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THE
British Merchant:

CONTAINING

The Sentiments of the most eminent and
judicious Merchants of the City of
London, concerning the Trade and
Commerce of these Kingdoms;

More particularly that which relates to *France*,
Spain and *Portugal*.

And illustrated with Notes and Maxims useful to
Trade in general.

Originally compos'd by a Body of Merchants
(whose Names are mention'd in the Preface) and
Publish'd by Mr. *Charles King*, in three large
Volumes Octavo, at One Guinea and a Half.

Now Re-publish'd compleat, with Improvements.

The THIRD EDITION.

VOL. I.

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(Price Bound Nine Shillings.)



To the Right Honourable
CHARLES,
Earl of SUNDERLAND,

*Baron Spencer of Wormleighton, First Lord
Commissioner of his Majesty's Treasury, Groom
of the Stole, and First Gentleman of the Bed-
Chamber to his Majesty, one of the Lords of
his Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council,
and Knight of the most Noble Order of the Garter.*

MY LORD,



THE following Sheets, as they have had Your Lordship's Encouragement, humbly claim Your Protection. You are, by virtue of Your high Trust, a Guardian of the Publick; and as the Arguments in these Papers concern the great and only Treasure of *England*, her Publick Commerce, they will invite Your Perusal: This I venture to say with more Authority, as they are the applauded Labours of several very ingenious Men, who stood up in the Defence of our Trade, at a Time when it was attack'd even by National Treaties.

I am persuaded Your Lordship, whose Heart and Hands have always continued pure, even in

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these wicked and calamitous Times, and who ardently use Your utmost Endeavours to turn the Inclinations and Wealth of the People of *England*, most grievously perverted by Fraud and Avarice, into her natural Channels again; will accept this Treatise, which proves that *Great Britain* can be only truly Great and Powerful by Trade and Industry.

While a Manly, a Graceful, and Persuasive Eloquence shall be of use in Publick; while Natural Humanity cultivated and improved by the politer Arts shall continue to give Influence or Example to Virtue; while a warm and an active Zeal in the service of our Country shall support and animate the Cause of Liberty, and preserve the Dignity of Human Nature; Your Lordship's Name will never want a Herald, nor I an Excuse for my Ambition in prefixing it to this Epistle.

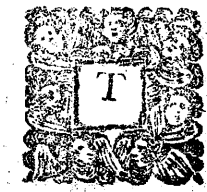
But I fear my Gratitude grows importunate, therefore I dare not detain Your Lordship any longer, and have only to beg that you will be pleased still to continue your Protection to me, and suffer me to subscribe myself,

MY LORD,
Your Lordship's Most Obliged,
Most Obedient, and Most Devoted,
Humble Servant,

Charles King.



PREFACE.



HIS Work may be useful to future Ages, as it has already been of the utmost Importance to the present. It is therefore necessary to give the Rise and History of it, that nothing in it may appear obscure to them who come after us.

When *Great Britain* and her Allies, under the Conduct of the Duke of *Marlborough*, had reduced *France* to the necessity of suing for Peace, there were two Treaties set on foot, the one of Peace, the other of Commerce; which happened some time after his Grace had quitted his Employments. Tho' *Great Britain* had so humbled *France* with the Sword, yet *France* according to the old Maxim, was too hard for her at the Pen, and thro' the unskilfulness of her Ministers in Trade brought her to ratify a Treaty of Commerce, that must in a very few Years have proved her utter Destruction.

But as Fortune (who has ever been her Guardian in Distress) would have it, this Treaty could not take effect, unless the Parliament consented to reduce the high Duties, and take

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off the Prohibitions so wisely laid on *French* Commodities. As this would have destroyed all the best Branches of our Trade, and deprived many hundred thousand Manufacturers of their Subsistence, it began to give an Alarm: the Ministers apprized of the Difficulties they might meet in procuring the Treaty to be made effectual by Parliament, began it in an artful manner; they had a Majority in the House of Commons implicitly at their Devotion, and as they were fond of their own Child, they determin'd to support it. They knew that *French* Wine was a relishing Liquor to *English* Palates, and therefore made a Motion to take off the Duties of it for two Months: This Motion was very accidentally tho' very wisely opposed, as it was ready to pass, and dropt.

As this Motion, had it pass'd into a Law, wou'd have destroyed our *Portugal* Trade, the Alarm increasing, became general amongst the Merchants and Traders, who knew the fatal Consequences of it. Many Pamphlets were published to open the Eyes of our Legislators, and to convince them that the preserving our Looms, and the Rents of *Great Britain*, was of greater Consequence to the Nation than gratifying our Palates with *French* Wine.

The Treaty however was to be supported at any rate; the Persons concern'd in making it, either cou'd not or wou'd not, see the Mistakes in it; and the Nation was to be convinced that thro' their great Skill in Trade, they had made an excellent Treaty of Commerce.

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To these Ends a Hireling Writer was employ'd, the Author of a Weekly Paper writ some Years before, called the *REVIEW*, in which the *French* Trade is very often condemn'd as detrimental to this Kingdom. This Person however undertook the Cause, and publish'd a Paper thrice a Week by the Title of the *MERCATOR*, or *Commerce Retrieved*; in which he was to prove that the Trade to *France*, tho' contrary to all Experience, had always been beneficial to this Kingdom, and wou'd be so again upon the Foot of this present Treaty.

As this Author had a Knack of writing very plausibly, and they who employ'd him, and furnish'd him with Materials, had the Command of all Publick Papers in the *Custom-House*; he had it in his power to do a great deal of Mischief, especially amongst such as were unskill'd in Trade, and at the same time very fond of *French* Wines, which it was then a great Crime to be against.

Several ingenious Merchants, of long Experience and well skill'd in Trade, join'd together to contradict the Impositions of this Writer: they knew he had many Heads, besides the Advantages of Publick Papers, to help him; and therefore thought this the most feasible Way to confute him, and set the State of our Trade in a clear Light, because they were sensible, that it was impossible for any one Man to be Master of so much Experience, as was required to furnish Materials from so many different Branches of our Trade, as wou'd be touch'd upon in this Debate.

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The Paper we put out was, in opposition to his Title, called the *BRITISH MERCHANT*, or *Commerce Preserved*, and was publish'd twice a Week; it contained many valuable Papers, and so much Knowledge in Trade, as wou'd never have appear'd in the World, had it not been thus extorted from these worthy Gentlemen. As these Materials lay scattter'd about in loose Papers, without any Form or Order, and considering the Difficulty we found in tracing the State of our Trade from past times down to the present, I thought it necessary to methodize them in this manner, by throwing the Materials on each Head together, as well as the Nature of the several Trades touch'd upon, which are so interwoven one with another, wou'd admit; that Posterity, as well as the present Age, might have the Benefit of them, and both be conyined to whom we owe the Preservation of our Trade, on which depends the chief Support and Power of *Great Britain*.

The Reason these Materials lay so disposed and scattered in these Papers, was, that the *Mercator*, whenever he was close set, always quitted the Point he was upon, and trump'd up something new; we were therefore forced to follow him, to expose his new Forgeries, before they had made too deep an Impression. I have given all his material Arguments in his own Words, that the Reader may the better judge of them, and of the Spirit with which this important Debate was carried on: and I have added to this Work a great many useful Materials, in order to make it more compleat.

