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THE
CRITERION
OR, SOME
PROPOSITIONS
FAIRLY STATED.

- I. DISTILLATION Diftected, fhewing the natural Quality of Spirituous Liquors, and the united Intereft of the Maker, Compounder, and Vender, impartially confidered: With reciprocal Advantages, as well to the Public as the Government.
- II. Preventing Knavery under the Cloak of Honesty, improving the Landed Intereft, encouraging Trade, and for raifing great Sums of Money for the Government's Ufe without any new Taxation.
- III. Means to take off the Payment of the Poors Rate within the Bills of Mortality, and the Poor better provided in every Refpect.
- IV. To make Rogues honeft, and become ufeful Members of the Community, with confiderable Advantages to the Public. Laftly, Means for the Suppreffion of the prefent Rebellion, and to prevent any future Difurbance of the like Kind.

By *THO. ROBE, Esq;*

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*Some Thoughts on the Manufacture
and Rectification of BRITISH
BRANDIES, &c.*

IT is reasonable to believe that the *British* Distillery may be so ordered as to become one of the most valuable Branches of Trade in the Kingdom, and without those ill Effects, which, for Years past, by the considerate Part of Mankind, have justly been complained of. In the first Place, I shall remark what different Properties are inherent to each Spirit of our *British* Manufacture, as well as those from foreign Countries, and shew which are superior in Quality to each other.

Viz. Molasses Brandy is look'd upon to be preferable in some Respect to that of foreign, if judiciously prepar'd by a skillful Artist. Malt Spirit (so call'd) being chiefly the Produce of Raw Corn, is much inferior; the Maker usually sells it simply extracted with all the Crudities arising from the Grain, which must, through its own natural Impurity, prove unwholsome, as it is loaded with a viscous sulphur-

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ous Matter : But if the Spirit was made entirely from Malted Grain, and rectify'd, which is an Art peculiar to the chymical Branch of that Trade, it would then become a tasteless Spirit capable of receiving any vinous Flavour the Compounder may judge requisite to give, either by Infusion or otherwise, and which in a few Months would so unite as to become, not only wholesome, but leave a most delicate Flavour on the Palate.

The Molasses Spirit is of a different Nature from that of the Malt, having most excellent Properties, even beyond what I have before mentioned, (and more excellent than those of the Grape) after its Purification.

It is obvious to every one, that Molasses is the Produce or natural Flux from Sugar, and which by being first diluted, then fermented, and by Distillation brought into low Wines, and then restill'd to make a Proof Spirit, must necessarily bear the original Quality of its balsamic Property, which by Nature is inherent in the Growth of Sugar, but more especially after the Phlegm is precipitated by Rectification, and the Spirit brought off clean, and then flavoured in such a Manner as is more peculiarly known to those of the Trade.

French Brandy wants no such Help, for it may be judg'd that the most injudicious Persons who pretend to the Art of Distillation, if they were to work in *France* would prove to be the best Operator : The Reason is plain, by their having little Regard to the Force of Fire, which, if not too intense, as the Spirit fluctuates, will envelope still a much greater Quantity of the vinous Sulphur, and consequently be more pleasing to the Palate. *French* Brandy is a sharp thin Spirit,

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Spirit, and will undeniably prey upon the Coats of the Stomach : There are innumerable Instances of this in People who frequently drink such Drams in a Morning, especially fasting, so that it may be justly said to be a lingering Poison, as it totally destroys the digestive Faculty. Rum, I apprehend, stands in a better Degree of Perfection than that of Molasses Spirit, and the Quality being so universally known, I shall not, therefore, give its further Praise ; from hence I conceive that a rectify'd Molasses Spirit freed not only from the Phlegm, but likewise from the Taste and Smell of any Ingredients, that might occasionally be used in the Rectification, and curiously flavoured, has much the Preference of any foreign Brandy, which I shall hereafter more particularly describe, and as a stronger Proof of the more excellent Qualities appertaining to it, the best of Cordial Waters are made of this Brandy, such as Usquebaugh, Spirit of Saffron, Ratifia, &c. Beside, it is both soft and pleasant, and, when made pure, will the more readily imbibe either the aromatic Oils, or any other essential Property that may be thought necessary to make a Compound with. And lastly, I am of Opinion, that Geneva is infinitely more wholesome than any of the Spirituous Liquors before mentioned, if the Compounders was oblig'd to rectify, or purchase such Spirits as are rectify'd, before he compounds them, and likewise to use no Feints, but what shall be redrawn to the Proof Strength, as is customarily known among the Trade : When the Spirits are thus made pure, and a sufficient Quantity of Juniper Berries put to them, and then distill'd according to Art, it would, by Virtue of the essential Oil of the Berry intermix'd, be an extraordinary Help, when drank in many Cases, as it opens Obstructions in the Spleen, Reins, and Bladder, is good against the Dropsy, gives immediate Ease in the Cholic,

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Cholic, and is an excellent Medicine when externally us'd for the Palsy.

