As to the other Objection relating to *Publick Credit*, I give all the Plunderers of my Country a Defiance to fhew, That any thing in the faid *Estimate*, or any Book I have ever published, has the least Tendency that way, when fairly and impartially confider'd.

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I have heard the Objection only in general Terms, and am, therefore, intirely at a Loss to guess on what Point it rests. If by Publick Credit be meant, The supporting of South-Sea Stock at 1000, at 600, at 400 l. per Cent. or at any other Price above what the Faith of Parliament stands ingaged for, I am, and ever will be, a declared Enemy to all such Notions of Publick Credit. For these are the Notions which have inabled Foreigners to rob us of our Gold and Silver, and our Plunderers at Home to defraud and deceive their Fellow-Subjects. And finally couldnessed will make Notions of this kind. Such that the subject is the support of the support Subjects: And, furely, our late fad Experience, will make Notions of this kind, for the future, the Abhorrence and Detestation of every Honest Briton.

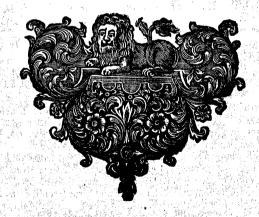
May not the Company of York-Buildings cry out, with equal Reason, That Publick Credit is undone, because their Stock from 300 l. is now fallen below 20 l. per Cent.? And is there any one of the Bubbles, as they are usually called, which have not the same Foundation of Complaint? Surely, such Notions as these are so monstrously absurd, as no ways to deserve a serious Consutation.

The short of the Case I take to be this; viz. That the Faith of Parliament and Publick Credit (which in my Distionary are convertible Terms) stand strictly ingaged to repay to all the Subjects of this Nation, and to all Others, the Sums which they have borrow'd, with the Interest stipulated for the same: But as to all the adventitious Advantages of any of the Companies established by Acts of Parliament, the Purchasers of Stock in the said Companies, may value as they think sit; but, surely, the Publick Faith or Credit is no wife concerned therein.

I remember the Time when Bank and South-Sea Stock were fold far below the Value of the Debt due from I remember the Time when Bank and South-Sea Stock were fold far below the Value of the Debt due from the Nation. This was, indeed, a Disseputation to Publick Credit, and which every Honest Englishman ought at that Time to have supported: But, alas! is it not too notorious, that instead of this, Men made Advantages of the Pannick Fears of their timorous Fellow Subjects, and of the Publick Distress of their Country, and thereby raised to themselves great and immense Estates? Such, I mean, as were esteem'd so, 'till the South-Sea Scheme came upon the Stage. And upon the whole, I think, I may with Truth affirm, That the Words Publick Faith and Publick Credit, which truly are, and ought to be Sacred, do, in the Mouths of some Men, mean only thus, Give us a Pretence, or Colour of Law, to plunder our Country, and to cheat and defrand our Fellow-Subjects.

I have drawn out this Letter to a much greater Length than I at first defigned, and shall conclude it with affuring you, That I bear no personal Ill Will to any single Director of the South-Sea Company, and hope, That those of them I know, are in the Number of the Minority, who have strongly protested against a Conduct which has been so ruinous to numberless Persons, and fatal to their Country. I heartily wish, That every Man of them had been Innocent; and the next best Wish to that, is, That they may speedily and speedily growth and the search of the sear fincerely repent, and bring forth Fruits meet for Repentance.

1720. October 20.





POSTSCRIPT.

HAVE taken Notice in the Aforegoing, That the Value of the South-Sea Capital was leftened about Forty Millions by the late Alterations; and, indeed, the Payments of which the Third and Fourth Money-Subscribers are discharged, amount to above Thirty-seven Millions thereof. But if the Purchasers, before these Alterations, proceeded on the Supposition, That there would be no Change made in the Subscriptions then subscribers; I say, if they proceeded on these Expectations, it is evident, That the Capital of the South-Sea Company is above One Hundred and Thirty Millions less valuable since the said Alterations, in whose Favour these Alterations have been made, have some Benefit therefrom, viz. The Proportion of those Abatements, which would have been shared by the Proprietors of the Old Stock, the first and second

those Abatements, which would have been shared by the Proprietors of the Old Stock, the first and second Money-Subscribers, and the first Subscribers of the Long and Short Annuities; but 'tis then evident, That those who have purchased at high Prices from the said last-mentioned Proprietors, will be very great Sufferers by the late Alterations; which are as followeth, viz.