These

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These Papers, and the convincing Arguments some of those Gentlemen gave at the Bar of both Houses of Parliament, had the good Effect to throw out the pernicious Bill of Commerce. But here I must do justice to that worthy Gentleman the Speaker of the House of Commons, *Sir Thomas Hammer*, who, at a time when the Court, who espoused the Bill, had a greater Influence than ever was known in a House of Commons, join'd his Influence to them who opposed it, and rejected it by nine Votes, when we expected to have lost the Question, notwithstanding the Importance of the Vote, which was no less than the Trade, the Safety, and the Power of *Great Britain*.

The Person to whom our Country is chiefly obliged for these Papers, and who had the greatest Hand in them, is *Henry Martin*, Esq; lately deceased, who, for his great Merit and Abilities, was made *Inspector-General* of the *Exports* and *Imports*.

Besides him the following Persons were assisting.

Sir Charles Cooke, Merchant, lately deceased, who made so clear a Defence of our Trade at the Bar of each House of Parliament, and was afterwards made Lord Commissioner of *Trade* and *Plantations*, and chose Member of the present Parliament.

Sir Theodore Janssen, Bart. to whose great Abilities in Trade this Work is indebted for many very useful Materials.

James Milner, Esq; Merchant, and Member of the present Parliament, who plainly made appear

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appear before the Parliament the great Importance of our Trade to *Portugal*, and of the Treaty that supports it.

Mr. *Nathaniel Toriano*, Merchant, who shew'd the Consequence of opening the *French* Trade according to the Treaty in so strong and clear a Light, as to convince even them who discouraged his speaking of the Destruction that must inevitably have fallen on our Country, had that Treaty been render'd effectual by Parliament.

Mr. *Joshua Gee*, Merchant, was a very great Assistant, and labour'd with much Industry in these Papers.

Mr. *Christopher Haynes*, Merchant, gave us many useful Pieces on our Trade with *Spain*.

Mr. *David Martin*, Merchant, also furnish'd many very useful Materials as to our Trade with *France*, and on our Silk-Manufactures, &c.

Besides the above Persons, there were several other very able and worthy Merchants concern'd in this Work : and since I have mention'd this Account of the Gentlemen who assisted, I must not forget my two Noble Patrons, to whom the Trade of our Country is so much obliged : I must therefore beg one Word,

To the Memory of the Right Honourable CHARLES late Earl of HALIFAX, and of the Right Honourable JAMES late Earl STANHOPE.

“ I F ever Men in any Age deserved the Honours they received from their Country,

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“ try, if the Publick can be obliged to private Men, if Liberty is a valuable Blessing, if to spend our whole Lives unwearied in the Service and Defence of our most Happy Constitution either in Arms or Letters may be deem'd meritorious, if the Names of MÆCENAS and CATO are valuable and eternal; HALIFAX and STANHOPE will never die. But I am upon a Subject now that demands a much greater Hand, and I must remember I am to confine my self to that Part of their Character which relates to the present Work.

“ My Lord *Halifax* was the Support and and very Spirit of the Paper called the *British Merchant* : He encouraged the Gentlemen concerned to meet, heard and assisted their Debates ; and being zealous above all things that the Trade of *Great Britain* should flourish, he not only continued his Influence and Advice to the last, but out of his usual and unbounded Liberality contributed very largely to this Work ; a considerable Sum being rais'd to carry it on.

“ My Lord *Stanhope*, equally sensible of the Benefit *Great Britain* received from foreign Commerce, neglected no Opportunity of improving or defending it ; and when our Trade was just expiring in the late Reign, General *Stanhope* came into the House of Commons, as a Vote was ready to pass for taking off the Duties on *French* Wines for two Months, by which our Treaty with *Portugal* would have been instantly broken, by which we should have

“ lost

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“ lost above a Million Sterling *per Ann.* and
 “ have reduced several hundred thousand Fa-
 “ milies to the Parish for Subsistence. But
 “ he opposed the Vote, began the Debate,
 “ and brought them to consent that our Mer-
 “ chants should first be heard before it passed.
 “ Alas! He is gone! ——— gone at a time
 “ when his dear Country wanted him more
 “ than ever, more than even in her foreign
 “ Wars, or her civil Discords, when she cal-
 “ led aloud to him for help to save her, to save
 “ her from her self, from her own injurious
 “ Children. I have but one Word more:
 “ May it eternally be remembred to the Im-
 “ mortal Honour of Earl *Stanhope*, that he
 “ died poorer in the King’s Service than he
 “ came into it. *Walsingham*, the Great
 “ *Walsingham* died poor, but the Great *Stan-*
 “ *hope* lived in the time of *South-Sea* Temp-
 “ tations.
 “ If this little Votive Table which I have
 “ endeavoured to erect in Memory of these
 “ Great Names, should only stand a Monu-
 “ ment of my own Insufficiency, I hope the
 “ benevolent Reader will forgive me, when
 “ he shall consider, that this Image, mean as
 “ it is, may awaken his Devotion; and as
 “ my Errors can be only those of Weakness
 “ and Superstition, they are in this place
 “ at least the Children of Gratitude and Pi-
 “ ety.

The Trade of this Nation can never want
 innumerable Patrons, did our Countrymen
 but consider, like these two great Men, that
 she

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she can be only truly Great and Powerful by
 Trade and Industry. All antient Kingdoms
 and States knew that Commerce was the very
 Axis of their Power; and we now see the
 Difference between those Countries that have
 Commerce and those that have none. I must
 therefore step back to the earliest Accounts of
 Trade, and shew how it has been courted, and
 the Consequences of it, in all times down to
 the present Age, and that *Great Britain* is
 more capable of it, from its Situation, its
 great Variety of Products, its Harbours, and
 its Merchants, than any Country in the
 World.

The *Phœnicians* were the first People we
 hear of, who applied themselves earnestly to
 Trade; they frequented all the Ports of the
Mediterranean; and having gained great expe-
 rience in Navigation, they ventur’d into the
 Ocean, and sent their Ships as far as *Corn-*
wall to fetch Tin: in process of time they
 grew very populous and opulent, and *Tyrs*
 their capital City was the grand Magazine of
 those times.

The *Carthaginians*, a Colony of the *Phœ-*
nicians, did not forget the Arts of Trade they
 had learned amongst their Progenitors; but
 soon after they had built their City, and se-
 cur’d themselves against the Invasions of their
 Neighbours, they try’d their Fortune at Sea,
 and succeeded so well therein, that having got
 immense Riches by their Traffick, they were
 able to fit out large Fleets, and maintain nu-
 merous Armies; and if the factious Humour
 of their Senators, and the Envy they bore to
 their

their Generals, had not prevail'd amongst them; and stopt their Progress, they had bid fair for the Empire of the World. The *Carthaginians* knew so well the Advantage of Trade, and were such Lovers of it, that rather than remove Landward, and from the Sea, they chose to see their City destroy'd, and to perish in its Ruins.