It is worthy of Observation, that there is no Room to suspect that the Consumption of Grain will decrease, as it has been remark'd by some People, tho' the Price of *British* Brandy may be advanced to about Sixpence *per* Gallon by the Distillation of all malted Corn, nor that the *French* Nation will reap the Benefit they have hitherto done, especially if the Duty of *French* Brandies, and those from other foreign Parts were advanced to 6 s. 8 d. *per* Gallon, and the additional Excise upon the Distillation of damag'd Wines repeal'd, which will not only encrease the Revenue in many extraordinary and different Shapes, but prevent, in a great Measure, the Running of foreign Brandy, because a Spirit drawn from malted Corn is so pure, when rectify'd, that with a little Help of Wine Spirit it can be made in effect as acceptable for drinking among the midling Sort of People as that of foreign Brandy: From hence will arise still a greater Consumption, by Reason those People would not, upon any Score, drink the Brandy made from raw Corn, as it is reasonable to believe they will when made from malted Corn, and improved in the Manner aforesaid; yet if the same Method was us'd by having some Wine Spirit, and other Materials, in purifying and preparing Molasses Spirit, which Art is known to some curious and ingenious Men, it reasonably might, both in Flavour and Goodness, be judg'd to rival most of the Brandies that have, or may hereafter be imported.

Thus far it is evident, that the Purity and Rectification only of a genuine Malt Spirit is a wholesome Dram; and the Advantages to the Crown, the landed and trading Interest must, in many Respects, be very
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considerable, as will more fully appear by the following Calculation. — It is supposed, that the Distillers make Use of 500,000 Quarter of Grain yearly, of which not more than one fourth Part is malted, so that they use of raw Corn 375,000 Quarters, which, when made into a Proof Spirit, will yield a larger Quantity than what can be produc'd from 500,000 Quarters of malted Corn; the Duty of which, at 6 d. *per* Bushel, is

	£ 100,000
The Duty of 10,000 Chaldron of Cynders, which must be us'd in drying,	2,500
The Prime Cost of the said 10,000 Chaldron of Cynders, at 7 s. <i>per</i> Chaldron,	3,500
Freight of Coals, at 9 s. <i>per</i> Chaldron,	4,500
Labourers Wages	8,749
Annual Rent of Malting Office	12,500
	131,749

There needs no further Proof in regard to the landed Interest, provided the same Quantity of Spirits are dispos'd of as at present upon the Footing they now make them: I must own, the larger any Tax is, the less of that Commodity is sold, on which it is laid; but when the Improvement is more than adequate to the Taxations, then consequently the Consumption should be greater, as in this Case a pure Malt Spirit is not only more wholesome than what is drawn from raw Corn, but likewise more pleasant, and I doubt not but by the Improvements already acquired, we may be able to rival foreign Markets, and encrease our Wealth if further Encouragement was but given for the Exportation of our *British* Bran-

Brandies, especially to the Northern Parts, and to our Factories in *Africa* upon this Establishment; that is, if they were distilled from malted Corn, which then of Course with an Allowance of a sufficient Drawback, such as will enable our Malt Distillers to sell their Spirits that are exported as cheap as the *Dutch*, who have the principal Materials of this Manufactory from us, *viz.* Coals and Malt, this Branch of Business would be in Profit equal to any (the Woollen excepted) provided it was establish'd by Parliamentary Sanction as before recited, the Profits which are pretty considerable being fairly stated from our home Consumption, cannot, notwithstanding, be comparable to those Advantages that the Kingdom in general might reap by the Exportation of *British* Brandies drawn from malted Corn; it will not therefore be unnecessary to shew, that a Bushel of Barley is considerably more in Weight than a Bushel of the same Sort of Grain malted, because the Body is opened by Fermentation, and the liquify'd Matter in malting is not only exhald, but likewise the pernicious Sulphur, which before was constituent to the raw Corn; this crude Sulphur, when the Spirit is chiefly made from raw Corn, is no less than Poison, because when drank, the natural Heat of the Stomach acts the same Office the Kiln should do, and opens a pernicious Quality of obnoxious Fumes, which Fumes mingles with the Juices of the Blood, and of Consequence is the Rise of many Distempers that are liable to various Constitutions who are Partakers thereof. It is observable, that the Distillers could never have afforded their Spirits so reasonable as they at all Times have done, if that Conveniency of fattning Hogs had never been, and it is a Matter of Consideration what Price can reasonably be set upon the Produce of a neat Malt Spirit to answer that Purpose; but I apprehend it may

may be sold (abstracted from the aforesaid Profit of fattning Hogs) after the Rate of 2 s. 6 d. per Gallon, more or less, if no other Taxation is put thereon.

The last Consideration upon this Scheme is, whatever Price Hogs Flesh may be sold hereafter, the Goodness of the Commodity will more than recompence the extraordinary Charge; beside it will give the same Advantages to the Farmers as the Distillers themselves then will have, yet upon the aforesaid Establishment, and the Certainty of large Demands for Exportation of *British* Brandies, 'tis hop'd, might prove a sufficient Encouragement or Recompence to the Malt Distillers, as an Equivalent for such their necessary Employments being grand, laudable and more than ordinarily beneficial to the Nation in general.