The Reduction of the last Two Money-Subscriptions? from 1000 l. to 400 l. per Cent. dischargeth them of the 37,500,000: 00: 0 Payment of

The Difference between giving Stock at the Rate of 400 l. per Cent. with the 10 l. per Cent. Dividend, and giving the same at 800 l. without the Dividend, to the Proprietors of the Redeemable Debts; the second Subscribers of the Long and Short Annuities, and to the Bank for their Debt, and the 10 l. per Cent. allowed to the Fourth Money-Subfcription, will be found to amount to 3,538,027 l. 11 s. 3 d. $\frac{1}{10}$ in Stock; which at the Rate of 1000 l. per Cent. is

The remaining Stock to be disposed of, when all the Publick Debts are taken in, as before stated, is 9,657,799 l. 3 s. 2 d. $\frac{1}{10}$; and the Difference between disposing thereof at the Rate of 1000 l. and at the Rate only of 400 l. per Cent. 57,946,794: 19:016 (which is now the highest Price expected) is

Perhaps, the faid late Alterations were absolutely necessary, and that further Alterations may hereafter appear so: But what then can be said for the Conduct of these Gentlemen, by whom the People have been deceived and imposed upon in giving such high Prices for this Stock? Can it be said, with any colour of Truth (though I know it is said), That the Directors are not answerable for the Folly and Madness of those who thought sit to give such Prices; when 'tis notoriously known, that they themselves have been the chief Promoters and Incouragers thereof, and have been the greatest Gainers thereby?

Was it not in their Power to have checked, with Ease, this Extremity of Folly, and thereby to have prevented that difinal Mifery and Ruin which has fince happened?

of a first took a week and the first to the first and head and took to the control dissert and the control dissert and the control of the control dissert and the control of the control o

They needed only to have declared at the beginning, That all the Publick Creditors, and others, should have Stock from the Company at the Rate of 150 l. per Cent. which would have fully inabled them to comply with their Engagements to the Publick, and the Favours of the Parliament, without any Prejudice to the Nation, might easily have made the Stock intrinsically worth that Price. And would not this have been a fufficient Recompence to the Proprietors of the Old Capital for their Undertaking in this Matter? For thereby their Estates would have been improved from 100 l. to 150 l. per Cent. Infatiable Avarice! what Mischief hast thou done! For, it seems, nothing less would fatisfy the Ambition of these mighty Directors, than to out-shine all the first Nobility of the Kingdom, though at the Price of undoing numberless Families, and bringing upon the Nation in general the greatest Distress it has at any Time felt.

N. B. In the beginning of this Letter the Reader will find the Sums subscribed, and which remain unfubscribed, of the Long and Short Annuities, and the Redeemable Debts, as they are in the White-Hall Evening-Post of the 24th of September last; and, to save him the Trouble of having recourse to the faid Evening-Posts of the 4th, 11th, and 13th Instant, I shall here transcribe the Calculations in them, which are referred to in the preceding Letter, correcting the Sums of the Evening-Post of the 11th, according to the Errata's taken Notice of in that of the 13th.

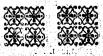
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White-Hall EVENING-POST.

From Saturday, Octob. 1. to Friday, Octob. 4. 1720.

A Correct TABLE of the Days of Payment on the several Money-Subscriptions taken by the South-Sea Company.

Days of Payment for the First Subscription.	Ditto for the Second.	Ditto for the Third.	Ditto for the Fourth.
14 April, 1720 60 14 June 30 14 August 30 14 October 30 14 December 30 14 February - 30 14 April, 1721 30 14 June - 30 14 August - 30	14 December 40 14 March 40 14 June, 1722 40 14 September 40	2 January 30 2 July, 1723 30 2 January - 30 2 July, 1724 3°	21 March 25 21 September, 1722: 25 21 March 25 21 September, 1723: 25
At 9 Payments 300	At 10 Payments 400	At 10 Payments 400	At 9 Payments 400



White-

White-Hall EVENING-POST.