The *Athenians* and the *Rhodians* were also very famous Traders in those Antient Times: The first had once accumulated so much Wealth and Shipping, that they became the Terror of *Greece*, and rais'd Tribute in all the Islands of the *Egean Sea*, and on all the Coasts of the lesser *Asia*.

The *Rhodians*, tho' perhaps they got more Money by their Traffick than the *Athenians*, never aim'd at enlarging their Territories, but contented themselves with fortifying and adorning their Island, and erected the famous *Colossus* of Brass, one of the Seven Wonders of the World, for the Security of their Navigation in the Night, and between whose Legs the largest Ships with all their Sails cou'd enter the Harbour of *Rhodes*.

The perpetual Victories of the *Romans*, and the Rapidity of their Conquests, almost drown'd the Memory of their mercantile Affairs; but 'tis certain, that they drove a great Trade to *Sicily*, to *Spain*, to *Egypt*, to *Barbary*, and to the *Euxine Sea*. In the Height of their Glory, they had need of all their Strength, and of the Valour of *Pompey*, to make an end of the Pyratial War, and to suppress those Sea-Rovers, who cou'd not have grown so formidable,

formidable, and subsisted so long, but by the great Number of Merchant-Ships they made themselves Masters of.

From the Time of the Declension of the Empire, when the barbarous *Goths* and *Vandals* over-spread the Face of the Earth, and by their perpetual Inroads put all into Disorder and Confusion, there appear no Footsteps of any considerable Trade in these Parts of the World, but it began again to revive about the twelfth Century.

The *Venetians*, by *Alexandria* and the *Red Sea*, open'd a Way into *Europe* for the Spices and other fine Goods of the *East*, and introduced *European* Commodities into *Arabia*, *Persia*, and the *Indies*. The *Florentines*, *Genoese*, *Pisans*, and *Catalans*, soon follow'd their Example; and all those States grew formidable in a short time, and having got much Wealth, increas'd and beautify'd their Cities to such a degree, that to this Day *Venice* is call'd the *Rich*, *Florence* the *Fair*, *Genoa* the *Proud*, *Pisa* is still full of Noble Palaces, and *Barcelona*, remembering her former Greatness, lately stood it boldly out against the Efforts of all the rest of *Spain*.

Two things induc'd these Nations to think of a Correspondence in the North; they wanted Naval Stores for their numerous Shipping, and they had a mind to enlarge the Vent of their *Arabian* and *Indian* Commodities: this settled a great Intercourse betwixt them and the Places situated in Lower *Germany* and on the *Baltick*. The Inhabitants of those cold Climates lik'd the strong Wines, and the warm Spices
the

the *Italians* sent them; and in return they supply'd them with Hemp, Flax, Timber, and other Naval Stores. By this means the *Hans* Towns grew so rich and potent, that they became the Arbitrators of Peace and War amongst all the Neighbouring Princes.

But the Distance betwixt the *Baltick* and the *Adriatick*, and the Interruption caus'd to Navigation by the Ice, and the long Winters making it often impracticable to perform the Voyage in one Year; put those fortunate Traders upon an Expedient, which in the end cost them dear, and prov'd their Ruin.

This Expedient was to have a Place of Entre-Port for the Depository of their Goods in the Mid-way.

Bruges and *Sluys* in *Flanders*, by the Immunities granted them by their Earls, enjoy'd then in a great measure the same Freedom as those Towns do, which have the Happiness to be made a Limited Monarchy, or a *Commonwealth*: They had the Staple of *English* Wool; and the Country round about abounding in Hemp and Flax, the Manufactures of Wool and Linen flourish'd to a great degree amongst them; they were likewise very populous and rich, and both the *Italians* and *Germans* thought that besides the Sale of their own Commodities, they shou'd have the Convenience there of supplying themselves with the best Cloth and Linen; in short, they pitch'd by common Consent upon those two Towns to be the Center of the Commerce.

Towards the end of the fifteenth Century the *Spaniards* having discovered the *West-Indies*,
and

and the *Portuguese* by long Sea the *East-Indies*, *Seville* and *Lisbon* became in an instant exceedingly famous; but their Grandeur soon vanish'd for want of being supported by Manufactures of their own. The Trade of the *Venetians* and other *Italians* began then to decline, they cou'd not bring the *East-India* Commodities over Land so cheap as the *Portuguese* did by Sea; however they had carefully cultivated the Growth and Fabrick of Silk in their Country: and the Species of Gold and Silver increasing in *Europe* by the vast Quantities which were daily brought over from *Mexico* and *Peru*, and People as they had more Money growing fonder of fine things, they found a greater Vent for their Silks than they had before; and the Center of Commerce still remain'd in *Flanders*, where Ships from all Parts perpetually crowded into the Haven of *Sluys*.

But great Troubles happening by reason of Impositions laid upon their Manufactures, which the *Flemings* were not used to bear, the Country being unsafe by the perpetual Commotions occasion'd thereby, and the Dukes of *Brabant* having granted large Privileges to *Antwerp*; Trade fled from *Bruges*, and took shelter in that City, which, in a short time, became the Admiration of *Europe*, all Nations flocking to that great Mart, where in emulation of one another they erected Noble Structures for their Merchants to dwell in, some of which remain beautiful and entire to this day; and they enjoy'd such Prosperity and Plenty at that time, that each Nation went to the *Exchange* in a distinct Body, with Hautboys and other Musick playing before them. But

But *Antwerp* being arrived at this height of Felicity, cou'd not enjoy it long; the *Spaniards* grew jealous of their Greatness, they envy'd their Happiness, and coveted their Money; and Disputes arising on account of the Inquisition, the famous Duke of *Parma* laid siege to that Town, which drawing into a great Length, and the Merchants finding no Safety there, left the Place, and retired for the most part with their Effects, Industry and Skill, into *England* and *Holland*, where Trade hath flourish'd, and been carry'd on since beyond whatever it was in any other Place or Country before.

'Tis true, that of late the *Dutch* being on the Decline in several Branches of their Commerce, the *French*, who sixty Years ago had never made any tolerable Figure in Traffick, seem now, especially since their nearer Intimacy with *Spain*, to be next to us the greatest Trading Nation in *Europe*: and as they know the best of any People how to improve their Advantages, 'tis to be fear'd they will outdo even us, if we are not very cautious what Steps we at any time take with them in relation to so nice a Point.