To conclude, if the Legislative Power thought it requisite to repeal the Act for laying additional Excise upon the several Sorts of *British* Brandies, a Proposal might then be humbly offered to their Consideration in Lieu thereof, that wou'd raise a Sum much more considerable for the Government's Use, and answer all the salutary Purposes through every Branch of Distillation, with such proper Regulations and Restrictions as are necessary and conformable to good Order and Sobriety. By these Means, great Encouragement would be given, not only to the landed Interest, but many Manufacturies, which chiefly depend upon the Distillery; in short, it would undoubtedly give a new Spring to the Life of Trade, and put a Damp on our crafty Neighbours, who at present flatter themselves we can't live without their luxurious Liquors.

P. S. To obviate all Objections that have arose on this Occasion, and to give the utmost Content or Satisfaction to all Parties together with the vast Advantages the Nation in general must necessarily reap, wou'd be (as I humbly apprehend) effectual, if ever the Legislative Power shou'd think it necessary to give Encouragement for Exportation of *British* Brandies in the same Manner as before recited, and that those Brandies be made intirely from malted Corn, and at the same time permitting the Distillers to use the same Method that they now practice in the Distillation of raw Corn; but with this Restriction that no Compounders shall sell any Compound Liquors, that is not made with a Spirit first rectify'd.

Since the Publication of this pamphlet by the Commissioners of the Vintners Office have appointed an Officer for the Rectification of British Brandies having erected a Distillery for that purpose, It is necessary, on this Occasion, that a Comptroller, or Inspector should be appointed to examine whether the Goods so Rectified are totally despoil'd from all Impurities and delivered in its proper Degree of Strength for the use of His Majesty's Sailors — which if Judg'd proper, Mr. Robes — Humbly hopes to be the Person Established —

A PROPOSAL for the more effectual regulating of Weight and Measure, from whence the Public will not only gain a very advantageous annual Benefit, but the Revenue of Excise and Customs be yearly encreased, to about the Sum of 375,000 without any additional Taxation, exclusive of another Advantage of raising, by that Means, a Million of Money for the present Year's Service.

I SHALL with the utmost Submission, endeavour to prove from undeniable Facts, upon a reasonable and fair Calculation, what Damage both the Government and Subject sustains, from the irregular and deceitful Weights and Measures, customarily made use of by many evil-disposed Dealers, throughout the Kingdom, notwithstanding the several Acts of Parliament now in Force, for the Punishment of such Offenders. In the first Place it is humbly apprehended, that if the Substance of all the Statute Laws relating to Weights and Measures were reduced into one Act, from the Time of *Magna Charta* to the 11th and 12th of King *William III.* it might then have the desired Effect, as the Duty of the Officer, and Punishment of the Defaulter, would appear at

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the first View; the above mentioned Act of Parliament obliges the Vintners to sell their Wines in seal'd Measures, whether it be Pewter, Glass, &c. under no less Penalty than Ten, nor above Forty Shillings, for each Offence; but never, or seldom, has this Act been put in Force, and for this Reason there is no Standard in his Majesty's Exchequer for a Wine Quart, Pint, Half-pint, or less Measures; that such nominal Measures, if their Contents were true, cannot be legal, as they cannot be seal'd, and if the Officers, whose Business it is to inspect them, must either proceed, in order to convict all Persons, that sell in any such pretended Measure, under the Wine Gallon, (a Matter that must inevitably create a great Disturbance) or suffer them to impose upon the Public, and notwithstanding it was enacted in the 9th Year of the aforesaid Reign, that every round Bushel being made Eighteen Inches and a Half wide throughout, and Eight Inches deep, shall be esteem'd a legal *Winchester* Bushel, according to the Standard in his Majesty's Exchequer, yet in several Market Towns, and in most Counties of *England*, they use unlawful Measures, under the Sanction of a real *Winchester* Bushel, from Seven to Ten or Twelve Gallons, in order to serve their base Purposes, that is, to buy by one and sell by the other, the Innkeepers for the most Part, or their Ostlers for them, sell more in their less Measures than is by them customarily sold, in Proportion by their large Measures, from whence the greatest Frauds proceed; there are few Travellers, moderately speaking, that have Three Fourths of their Allowance of Corn for their Horses, the Measures being without any Regard to Justice, which gives them still greater Encouragement in their Wickedness, as they are very seldom, or never punished, nor is there any Standard for their Half-Bushel and Peck, and their other Measures for Wine,
Beer,

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Beer, Cyder, &c. which Liquors, whether sold in Quarts or Pints, want generally one fourth or fifth Part of its true Content; I shall from hence calculate, what Loss the Government may yearly sustain from the four following Articles. — First, taking the total Income of them all, as may be supposed to arise annually.