From Saturday, October 8. to Friday, October 11. 1720.

An ACCOUNT of the Capital Stock of the South-Sea Company, shewing how much is already disposed of; and how much remains to be converted to the Profits of the Said Company.

BY the late Act of Parliament the South-Sea Company are impower'd to increase their Capital Stock, By the Long Annuities at 20 Years Purchase, of which \\ 114.087 \(\text{L. 12 s. remain unsubscribed} \) 13.336,428:05:00 By the Short Annuities and Lottery 1710. at 14 Years Pur-chase, of which 29,483 l. 16 s. 1 d. remain unsubscribed By the Redeemables at 4 and 5 l. per Cent. of which 2,152,694 l. 7 s. 1 d. remain unsubscribed 16,546,482:07:01 Which added to their Old Capital, as it flood before the 31,664,554:17:03 passing of the late Act of Parliament; viz. 11,202,710:00:00 Their Total Capital may then amount to 42,867,264: 17:03 But forasimuch as the unsubscribed Debts, specified as above, (reckoning the Long Annuities at 20 Years Purchase, and the others at 14 Years, which is what the Government allow for them) come to

Therefore, the real Sum of their prefent actual Capital Stock is-4,847,219:12:03 Part of which Capital Stock the Company have lately disposed of in manner fol-Part of which Capital Stock the Company nave lately disposing; viz.

To the 1st Money Subscription, at 300 l. per Cent.

To the 2d Money Subscription, at 400 l. per Cent.

To the 3d Money Subscription, at 400 l. per Cent.

To the 4th Money Subscription, at 400 l. per Cent.

To Stock given the Bank at 400 l. per Cent. in lieu of 3.775,000 l. which was to be paid them

*To 700 l. Stock given the Long Annuitants of the First Subscription, for every 100 l. by them subscribed, or thereabouts 2,252,000:00:00 1,500,000:00:00 5,000,000:00:00 1,250,000:00:00 943,750:00:00 2,991,386: 11:00 * To 400 L Stock given the Short Annuitants and Lottery ? Annuitants of the First Subscription, for every 100 / by 256,480 : 16 : 00 them fubscribed, or thereabouts To Stock given to the Proprietors of the Redeemable Annuities, at 400 l. per Cent. for 14,393,788 l. by them sub-3,598,447 : 00 : 00 To Stock given the Long Annuitants of the Second Subfcription, at 400 1. per Cent. allowing them 32 Years Pur. 1,003,142:17:06 Carry'd over 18,795,207:04:06

N. B. The Two Articles above, marked with an Asterism (*) are not perfectly exact, because we compute every 100 l. of the Long Annuities at 700 l. in Stock; whereas all the 14 per Cents. of those Annuities and 700 l. Stock allowed for every 98 l. per Annuities. Again, We compute 400 l. Stock for every 100 l. precisely 400 l. for every 100 l. given them; the Blanks of the faid Lottery being allowed 350 l. Stock for every 98 l. and the 9 per Cents. 350 l. Stock for every 90 l. by them subscribed.

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	Brought over	38,020,045 : 05 : 00
Brought over To Stock given the Short Annuitants and Lottery Annui- tants of the Second Subscription, at 400 l. per Cent. allowing	18,795,207 : 04 : 06 168,039 : 05 : 06	
To 10 l. per Cent. Stock allowed to all the above-recited ?	1,896,324:13:00	
To 10 l. per Cent. Stock allowed to an include the Proprietors for the Midsum. Dividend upon all their faid Stock. To 10 l. per Cent. Stock allowed for the Midsummer Dividend to the Proprietors of the Old Stock	1,120,271:00:00	
Total of Capital Stock already disposed of To which, if we add what is in the Hands of the Old Proprietors; viz. It will amount to	21,979,842:03:00 11,202,710:00:00	33,182,552:03:00
Which substracted from the Sum of the present actual Car shew us, that there now remains to be hereafter disposed of Bur when the Company take in the remaining National I	Debts unlubicribed, they	4,837,493:02:00
In which Case, the Total of Capital Stock undisposed of,	will be	9,684,712:14:03

White-Hall EVENING-POST.