'Tis certain, all Countries are more or less formidable as they ebb or flow in Trade. *Holland* and *Flanders* are notable Examples of this. When Tyranny, Loads of Taxes, and other Oppressions tofs'd the Commercial Ball from *Flanders*, by the Destruction of the Trade of *Bruges*, *Sluys*, and *Antwerp*; *Holland* caught it with open Arms, who by caressing it ever since has made it flourish to so great a degree, that

that it has rais'd the *United Netherlands* to a Power, able at times to withstand alone the Shocks of all the most Potent Princes of *Europe*. *France* is another Example as well as *England*; for my Witness I bring a *French* Author lately publish'd at *Paris*, who speaking of Trade, says, " There are few things in Government, that deserve more Attention; " to be convinced of this, let Men only reflect on the State of *Europe*, and observe " the Difference between Countries that have " Commerce, and those that have not. *England* and *Holland*, on whom in the present " Age all depends, do (or should) govern " their Interest abroad with respect ever to " their Traffick. Husbandry and Commerce nourish and enrich a Nation; 'tis " those two Arts that give it Life and Strength: " A Truth that ought to be written in Letters " of Gold in all the Cabinets of Princes and " Ministers, to admonish them to consider the " Husbandmen and Traders as they deserve. By " Commerce the Riches of the most distant " Countries are brought to a State; 'Tis a " Mine that affords the more, the more 'tis " wrought; and is never to be exhausted. The " Lord Chancellor Bacon says, that Merchants " and Traders are in a State what the Blood is " in the Body. It may be proved by Examples as antient as the World, that Nations " have been powerful in proportion to their " application to Commerce; witness the *Tyrrians*, the *Athenians*, the *Carthaginians*. " But without recurring to such distant Instances, it will be sufficient to examine the " sur-

“ surprizing Changes which Commerce has
 “ made in our times amongst our Neighbours.
 “ *England*, by the Protection and Encou-
 “ ragement which *Queen Elizabeth* during her
 “ Reign gave to Commerce, has from that
 “ time so enlarg’d her Trade and naval
 “ Strength, that she has been able to maintain
 “ easily those mighty Fleets which have ren-
 “ dered her the Terror of the Ocean.
 “ Nothing is comparable to what the *Dutch*
 “ have done by following this Maxim. But
 “ we have in *France*, and under our own Eyes,
 “ convincing Proofs of the usefulness of Com-
 “ merce. Cardinal *Richlieu* and Monsieur
 “ *Colbert*, those excellent Ministers, so zea-
 “ lous for aggrandizing the *French* Monarchy,
 “ those Men of great Knowledge and clear
 “ Judgment, apply’d themselves very much
 “ to enlarge our Commerce; yet they did not
 “ take Measures just enough, and their good
 “ Intentions had but moderate Success: But
 “ the Augmentation of Traffick *has enabled*
 “ *France to support three Wars of several Years*
 “ *continuance against all Europe united.* What
 “ would our Nation be then, if this never-
 “ failing Spring of Wealth were as ably ma-
 “ naged by us as our Neighbours? My Lord
 “ *Bellafyse* used to say, that if the *Turks* did
 “ but know what they might be capable of
 “ doing by Sea, *and if the French should come*
 “ *to apprehend rightly to what a pitch they might*
 “ *carry their Commerce, the rest of Europe*
 “ *would soon become their Conquest.*
 “ The Example of *Bruges, Sluys and Ant-*
 “ *werp*, proves that Commerce may flourish

in

“ in a Monarchy as well as in a Common-
 “ wealth, when the Prince and his Ministers
 “ know thoroughly the Importance of it,
 “ protect it with a high Hand, follow the
 “ true Maxims relating to it, *prevent engros-*
 “ *sing and destructive Companies*, leave the Mer-
 “ chant all the liberty requisite for carrying it
 “ on, *do not take upon them to subject it to the*
 “ *interested views of their Courtiers*, do not
 “ load it with too high Duties, do not prefer
 “ (like the Owner of the Hen that laid Gol-
 “ den Eggs) present Gain how great soever,
 “ to a long Train of durable and certain Ad-
 “ vantages, which would be a continual Fund
 “ of Supplies to them by the continual increase
 “ of the Riches of their People.

Having thus given a summary Account of
 what Revolutions have happen’d in the Trade
 of the World, and how it hath remov’d from
 one place to another, I shall next endeavour
 to shew that there is no Nation so well qualified
 to carry on a glorious and advantageous Com-
 merce as we are, by our Situation, by our
 Seamen, by our Manufactures, by the Product
 of our Land and Plantations, and by the
 Number, Opulence, and Ingenuity of our
 Merchants.

First, *Great Britain and Ireland* are situated
 in the Center of *Europe*, at an equal Distance
 for the South and Northern Trade. We can
 conveniently at any time of the Year come in-
 to Port and put out to Sea, his Majesty having
 more Havens in his Dominions than any other
 Prince in *Europe*.

Secondly,

Secondly, As to our Seamen, no body denies but they are as brave and as good Sailors as any in the World: there are above 100,000 belonging to his Majesty's Dominions; if so, we have more true Seamen than either *France* or *Holland*, altho' those of *St. Malo* brag of having 12,000 Seamen and 80 Ships of Force belonging to their Town, but they are indeed the greatest Navigators in that Kingdom.

Thirdly, Our Manufactures of Wool are without doubt the most useful of any, they are brought by us to the utmost Perfection, none of our Neighbours pretend to equal us therein; and we have not only the happiness of exporting great Quantities, but we are able to make all the Silks and Linen we have occasion for, for our own use; so that we really want hardly any thing from abroad that is manufactur'd; and if we wear it, 'tis a folly.

Fourthly, As for our home Products, and those of our Plantations, the bare mention of them will be sufficient, *viz.* Lead, Tin, Leather, Coals, Copperas, Allum, Sugar, Tobacco, Indigo, Pimento, Rice, Cotton, Wool, Furs, and of late Years Corn in abundance; all which amount to a great Sum, and are such Commodities as our Neighbours cannot be without.

Fifthly, I have a Book printed in 1677, which is only a List of the Merchants in and about *London*, they were in all 1786; I know above 400 of them, who are all true Merchants, that is, Importers, and Exporters of Goods, for no other are such. If the whole List then is true, as it probably is, and we add
to

to these the Merchants in *Bristol*, and other trading Towns of *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and our *Plantations*, with those who are abroad in *Turky*, *Italy*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Holland*, *Germany*, *Russia*, *Norway*, the *Baltick*, *Africa*, and the *East-Indies*, I am of opinion, we have at least two thirds as many as all the rest of *Europe* put together, if not more; so that our Trade can never suffer for want of Hands to carry it on.

If our Merchants are so numerous, they are not less opulent. To give an Idea of it, I shall only mention what Trade we drive upon our own Bottom.

There are always Goods lying at home in our Warehouses to a considerable Value, and a great Sum is constantly employ'd in our *West-India* Trade.

All our Exports to *Turkey*, and the Goods lying there, are all upon *English* Account.

All our Exports to *Muscovy* the same.

All our Exports to the *East-Indies* likewise.

Nine Tenths of our Exports to *Portugal*, and the Goods lying there.

Nine Tenths of our Exports to *Spain*, and the Goods lying there.

Nine Tenths of our Exports to *Italy*, and the Goods lying there.

Three Fourths of our Exports to *Germany*, and the Goods lying there.

Two Thirds of our Exports to *Holland*, and the Goods lying there. Besides several other Branches, I do not mention.

All which amount to several Millions: And if, by reason of the Shortness of the time allow'd

low'd for Draw-backs, *London* cannot be the greatest Magazine, 'tis certain that the *Londons* make Magazines of all the considerable Trading Towns of the World, and have Commodities for their own Account at all the Markets where there is a Vent for them.

Other Countries may boast of more Factors, and of getting more by way of Commission, than we do ; but there is no Nation that hath so many true downright Merchants, who drive all their Trade upon their own Capital, as the *English* do.