Viz. The Excise upon Malt, Beer, Custom and Excise upon spirituous Liquors, and the Duty upon Wines, to be 3,000,000. It may then be reasonably supposed, considering how base and notorious the Generality of People are, whose Livelyhood depends upon the retailing of the aforesaid Liquors, that upon the most moderate Calculation, one eighth Part is by them sunk, which otherwise wou'd have been consum'd, as there are but few Persons that will leave their Liquor behind them, tho' the Content of their Measures were in just Proportion; by this Calculation the Deficiency of the Government wou'd then be 375,000 *l.* annually, and the Loss to the Consumer, supposing the Value to be double that of the Duty, 750,000. It may be objected, that the Deficiency of $\frac{1}{8}$ cannot be upon the whole Amount of 3,000,000, because there are many honest Traders, beside the Consumption in private Families, yet as there are several other exciseable Goods, such as Cyder, Mum, Perry, Tea, Coffee, Soap, &c. which, if the Buyers had but their just Due, the Consumption wou'd be considerably more, and consequently the Excise thereof advanc'd; these Articles I have plac'd as a Ballance, in Lieu of such Goods in the aforesaid Calculation, as are privately consum'd and honestly sold by just Weight and Measure; I shall, the better to corroborate my Assertions, quote the Sentiments of the Legislative Power, as it is strongly expressed, in the Preamble to an Act of Parliament so late as in
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the 11th of K. *William III*'s Reign, viz. " all Inn-keepers and Victuallers ought to sell their Ale, &c. according to the Standard in the Exchequer, the Neglect of which is found of evil Consequence, as hindering the Consumption of malted Corn, and lessening his Majesty's Revenue of Excise, and a great Prejudice to Travellers, Labourers and others.

In *France, Flanders, and in Holland*, particular Care is taken to prevent the Use of false Weights and Measures, which is now among the common People here become so notorious, that they audaciously in the public Streets, and in the Face of Justice, proclaim their Fraud.

To conclude, what an immense Loss must it be to the whole Community, when the Deficiency upon all Goods whatever, sold by Weight and Measure are included, there is scarce a Family in *England*, tho' in the lowest Degree, but what must suffer at least, an Imposition of Twenty Shillings a Year, and for others, who are in the highest Rank of Life, may be imposed upon from Forty to Fifty Pounds a Year, so that upon an Average, reckoning Five Pounds upon each Family in the Kingdom, the Amount then is Ten Millions Sterling Loss in Trade.

I shall remark, that Weight and Measure when truly proportion'd, is equal in Value to that of Coin, wherefore should not the same Care be taken of one, as well as of the other? it is a Maxim in Trade, no Kingdom can flourish by their Commerce, when Weight and Measure are not certain. But if the Laws, which are already in Being, were put into Execution, with some little Additions, the landed Interest must be improved, the King's Revenue encreased, and the People save yearly an immense Sum of

of Money, which can appear by several other Calculations made upon this Subject.

Lastly, there is an additional Proposal in Reserve, which will the better compleat what has been already treated, that is, to prevent future Frauds throughout the Kingdom, by Weight and Measure, and effectually preserve the Power of Lords of Liberties, and secure them those Advantages, which have for some Ages been almost lost, by Vertue of which, another Sum of a Million of Money may be immediately rais'd, and the Sanction of Parliament given to it, will be an undeniable and everlasting Security.



Means

Means to suppress the evil Practice among some of the common Pawnbrokers, with Regard to those who are honest, and at the same Time, supply the Poor with small Sums of Money at low Interest, in every Parish throughout the Kingdom, beside preventing the Disposal of stolen Goods, Beggars in the Streets, and to lessen the Pours Rate about 300,000l. per Annum, and the Poor better provided in every Respect than at present.

THIS Undertaking the Inhabitants of every Parish are to find Means to raise a Sum of Money by Subscription, as is necessary for a Supply of their own Poor, on small Pledges, the Inhabitants having Five *per Cent.* for what Money is advanced; and that the Workhouse, or some other convenient Place be appointed for that Purpose. — That the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, for the Time being and ever after, be of the Trust, in Conjunction with such Gentlemen as the Parishioners shall make Choice of, and they respectively receive no Pledges but those of their own Poor, and that no Objection may arise to whom the
Goods

Goods belong so offer'd to pawn, by which Means if known, many industrious Persons would lose their Credit, and consequently their Livelihood: To prevent which, the Housekeepers only shall be privileg'd, who pay to the Pours Rate, to give in their Names on the Behalf of the Unknown, which will not only screen those Persons whose Necessity obliges them to pawn their Goods, but, if Occasion serves, likewise themselves.

That no Sum of Money, exceeding Forty Shillings, shall be lent to any Person at one Time, which Limitation for the Payment thereof, shall be in the Manner as is now practis'd in the Charitable Corporation, at Ten *per Cent.* or Twopence *per Month*, and that the remaining Profits, after the Interest Money is paid, shall be towards lessening the Pours Rate; and that all Pawnbrokers, and others, shall notwithstanding receive Pledges, but not for less than the Sum of Forty Shillings, under the Penalty of — By this Means stolen Goods, under the Value aforesaid, could not be disposed of in that Channel, as they are now frequently done, by Reason of the respective Housekeepers being answerable for what they pledge. It is observable, that from the excessive Charge of unlawful Interest the Poor now pay is the chief Reason why that Rate becomes so burthensome: From hence a Judgment of the Reduction of the Pours Rate may be formed, and will appear to be, at least, by nearly a just Calculation, a Fifth Part of the Whole, the Amount of which Pours Rate, as it is now collected throughout *England*, cannot be less than One Million and a half *per Annum*.