From Tuesday, October 11. to Thursday, October 13. 1720.

An ESTIMATE of the Sum which the South-Sea Company have already gained by the Increase of their Capital, and the Disposal of their Stock.

CApital Stock increased; viz.

CApital Stock increased; viz. By the Subscription of the Long Annuities, at 20 Years { 11,054,676:05:00	490 (43) (43) (45) (47) (47) (47) (47) (47) (47) (47) (47
Purchase By the Subscription of the Short Annuities and the Lot- tery Annuities of 1710, at 14 Years Purchase By the subscribed Redeemables Total of the Increased Capital	26,817,335 : 05 : A
Capital Stock disposed of as follows; viz.	
To the 1st Money Subscription 2,252,000: 00: 0 at 300 l. per Cent. comes to To the 2d Money Subscription To the 3d Money Subscription To the 4th Money Subscription To the Bank of England - 943,750: 00: 0 at 400 l. per Cent. comes to 943,750: 00: 0 at 400 l. per Cent. comes to 943,750: 00: 0 at 400 l. per Cent. comes to	6,756,000: 00: 0 6,000,000: 00: 0 20,000,000: 00: 0 5,000,000: 00: 0 3,775,000: 00: 0
To the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities, and to the Lottery Annuities of 1710. 3,247,867: 07: 0 at 375 l. per Cent. comes to	12,179,502: 10: 0
of the First Subscription, about To the Proprietors of the Re 3,598,447: 00: 0 at 400 l. per Cent. comes to deemables	
Carry'd over 17.792,064: 97: 0 Carrry'd over	68,104,290: 10:0

Brought over	[15 17,792,064: 07:0	Brought over	68,104,290: 10: 0
To the Proprietors of the Long and Short Annuities, and to the Lottery Annuities of 1710 of the Second Subscription	() 1,171,182 : 03 : 0	at 400 l. per Cent. comes to	4,684,728: 12: 0
To the Midsummer Dividend	3,016,595: 13:0	Given away	
Total	21,979,842: 03: 0	Comes to	72,789,019: 02:
Profits arising to the Company	50,809,176: 19:0		

72,789,019: 02: 0

Thus we see, That the present Gain of the South-Sea Company, merely with relation to the Disposal of their Stock (for they have many other Ways of increasing their Gain, by Loans, by Interest, &c.) is above 50 Millions Sterling, with above 4 Millions of Stock more in their Hands for suture Profits, with a Power to 50 Millions Sterling, with above 4 Millions, as we have particularly shewn in our last Paper: So infinitely has the Adincrease that to above 9 Millions, as we have particularly shewn in our last Paper: So infinitely has the Adincrease accrewing to the Company from the late Act of Parliament, transcended all Expectation, or even vantage accrewing to the Company from the late Act of Parliament, transcended all Expectation, or even ranagination it-self. For we cannot but call to mind, that upon the Progress of the Bill for establishing this Imagination it-self. For we cannot but call to mind, that upon the Progress of the Bill for establishing this Scheme, thro' the House of Lords, some of those Noble Persons, who thought it becoming their Character Scheme, thro' the House of Lords, some of those Noble Persons, who thought it becoming their Character Scheme, thro' the House of Lords, some of those Noble Persons, who thought it becoming their Character Scheme, thro' the House of Lords, some of those Noble Persons, who thought it becoming their Character Scheme, thro' the House of Lords, some of those Noble Persons, who thought it becoming their Character Scheme, thro' the House of Lords, some of those Noble Persons, who thought it becoming their Character Scheme, thro' the House of Lords, some of those Noble Persons, who thought it becoming their Character Scheme, thro' the House of Lords, some of those Noble Persons, who thought it becomes the Act of Parliament, transcended all Expectation, or even varieties of the Company, and rated it at above 30 Millions of the Parliament, transcended all Expectation to the Company and rated it at above 30 Millions of the Parliament, transcended all Expectation to the

N. B. The Fourth Money Subscription is in these Calculations stated at 1,252,000 l. but by the preceding Evening-Post, and also by the Total of these Sums, it appears to have been an Error of the Press, and that the same should have been only 1,250,000 l. and therefore, I have stated the same accordingly.



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