Numbers and Opulence not being deny'd, perhaps the Art and Ingenuity of our Merchants may. It will not become me to speak too much in their Praise, or even to give them their just Due ; but I appeal to any who have travel'd, if they met abroad with Merchants of better Sense, Breeding, or fitter for the best Conversation, than those they have known at home. We have at least here in *London* all the Advantages that one can desire for the Education of Merchants ; Accounts, Geography, Navigation, Mathematicks are all taught in Perfection, and few are now brought up to Commerce who have not some degree of Literature and a liberal Education. And if the *English* in general are Men of Industry and Prudence, as they are the greatest, they must consequently be the most experienced Traders of any other Nation about us.

T H E



T H E
British Merchant.



General MAXIMS in TRADE, particularly applied to the COMMERCE between *Great Britain* and *France*.

First Published in the Year 1713.



HERE are general Maxims in Trade which are assented to by every body.

That a Trade may be of Benefit to the Merchant and injurious to the Body of the Nation, is one of these Maxims.

I shall confine myself to speak of Trade only as it is nationally good or bad.

VOL. I.

B

I. That

The British Merchant.

Instances of a good Trade.

I. That Trade which exports Manufactures made of the sole Product or Growth of the Country, is undoubtedly good; such is the sending abroad our *Yorkshire* Cloth, *Colchester* Bays, *Exeter* Serges, *Norwich* Stuffs, &c. which being made purely of *British* Wool, as much as those Exports amount to, so much is the clear Gain of the Nation.

II. That Trade which helps off the Consumption of our Superfluities, is also visibly advantageous; as the exporting of Allum, Copperas, Leather, Tin, Lead, Coals, &c. so much as the exported Superfluities amount unto, so much also is the clear National Profit.

III. The importing of foreign Materials to be manufactured at home, especially when the Goods, after they are manufactured, are mostly sent abroad, is also, without dispute, very beneficial; as for instance *Spanish* Wool, which for that reason is exempted from paying any Duties.

IV. The Importation of foreign Materials to be manufactur'd here, altho' the manufactured Goods are chiefly consumed by us, may also be beneficial; especially when the said Materials are procur'd in exchange for our Commodities; as Raw-Silk, Grogram-Yarn, and other Goods brought from *Turkey*.

V. Foreign Materials, wrought up here into such Goods as would otherwise be imported ready manufactured, is a means of saving Money to the Nation; and if saving is getting, that Trade which procures such Materials ought to be look'd upon as profitable: Such is the Importation of Hemp, Flax, and Raw-Silk.

'Tis

General Maxims of Trade.

'Tis therefore to be wonder'd at, that these Commodities are not exempt from all Duties as well as *Spanish* Wool.

VI. A Trade may be call'd good which exchanges Manufactures for Manufactures, and Commodities for Commodities. *Germany* takes as much in Value of our Woollen and other Goods, as we do of their Linen: by this means numbers of People are employ'd on both sides, to their mutual Advantage.

VII. An Importation of Commodities, bought partly for Money and partly for Goods, may be of National Advantage; if the greatest part of the Commodities thus imported are again exported, as in the case of *East-India* Goods: and generally all Imports of Goods which are re-exported, are beneficial to a Nation.

VIII. The carrying of Goods from one foreign Country to another, is a profitable Article in Trade. Our Ships are often thus employ'd between *Portugal*, *Italy*, and the *Levant*, and sometimes in the *East-Indies*.

IX. When there is a necessity to import Goods which a Nation cannot be without, altho' such Goods are chiefly purchased with Money, it cannot be accounted a bad Trade; as our Trade to *Norway* and other Parts, from whence are imported Naval Stores, and Materials for Building.

But a Trade is disadvantageous to a Nation,

I. Which brings in things of meer Luxury and Pleasure, which are entirely, or for the most part, consumed among us; and such I

Instances of a bad Trade.

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reckon the Wine-Trade to be, especially when the Wine is purchased with Money, and not in exchange for our Commodities.

2. Much worse is that Trade which brings in a Commodity that is not only consumed amongst us, but hinders the consumption of the like quantity of ours; as is the emportation of Brandy, which hinders the spending of our Extracts of Malt and Molasses; therefore very prudently charged with excessive Duties.

3. That Trade is eminently bad, which supplies the same Goods as we manufacture our selves, especially if we can make enough for our Consumption: and I take this to be the case of the Silk Manufacture, which with great Labour and Industry is brought to perfection in London, Canterbury, and other places.

4. The Importation upon easy Terms of such Manufactures as are already introduc'd in a Country, must be of bad consequence, and check their progress; as it would undoubtedly be the case of the Linen and Paper Manufactures in Great Britain (which are of late very much improved) if those Commodities were suffer'd to be brought in without paying very high Duties.

Wise Nations are so fond of encouraging Manufactures in their Infancy, that they not only burden foreign Manufactures of the like kind with high Impositions, but often totally condemn and prohibit the consumption of them.

To bring what hath been already said into a narrower compass, it may be reduced to this, viz.

That

General Maxims of Trade.

That the Exportation of Manufactures is, in the highest degree, beneficial to a Nation.

That the Exportation of Superfluities, is so much clear Gain.

That the Importation of foreign Materials to be manufactur'd by us, instead of importing manufactur'd Goods, is the saving a great deal of Money.

That the exchanging Commodities for Commodities, is generally an Advantage.

That all Imports of Goods which are re-exported, leave a real Benefit.

That the letting Ships to Freight to other Nations, is profitable.

That the Imports of things of absolute necessity, cannot be esteemed bad.

That the importing Commodities of mere Luxury, is so much real Loss as they amount to.

That the Importation of such Goods as hinder the consumption of our own, or check the progress of any of our Manufactures, is a visible Disadvantage, and necessarily tends to the Ruin of multitudes of People.

Having premised thus far in relation to Trade in general, and made it evident that there are several ways of trading advantageous to a Nation, and others which are not so; I shall now examine which of these beneficial and hurtful ways to us the French Trade doth answer, and then draw the Balance at the foot of the Account.

I. The Exportation of our Woollen Goods to France is so well barr'd against, that there is not the least hope of reaping any Benefit by this Article.

5
A Summary Account of what is good and bad.

Our French Trade considered.

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The French did always out-do us in Price of Labour: their common People live upon Roots, Cabbage, and other Herbage: four of their large Provinces subsist entirely upon Chesnuts; and the best of them eat Bread made of Barley, Millet, Turkey and black Corn; so that their Wages used to be small in comparifon with ours.

The Price of their Labour half as cheap as ours.

But of late Years their Crown-Pieces being made of the same Value as ours, and rais'd from fixty to one hundred Sols; and the Manufacturers, Servants, Soldiers, Day-labourers, and other working People, earning no more Sols or Pence by the Day than they did formerly, the price of Labour is thereby so much lessen'd, that one may affirm for truth, they have generally their Work done for half the Price we pay for ours. For altho' Provisions be as dear at Paris as they are at London, 'tis certain that in most of their Provinces they are very cheap; and that they buy Beef and Mutton for half the Price we pay for it here.

Provisions the like.

But the Price of Meat and Wheat doth little concern the poor Manufacturers; as they generally drink nothing but Water, and at best a sort of Liquor they call *Beuverage*, (which is Water pass'd thro' the Husks of Grapes after the Wine is drawn off) they save a great deal upon that account; for 'tis well known that our People spend half of their Money in Drink.