As for the common Beggars they might easily be provided for, if every Parish Workhouse would but give Notice of their taking in Pewter to scour, and
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the Inhabitants give Encouragement to send theirs occasionally to be cleaned, the Benefit tho' by Force on the one Hand, would be reciprocal, that is, the idle Vagabond be employed, his Earnings paid him, and the Housekeeper's Goods returned in good Condition without the usual Fear of their being pawn'd, which Practice hitherto has been too often the Case; but if, upon any Emergency, there are not loose idle Persons sufficient in Number to cleanse the Pewter for the present Occasion, that those Poor in the Workhouse, who are able, shall have one Moiety of their Earning, for their own Property, but if not willing, then such labouring Persons whose Business it is, shall be employed, and receive for their Labour what is customarily given by others. Thus would the Poor in every Respect be better provided, and the Nation at least save about the Sum of 300,000 *l.* annually, &c.

P. S. Whereas Pawnbrokers and malevolent Persons, may to perplex and give Trouble to the Offices of the respective Parishes by requiring a Trifle of Money upon Pledges, which they may constantly repeat, by putting in and taking out of their Goods on Purpose to prevent the Usefulness of this Plan, it is propos'd, that whoever borrows less than Ten Shillings shall pay a Farthing for booking their Pledges, which Money shall be apply'd as before propos'd. It may be observed, that if the several Workhouses were to take the same Interest Money which the Pawnbrokers do now, or even may hereafter lawfully demand, that the Profits then arising would be more than is sufficient for the Discharge of the Poores Rate to all the Parishes within the Bills of Mortality, tho' the Sum limited for the Loan should not exceed that of Forty Shillings.

Some

Some Considerations for rendering the Punishment of Criminals more effectual, with Means not only to make them honest, but useful to the Publick, &c.

IT is to be feared, that when there is but little Occasion for either the Number of Sailors and Soldiers in the Army, and upon their Dismission, that both Murders and Street Robberies may again frequently be committed, the first Observation I shall make is, the Man who takes a Shilling on the Highway, shall meet but with the same Fate as if he had murdered half a Score People.

This Inequality in the Punishment is the principal Reason of the Frequency of the Crime. If Murder was to be punished with greater Severity, or Theft or Robbery with less, that is, if a juster Proportion were to be observed between the Punishment and Offence, it would, in all Probability, have its desired Effect. All other Nations adapt Punishment to Crimes; the *Dutch* have their *Lex Talionis*, the Wheel, the Gallows, and the Sword; the *French*, *Germans*, &c. have the *St. Andrew's Cross*, hot Pincers, Scalping, &c. the *Italians*, besides these, the *Strapado*. The *Spaniards* have all these ordinary Ways of Punishment, and the Faggot to boot; the *Turks* have not only the Sword and Gallows, but they

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they impale, and punish flagrant Criminals after the following Manner.

The Patient (to use a *French* Term) is brought into a Room, where a large Copper Plate is supported by four Pedestals, with a Fire under it. When this Plate is red hot, the Executioner takes a Sash, putting it round the Waste of the Criminal, and two sturdy Fellows draw it, till his Belly is brought as near his Back Bone as 'tis possible; then the Executioner fixes two Hooks under his Arms, which are fastened to two Pullies, and with his Scymitar cuts him off in the middle, and hoists his upper Part upon the burning Copper Plate, which stanches the Blood, and keeps the Criminal alive in exquisite Torture, till the time he is condemn'd for is expired, and when he is taken off, that Minute he dies. In *England* we have, except in Treason and petty Treason, no other Punishment but hanging, and I don't know but that may be the Reason of so many Murders, the Number of which would certainly be greater, if we were as sanguinary as some other Nations. For which Reason, it may be worthy Consideration, whether the Laws, as they stand at present, are not a little too severe in the one Instance, and a great deal too mild in the other. The Punishment indeed of the inferior Degrees of Felons have been in some measure mitigated by the Transportation Act, which has already had such good Effects, that we hope the Wisdom of the Legislature will think proper to extend it a little farther; for before that Act took Place, the Execution of Criminals encreased every Year, but since, it has proportionably lessened.

I have made it my Observation, for many Years, what different Methods some Rogues have practised in robbing in or near *London*, and at the Beginning

of

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of each new invented Project, others, whose Inclinations are bent for Mischiefe, have immediately copy'd after them.

Attempts of this Kind, in Times past, cannot parallel the present Practice of their monstrous Barbarity; for which Reason, there is a Necessity to find out some Expedient, whereby the whole Community may be benefited, as far as the Nature and Circumstance of Things can admit of. To name two or three Instances of the Cruelty committed by some notorious ill-disposed Persons, some Years since, will the better explain a Proposal, which I conceive may have its desired Effect, as before hinted.

It was about the same Time, I read in some of the News Papers of a Pedlar's having his Tongue cut out, robbed, and left bleeding on the Road; and as he could not write, nor consequently tell who were the Persons that committed the horrid Fact, they spared his Life.

The Baker, Mr. *Gibson* of *Islington*, was robb'd, by five or more Villains, who used him with the following ill Treatment, *viz.* shooting him, without the least Warning, and afterwards binding him, whilst in the utmost Anguish of his Wounds, and leaving him for dead, rifled his House.

Another Instance, is an unhappy Accident which befel an Acquaintance of mine, who was walking in the Streets about 9 o'Clock at Night, a Villain, without the Ceremony of saying stand and deliver, knock'd him down with a Bloodgeon; the Violence of the Blow, separated the Flesh from his Skull, about three Inches square, so that his Life was despaired of for several Weeks after.

From

From hence I premise, that if in Case any Persons are convicted, guilty of the like Barbarity, that they shall be punished by the common Hangman, in a Manner adequate to the Severity or Torture, which they inflict upon those they have robbed, and inhumanly used, and to be taken proper Care of till their Wounds are near healed, and then hanged. †

But in more desperate Villanies, which end in Death, the Lions, or Tygers, kept in the Tower, which at present are only useful to divert People's Curiosity, would become the best and fittest Executions for such detestable Criminals, who are found guilty of Willful Murder. The Horror that must naturally arise in them, at the shocking and most dreadful Approach of such a Death, when thrust, bound Hand and Feet, into the Den of these their Kindred Savages, and have nothing but a View of exquisite Torment from their sharp Talons and voracious Jaws, must needs have the most sensible Impressions upon them, and strike such a Terror on other Criminals, as in all Likelihood, would make them avoid Cruelty and Murder, since Death for Theft and Robbery would be but barely hanging. ||

I shall conclude with a Method practised in the City of *Pekin*, in the Time of *Kao*, Emperor of *China*, 1700 Years before the Birth of our Saviour, for the easy discovering of any one who had committed notorious Crimes, and escap'd the Hands of Justice. It is thus :

“ Every

† A Remedy for inhuman Cruelty.

|| By the Laws now in Being, if a Man murders his Wife he is but hang'd; if a Woman murders her Husband she is burnt; wherefore, then, should not a proportionable Punishment be inflicted on a common Villain?

“ Every House has a Board over the Door whereon is written the Number, Sex and Quality of every Person living in it; and to a certain Number of Houses, one is appointed to inspect the rest, and take Care that it be exactly done.” If this were in *London*, in suspected and beggarly Places only, it would, in all Probability, prevent Street Robberies, and other Enormities, so often committed in the City and Suburbs of this grand Metropolis.

As for those kind of Offenders, who are now liable to Transportation, and for that Reason are not only entirely useless to their own Country, but a Burthen to those Colonies to which they are sent, by the Villany and ill Example, as well as the Numbers of them; if the Manner of Punishment were changed, and if, instead of being sent abroad, they were to be kept at Work at Home, according to the following Proposals, these Rogues, who are now not only so great a Nuisance to us, but also so great an Inconvenience to the Plantations where they are transported, will be made useful, if not honest Members of the Public.

There are several Parts in *Great Britain*, from whence we have our rough Stone and wrought Iron. In every one of those Places, as Time will admit, and Money can be raised for the Purpose, they should be employ'd in building a strong circular open Workhouse*, where they should be kept constantly at Work in hewing and sawing of Stone, and in beating at the Anvil, in the same Manner as such kind of Offenders are in the Rasp-Houses at *Amsterdam*. And as the Time of their Servitude should be according to the Kind and Degree of their Crimes, so should

* An Emblem of Eternity,

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the Nature of it too; for the greatest Offenders should be employ'd in digging and hewing of Stone in the Quarry, and in that Sort of Work which is the most painful and laborious, while those whose Crimes are but light and trivial, not being Artists in any handicraft Business, should be instructed, by fit and able Workmen, to model the Stone, and to make and manufacture all Sorts of Iron Work proper for the Use of Builders, Masons, Shipwrights, Husbandmen, &c. and to supply our Plantations, and other Places abroad, with the same; by this Means, these lesser kind of Thieves and Felons, who now generally return to the same Course of Life again, will be enabled to get an honest Livelihood after their Time of Servitude is expired, which they will do with the greater Chearfulness and Spirit, as they will be so much the more inured to it. As for the Female Felons, they should be kept by themselves, in Places regulated as aforesaid, and employ'd in Carding of Wool, Winding of Yarn, or such Work as shall be deem'd most proper for them. But if at any Time we should happen to be at War with the Moors of *Salle*, or *Algiers*, so that any of our Countrymen be taken by them, and carried into Slavery, then such of those Criminals of either Sex, as may be esteemed most fit for the Purpose, should be exchanged for them; and, in order to facilitate the Redemption of those unhappy Captives, two or three, according to the Circumstances and Exigency of the Case, should be given to ransom one. Thus Justice, managed as an Act of Mercy, by slow, and yet effectual Methods, will bring Criminals to a Sense of their Crimes, and beget in them such a Habit of Industry, as in the End will make them useful, if not honest Members of the Public; and tho' the Labour of such Felons, so employed, will in a little Time pay the Expence of maintaining them; yet as some Money will be

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be necessary to set such an Undertaking on Foot, I shall propose the raising any Sum necessary to it in the following Manner.