French Soldiers have but 3 d. per Day, ours 8 d.

The Army is a notorious Instance how cheap the French can live; it enables their King to maintain 300000 Men with the same Money we maintain 112500; their Pay being five Sols

General Maxims of Trade.

Sols a day, (which is exactly three Pence *English*) and our Soldiers Pay is eight Pence.

However, they subsist upon that small Allowance; and if there be the same disproportion between our Manufacturers and theirs, as there is betwixt our Soldiers and their Soldiers as to Pay, 'tis plain that the Work in France is done for little more than a third part of what it is done for in England; and I am confident 'tis so in most part of their Manufactures, of which I could give many Instances if it were needful: but let these two following at present suffice.

At Lyons, which next to Paris is the best City in France, they pay nine Sols an Ell for making of Lustrings, which is little more than five Pence *English* Money; and the Price paid here for making Lustrings is twelve Pence per Ell.

French Worker of Lustring 5 d per Day, ours 12 d.

In the Paper Manufacture abundance of People are employ'd for sorting of Rags in the Mills, who earn in France but two Sols a Day, which is less than five Farthings of our Money; and the Price paid here for such Work is four Pence a Day.

French Sorters of Rags 1 d farth, ours 4 d.

The French working thus cheap, 'tis no wonder if they afford their Manufactures at lower Rates than their Neighbours.

But to leave no room for doubt in a matter of so great Importance, several Merchants have brought over from France Patterns of their Woollen Goods, with the Prices they are sold at; and it appears that in general they are, goodness for goodness, cheaper than ours.

Their Cloth made of Spanish Wool, which is brought

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French
WoollenMa-
nufacture 25
per Cent.
cheaper than
ours.

brought to great perfection, is sold in the Shops for sixteen to seventeen Livres the Ell, (which is a Yard a Quarter and an Inch) and as a French Livre is exactly worth one of our Shillings, they sell the Ell there as cheap as we sell here the Yard, which is twenty-five per Cent. difference.

And if what is own'd on all hands to be true, that the French do send great Quantities of Woollen Goods to Italy, Spain, Portugal, Turkey, the Rhine, and other places, although they pay a Duty upon Exportation; 'tis a Demonstration that they have more than is sufficient for their own Wear, and consequently no great occasion for any of ours.

Objection. What need the French limit the Importation of our Cloth, &c. to three Places, subject it to strict Visitations, and insist to continue a high Duty upon it, if they have enough of their own, and can afford it cheaper than we?

Answer. By the long Interruption of Commerce and Correspondence between the two Nations, the French knew as little the Price of our Commodities as we did the Price of theirs; and being extremely jealous of their Manufactures, they would not give way to any the least thing that could prejudice them. In short, they had a mind to be secured against all Events.

Have not we done the like in the self-same case? We out-do, in our own Thoughts all the World in the Woollen Manufactures: but not depending upon this single advantage of working better than others, we have laid very high

General Maxims of Trade.

high Duties upon all foreign Woollen Goods, and even prohibited them. And 'tis well we did so! for else the French would have made our Hearts ache since the Peace, by their great Importation of Woollen Goods upon us.

But they are so well apprised of the matter now, and know the Advantage they have over us in point of Cheapness, that I don't doubt they will give us leave to import into France not only Woollen Goods, but all other Commodities whatsoever, upon very easy Duties, provided we permit them to import into Great Britain, Wines, Brandies, Silks, Linen, and Paper, upon paying the same Duties as others do. And when that's done, you'll send little more to France than now you do, and they'll import into Great Britain ten times more than now they can.

Our French
Trade fur-
ther confi-
der'd.

II. As to the other Products of our Land, I mean our Superfluities, it must be own'd, the French have occasion for some of them, as Lead, Tin, Leather, Copperas, Coals, Allum, and several other things of small Value; as also some few of our Plantation Commodities: But these Goods they will have whether we take any of theirs or no; because they want them; as they were supplied with them during the War by way of Italy and Flanders, and paid us a little more Money for them than now they do, when they can have them at the first hand in England. All these Commodities together that the French want from us may amount to about 200000 l. yearly.

The Goods
they have
from us, and
their annual
Amount.

III. As to Materials, I don't know of any one sort useful to us that ever was imported

We import
no useful
Materials
from France.

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from France into England. They have indeed Hemp, Flax, and Wool, in abundance, and some Raw-Silk; but they are too wise to let us have any, especially as long as they entertain any hopes we shall be so self-denying, as to take those Materials from them after they are manufactur'd.

We lose by exchange of our Goods with France

IV. Exchanging Commodities for Commodities (if for the like Value on both sides) might be beneficial; but it's far from being the case between us and France: our Ships went constantly in Ballast (except now and then some Lead) to St. Malo, Morlaix, Nantes, Rochelle, Bourdeaux, Bayone, &c. and ever came back full of Linen, Wines, Brandy, and Paper; and if it was so before the Revolution, when one of our Pounds Sterling cost the French but thirteen Livres, what are they like to take from us (except what they of necessity want) now that for each Pound Sterling they must pay us twenty Livres, which enhances the Price of all British Commodities to the French above Fifty per Cent.

We have no Benefit by re-exporting their Goods.

V. Goods imported to be re-exported, is certainly a National Advantage; but few or no French Goods are ever exported from Great Britain, except to our Plantations, but are all consumed at home; therefore no Benefit can be reap'd this way by the French Trade.

Nor by French Freight.

VI. Letting Ships to Freight cannot but be of some Profit to a Nation; but 'tis very rare if the French ever make use of any other Ships than their own: they victual and man cheaper than we, therefore nothing is to be got from them by this Article.

VII. Things

General Maxims of Trade.

VII. Things that are of absolute necessity cannot be reckon'd prejudicial to a Nation; but France produces nothing that is necessary, or even convenient, but which we had better be without. *We want none of their Goods.*

VIII. If the Importation of Commodities of mere Luxury, to be consumed amongst us, be a sensible Disadvantage, the French Trade, in this Particular, might be highly pernicious to this Nation: for if the Duties on French Wines be lower'd to a considerable degree, the least we can suppose would be imported into England and Scotland is 18000 Tons a Year, which being most Clarets, at a moderate Computation, would cost in France 450000 l. *Goods imported for Luxury ruinous.*

IX. As to Brandy, since we have laid high Duties upon it, the distilling of Spirits from Malt and Molasses is much improved and increased, by means of which a good Sum of Money is yearly saved to the Nation; for very little Brandy hath been imported either from Italy, Portugal, or Spain, by reason that our English Spirits are near as good as Brandies of those Countries. But as French Brandy is esteem'd, and is indeed very good, if the extraordinary Duty on that Liquor be taken off, there's no doubt but great Quantities will be imported. We'll suppose only 3000 Tons a Year, which will cost Great Britain about 70000 l. yearly, and prejudice besides the Extracts of our own Malt Spirits. *Consequence of lowering French Duties.*

X. Linen is an Article of more consequence than many People are aware of: Ireland, Scotland, and several Counties in England, have made large Steps towards the Improvement of that

Lessening Duties on French Linen will ruin our own, and carry off 600000 l. annually from us.

that useful Manufacture, both in Quantity and Quality; and, with good Encouragement, would doubtless, in a few Years, bring it to perfection, and perhaps make sufficient for our own consumption; which besides employing great Numbers of People, and improving many Acres of Land, would save us a good Sum of Money, which is yearly laid out abroad in that Commodity. As the case stands at present, it improves daily; but if the Duties on French Linen be reduc'd, 'tis to be fear'd it will come over so cheap, that our Looms must be laid aside, and 6 or 700000 l. a Year be sent over to France for that Commodity.