Let a proper Person be appointed in every Parish, throughout the Kingdom, to attend their wealthy Parishioners for a voluntary Subscription for such an useful and charitable Undertaking; and the Money so raised, to be paid at some convenient Place in each County, in order to be remitted to an Office erected in LONDON for that Purpose, and to be from thence distributed as Occasion shall require; and as an Expedient so full of Mercy, will engage the Charity of all such as are truly religious, so its being effectual too, will no less meet with Subscriptions from those that only regard the Preservation of their Properties; all which will needs raise any Sum necessary to it; but as some may object, that ill Consequences will happen, (from inflicting any Kind of Slavery on free-born Subjects) which in Time may affect our Liberties, I shall answer such groundless Suppositions with a Matter of Fact. The *Dutch* having observed frequent Larcenies to have been committed amongst them in the Year 1595, converted the Cloyster of the Nuns of *St. Clare*, in *Amsterdam*, into a Rasp-house, and therein confined Thieves to hard Labour; and yet after 150 Years Trial, have never found that such their exemplary Justice has occasion'd the least Infringement upon the Liberties of their honest Subjects: Wherefore should we fear any worse Consequences from confining Felons to hard Labour at Home, in Respect to our Liberties, than we find at present from transporting them abroad to our Plantations.

I shall herein propose farther Means, not only to prevent House-breaking, Street-Robberies, Murders,

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&c. but also that evil Practice of digging up human Bodies after decent Interment.

As the Lives of all Capital Offenders become forfeited by the Laws of their Country, so the Bodies of such as shall be executed may still be made useful to the Public. The Bodies allowed by Act of Parliament being found insufficient for the expensive Practice of Anatomy, have occasioned that inhuman Custom of digging up dead Bodies after decent Interment, from whose Corruption we run the manifest Hazard of contagious Distempers; and the frequent Riots at *Tyburn*, caused by the Attempts of Surgeons to procure Bodies not allowed them by Law, is such an Insult on the Peace and good Order of Society, as loudly calls for Redress.

It is proposed, therefore, that such as, notwithstanding the Expedients above-mentioned, shall be doom'd to the Gallows, their Bodies, after Execution, shall be made liable to be purchased, by any Surgeon on the following Conditions.

That after the Surgeons Company have chosen the Body allow'd them by Law, that then any private Surgeon be at Liberty to purchase any other he shall pitch upon, paying 20 s. and that the first Bidder, according to a Register-Book kept for that Purpose, be the Buyer: And further, to prevent Riots at the Place of Execution, the Bodies shall be brought back again to Prison, after they are executed, by the Sheriffs Officers, from thence to be delivered by the Gaol-Keeper to the Parties who are to receive them. Provided always, that notwithstanding such Price paid by any Surgeon for any such Bodies, that the Relations of any of the Bodies aforesaid, paying 5 l. per Body, may bury them themselves; out of which

5 l.

5 l. so paid, the Surgeons shall be allowed his 20 s. deposited as aforesaid, and the Remainder shall be applied to buy Coals and other Necessaries for such Criminals as shall remain in Prison.

I cannot well omit the following Story, as 'tis a Parallel Case to the Subject I am now treating of.

The Women of *Sparta* being much addicted to Self-Murder, the Senate, in order to remedy that Evil, made a Law, that the Bodies of all such as should destroy themselves, should be exposed naked on a Hurdle, and drawn publickly thro' all the Streets of their City; which proved so effectual, that only one was known to offend afterwards: And as Death itself is hardly more terrible to the Minds of Criminals, than the Apprehensions of being dissected, so were the Bodies of all executed Felons made liable to Dissection, it would reduce the Number of Felons, and in a Manner greatly prevent such pernicious Offences; and would further effectually supply the Demands of our Surgeons, and wholly prevent the horrid Custom above-mentioned; a Piece of Inhumanity which otherwise may be practis'd on the Body of the dearest Friend or Relation.

To conclude, if the Legislative Power thought it necessary to impose a Tax yearly upon every one (the Army excepted) that should wear Swords, Cutlasses, or any other Weapons judg'd Instruments of Death, having a Register kept for that Purpose, the Advantages that must evidently arise would be considerable, not only to bear a large Proportion by Virtue of their Taxation towards the Expence of the present War, but, in all Likelihood, be a Means to point out Persons of ill Fame or Repute.

And, on the other Hand, if such Villains as the Street Robbers should omit to enter their Names, as the Law in that Case might direct, and arm themselves for their bloody Purposés, even with the utmost Carefulness of Concealment, yet they may at certain Times easily be discovered, it being the Interest of the People in general ever to be assiduous in the Pursuit of them ; which, upon their being taken, in such Case it might be deem'd Felony.



A SCHEME

A SCHEME effectually to prevent any Invasions, Rebellions, Insurrections, and other Disturbances of the like Kind.

IT is propos'd to raise 20,000 able-body'd Men in London, Westminster, and Middlesex, beside their Officers, which may, upon all Occasions, be ready for his Majesty's Service, subject to martial Law, and under regular Discipline, in lieu of the Militia for this County, without any Oppression to the Subject, or Charge to the Crown, save only for Cloaths, Arms, and Ammunition.

There could be no Comparison, if this Method was but put in Execution, to that of raising the Militia of late Years for our Defence, because of the Regularity of the one, and the Confusion of the other, in case of Action ; beside the extraordinary and heavy Expence the Housekeepers are liable to, in finding Arms, Ammunition, &c. and paying generally Five Shillings a March to each common Man, which, if seriously considered, and the Rebellion should continue a few Months longer, the Consequence must unavoidably be the Ruin of many of the Inhabitants.

That all able-body'd Men, not exceeding 30 Years of Age, such as Tradesmen, Journeymen, Tavern-Drawers, Apprentices, (if by their Masters Leave) who are upwards of 19 Years of Age, Footmen, Chairmen, Porters, &c. whose Characters are well attested, may inlist to compleat the aforesaid Number of Soldiers, and that the Lord Lieutenant of

of the said County have the Command, except such Part of them as may be allotted for the Protection of the City of *London*.

Upon this Establishment, when there are no Disturbances, and which may not again happen in the Memory of Man, each Person, notwithstanding, shall have paid him the Sum of Three Pounds a Year, to perform public Exercise only once a Month after being instructed in the Art of War.

2dly, That his Majesty to find Arms and Ammunition, also a Blue Coat, Hat, and Spatterdashes, once in two Years.

3dly, That no Soldier, upon any Emergency whatever, shall be draughted from his respective Regiment, unless by his own Consent.

4thly, That no Person enlisted in any of these Regiments, shall be liable to Parish Offices.

5thly, That if ever they should come into Action, they shall receive Soldiers Pay, beside that of their Establishment, and be entitled to *Chelsea* Hospital, as Occasion may require.

6thly, That to distinguish them in an honourable Manner, a Medal be struck at his Majesty's Expence, to be worn by them as a singular Mark of his Favour.

7thly, That any Person enlisted, giving Three Months Notice, may quit the Service on providing another sufficient Man, and assigning over to him his Cloaths, Arms, &c.

8thly, That his Majesty appoint the General Officers, and that the General Officers the Colonels, and that every Colonel appoint the Officers of his own Regiment.

Lastly, To enumerate upon the Advantages, both to the King and Subject is needless; only to remark, would not this Proposal, if made general throughout the Kingdom, and the Compliment of Forces be augmented to 100,000 brave Men, strike a Terror

to all our Enemies, especially those of *France*? What Power then could have the least Hopes even to attempt an Invasion, or any Set of evil Persons dare to shew their rebellious Inclination.

A LIST of the Number of his Majesty's Forces and General Officers for the County of Middlesex, London, and Westminster, being 20 Regiments, each containing 1000 Men, exclusive of their Officers.

5 General Officers	Lord Lieutenant of the County,	}	£ 1000
	Generalissimo, annual Pay		
	Lord Mayor of <i>London</i> , General	}	500
	of 5000 of the Forces established for the City Guard		
	Lieutenant General	—	500
	Major General	—	400
	Brigadier Generals	—	300
	15 Colonels, each at	£ 200	3000
	20 Lieutenant Colonels	150	3000
	20 Majors	100	2000
4 Brigadier Majors	60	240	
156 Captains	50	7800	
200 Lieutenants	30	6000	
160 Ensigns	20	3200	
20 Adjutants and Ensigns	0	600	
20 Quarter-Masters and Ensigns	25	500	
20 Surgeons	20	400	
20 Mates	5	100	
20 Chaplains	10	200	
20 Serjeant Majors	12	240	
980 Serjeants	8	7840	
20 Drum Majors	8	160	
1000 Corporals	6	6000	
380 Drummers	6	2280	
17600 Private Men	3	52800	
20680 Officers and private Men,		99060	

As this Establishment of supporting 20680 Men, Officers included, will occasion an annual Expence of 99060 Pounds, which Sum the Author proposes to raise by an easy Tax, the Manner of putting it in Execution he reserves till call'd upon ; but in general Terms he says, that those Persons who are the Contributors, will most chearfully pay it, because they will receive a Benefit at the same Time more than what is equivalent to the Expence they are put to by that of the Taxation ; and by Virtue of this Scheme only, a general Benefit will be established throughout the Nation, and which will effectually prevent any treasonable Conspiracies, or jesuitical Combinations, being carried on against his Majesty, exclusive of that Security, &c. &c. upon the aforesaid Establishment of our new-raised National Forces.

F I N I S.