Lessening the Duties on French Paper, ruinous to ours.

XI. The Manufacture of Paper is very near a-kin to that of Linen. Since the high Duties laid on foreign Paper, and that none hath been imported from France, where 'tis cheapest, the making of it is increased to such a degree in England, that we import none of the lower Sorts from abroad, and make them all ourselves: But if the French Duties be taken off, undoubtedly most of the Mills which are employ'd in the making of white Paper, must leave off their Work, and 30 to 40000 l. a Year be remitted over to France for that Commodity.

Lessening the Duties on French Silks ruinous to ours.

XII. The last Article concerns the Silk Manufacture. Since the late French Wars 'tis increased to a mighty degree; Spittlefields alone manufactures to the Value of two Millions a Year, and were daily improving till the late Fears about lowering the French Duties. What pity! That so noble a Manufacture, so extensive, and so beneficial to an infinite number of People,

People, should run the hazard of being ruin'd! 'Tis however to be feared, that if the French can import their wrought Silks upon easy Terms, they out-do us so much in cheapness of Labour, as hath been already shewn, and they have Italian and Levant Raw-Silk upon so much easier Terms than we, besides great Quantities of their own in Provence, Languedoc, and other Provinces, that in all probability half the Looms in Spittlefields would be laid down, and our Ladies be again clothed in French Silks. The Loss that would accrue to the Nation by so great a Mischief, cannot be valued at less than 500000 l. a Year.

To sum up all, if we pay to France yearly,

For their Wines	450000 l.
For their Brandies	70000
For their Linen	600000
For their Paper	30000
For their Silks	500000
	<hr/>
	1650000

And they take from us in Lead, Tin, Leather, Allum, Copperas, Coals, Horn-Plates, &c. and Plantation-Goods, to the Value of

Great Britain loses by the Balance of that Trade yearly 1450000

Which seems unavoidable, if we are so good-natur'd as to take off the high Duties; the only Fence we have left against an Inundation of French Commodities upon us.

If any body thinks fit to object, That there are many Commodities that used to be sent to

Objections answer'd.

to *France*, of which there's no notice taken here; I desire them to give a List of those Commodities not only by Name, but to put the Quantities which they judge are like to be exported, and their Valuation: and I promise them in return another List of many Commodities I have omitted, which would certainly be imported from *France* upon lowering the Duties, with the probable Quantities of each sort, and their Cost on board there: and I dare answer, I shall be even with them upon that score; having here for Brevity's sake mention'd only such Commodities as are most considerable. Thus perhaps by making accurate Estimates and Calculations of all Commodities that can be exported to *France*, or brought over from thence, shall we come to a right understanding of the matter, and what the Trade between *Great Britain* and *France* is like to be in case the Duties be taken off.

All the Nations of *Europe* seem to strive who shall out-wit one another in point of Trade; and they concur in this Maxim, That the less they consume of foreign Commodities, the better it is for them.

The *Dutch*, to obviate too great a consumption of foreign Goods amongst them, make use of Excises; and they have for that reason laid a very high Excise upon *French* Wines.

The *French* study to prevent it by Duties on Importations, Duties on Consumptions, Tolls from one Province into another, by strict Visitations, Restraints, and Prohibitions, and by the Example of the Court in wearing their own Manufactures.

We

We have of late Years saved a great deal of Money, by laying high Duties upon foreign Commodities; which hath not only hinder'd their too great consumption among us, but hath had this good effect besides, that it hath given encouragement to the settling, improving and perfecting many useful Manufactures in *Great Britain*. So that we must be out of our Senses if we permit the *French* to import their Manufactures to the Prejudice and Destruction of our own.

The Benefit of laying high Duties on foreign Goods.

We are now, God be praised, in Peace and Friendship with the *French*; we have a free Correspondence and Commerce with them: they do and will take from us what they want, and 'tis all we can expect or desire of them.

We may freely import their good Claret, and have it upon reasonable terms, if we do not buy it in too great Quantities: And as for their Manufactures, 'tis undeniable we had better be without them, since they must be purchased with our ready Money; for their Cloth and other Woollen Goods being cheaper than ours, they cannot take any from us if they would in compensation for their Silks, Paper, and Linen: and as they take nothing but what they want, they ought not in reason to expect we should take from them what we have no manner of occasion for.

As it is very requisite that those who are to deal with another Nation should have a perfect knowledge of their Weights, Measures, Customs and Moneys, and there having been a remarkable Alteration in the *French* Coins since we had any Dealings with them, which is the thing

thing of the utmost moment in Commerce; I shall beg leave to subjoin here an Account of their Coin as it stands at present, and in all probability is like to stand, that we may know what we are to pay for their Goods, and what they are to pay for ours.

The French Coin compared with ours.

The French Crown-Piece is exactly now of the same Goodness and intrinsic Value as the English Crown-Piece. It goes in France for five Livres, and each Livre for twenty Sols; so that each Crown-Piece goes there for one hundred Sols or Pence.

Our Crown-Piece goes for five Shillings, each Shilling for twelve Pence, so that our Crown-Piece goes here for sixty Pence.

As there are five Livres in their Crown, and five Shillings in our Crown, and that they are both of equal Weight and Value, a Shilling is exactly worth a Livre, and a Livre a Shilling. I beg pardon for being thus exact to a Nicety in this Particular, but I think the Fate of Great Britain in point of Trade doth in great measure depend upon it.

Before the War, if I bought any Commodity in France which cost me a Livre, I paid eighteen Pence English for it, as is well known to every body that had Dealings there: if I buy now the same thing in France for a Livre, I pay but one Shilling for it; by which means all their Manufactures are render'd so very cheap to us, that if there were but moderate Duties upon their Importation, we should immediately be overwhelm'd with French Commodities. For as their Workmen receive no more Sols or Pence for their Day's Work or Wages

Wages than they did formerly, they sell their Cloth, Paper, and Linen, for no more Sols than they used to do. Therefore if I bought heretofore an Ell of Linen for a Livre, it cost me then eighteen Pence; and now buying an Ell of the same Linen for a Livre still, it costs me but one Shilling.

On the contrary, when the French bought any thing of us before the War, if it cost them one Pound Sterling, they paid but 12 Livres for it; and if they buy now the same thing for one Pound Sterling, they pay twenty Livres. Which renders every Commodity we have so very dear to them, that 'tis hardly possible they should take any thing from us but what they have an absolute necessity for.

For if they bought formerly a Yard of Cloth here for fifteen Shillings, they paid but nine Livres three Quarters for it; and if they buy now here a Yard of the same Cloth for fifteen Shillings, they must pay fifteen Livres; which, as said before, renders our Manufactures excessive dear to them, and their Manufactures exceeding cheap to us.

In short, all kinds of French Manufactures that were heretofore purchased in France, either by Natives or Strangers, for one Ounce and a half of Silver, the same quantity and goodness is there purchased now by Natives and by Strangers for one Ounce of Silver. And whatever the French used to purchase in foreign Parts with three Livres, they must now give four Livres and an half for it.

I have purposely omitted taking notice of what Prejudice the French Trade may be to us

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us in relation to our Exports to *Portugal, Italy, Turkey, and Hamburg*; for that will afford ample matter to add to the Subject of the following Discourse.

But for the Reader's ease, I shall first sum up what has been said as short as possible, in the following Propositions.

1. That the Prosperity and Happiness of this Kingdom depend very much upon our foreign Trade.

2. That we have no Gold or Silver of our own growth; that all we have is imported from abroad in exchange for the Product and Manufactures of our own Country.

3. That we gain Gold and Silver from those Countries which do not sell us so great a value of Manufactures as they take from us; for in this case the Balance must be paid in Money.

4. That we must pay a Balance in Money to such Countries as sell more Manufactures than they take from us; and that the capital Stock of Bullion is diminished by such a Commerce, unless the Goods we import from an over-balancing Country shall be re-exported.

5. That we are most enriched by those Countries which pay us the greatest Sums upon the Balance; and most impoverish'd by those which carry off the greatest Balance from us.

6. That the Trade of that Country which contributes most to the Employment and Subsistence of our People, and to the Improvement of our Lands, is the most valuable.

7. That the Trade which lessens most the Subsistence of our People, and the Value of our Lands, is the most detrimental to the Nation.

8. That

8. That that Country which does not sell us so many Manufactures as it buys from us, contributes the whole Value of the Balance to the Employment and Subsistence of our People, and to the Product of our Lands.

9. That the Country which sells us more than it buys from us, takes the whole Value of the Balance from the Subsistence of our People and the landed Interest.

10. That therefore the Balance which is either paid or receiv'd by means of our Trade with any particular Country, is one certain Medium to judge of the Value of our Trade: that is, every particular Trade contributes so much to the Subsistence of our People and the Improvement of our Lands, as the Balance it pays to us for the greater quantity of Manufactures we sell than buy; and it deducts so much from both for the greater quantity of Manufactures we buy than sell, as the Balance we are to pay.

11. And lastly, That every Country which takes off our finished Manufactures, and returns us unwrought Materials to be manufactured here, contributes so far to the Employment and Subsistence of our People as the cost of manufacturing those Materials.

Many other Maxims might be offer'd, but these are sufficient to try the Value of every particular Trade; or all may be still sum'd up in fewer words, thus: That Trade which makes Money flow in most plentifully upon us, enables our People to subsist themselves better by their Labour, raises the Value of our Lands, and occasions our Rents to be better paid, must

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must always be reckon'd the best Trade; for these are the only Rules by which 'tis possible to state and determine the Value of any particular Trade, or of the general Trade of the whole Nation. I shall illustrate this by a few Instances.

Trade to Portugal.

To begin with our Trade to Portugal: For the Goods we send to that Country, it is acknowledged that our Returns are Wine, Oil, and some other things for our own Use and Consumption; but it is indisputable that the greatest Value of our Returns are Gold and Silver. So much therefore the Portuguese pay to the Employment and Subsistence of our People, and for the Product of our Lands: so much as this Balance in Gold and Silver, they contribute to the Prosperity and Happiness of this Nation.

Trade to Spain.

For our Exportations of Manufactures to Spain, before King Philip was settled in that Throne, our Returns were in Wine, Oil, Wool, Cochineal, Indico, Fruit, Iron, &c. many of which were consumed in England, and a great part of them were also used in the Manufactures we exported. So many of them as we used in the Manufactures we exported, contributed so much to the Employment of our People, and the Improvement of our Lands. But a very great part of our Returns from Spain, was Money for the Over-balance of Manufactures we sent thither; and this undoubtedly was so much added to the Prosperity and Happiness of this Nation.

Trade to Italy.

Our Exportations to Italy are made good to us by Returns in Oil, Wine, thrown and raw Silk,

General Maxims of Trade.

Silk, wrought Silk, Currants, Paper, Drugs, &c. and the rest in Money. This last, for the Reasons I have given, is so much added to the Happiness and Prosperity of the Nation; and so indeed are many of our other Returns, since they are manufactur'd by our own People, and contribute so much to their Maintenance.

Between us and Turkey very little or no Balance is paid in Money. Our Returns are raw Silk, Grogram Yarn, Cotton, Wool, Cotton Yarn, Goats-Hair, Coffee, Dying Goods, Drugs, &c. almost the whole Value, either Materials, or such things as are necessary or useful in our Manufactures; and which therefore contribute very much to the Employment and Subsistence of our People.

Trade to Turkey.

Our Returns from Hamborough, and other Places in Germany, are made us chiefly in Linen, and Linen-Yarn; but we have also a Balance from those Countries in Money. The last, and a great part of the rest of those Returns, contribute to the Employment of our People, and the Riches and Prosperity of the Nation.

Trade to Hamborough.

But for the Goods we export to Holland, they are prodigious, whether we consider our Woollen Manufactures, the Product of our own Country and our Plantations, our East-India, Turkey, and other Goods: We have some Returns for them in Spices, Linen, Thread, Paper, Rhenish Wines, Battery, Madder, Whale-Fins, Clapboard, and some wrought Silks, &c. Dr. Davenant, the Inspector-General of the Imports and Exports, in

Trade to Holland.

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in his second Report to the Commissioners of the Publick Accounts, by a Medium of seven Years Trade, Pag. 19. has valued

	l.	s.	d.	q.
Our annual Exports at	1,937,934	7	11	1
Our annual Imports at	549,832	1	02	3
And makes the Difference or annual Balance paid in Money.	1,388,102	6	08	2

Many of the other Returns are useful in our Manufactures; but since the whole Balance is paid for Goods, 'tis manifest that the Dutch Trade employs and subsists so many of our People, as make or procure all the Goods and Manufactures for which the Balance is paid, and consequently contributes so much to the Prosperity and Happiness of this Nation.

It is manifest by a cursory View of our Trade with every one of these Countries, that we do not pay a Balance in Money to any one; that they do not sell us a greater Value of Manufactures than they take from us; and that consequently we are not impoverished by our Trade with any of them.

It is manifest that we import from every one for the Manufactures we export, either Money or Materials for new Manufactures; either of which contributes very much to the Prosperity and Happiness of this Kingdom.

Certainly then we should with all our Power cultivate our Trade with every one of them. We can never be so abandon'd of common Sense, as to lessen the Advantages of any one, for the sake of a Trade with any other Country,

General Maxims of Trade.

try, till by clear Demonstration it shall appear to be more for our Advantage.

The Instances of Parliamentary Authority to support my General Maxims of Trade, are,

1. The Preamble of the Act for prohibiting the French Trade in the 30th Year of King Charles II, in these words: " Forasmuch as it hath been by long Experience found, that the importing French Wines, Brandy, Linnen, Silks, Salt, and Paper, and other Commodities of the Growth, Product, or Manufactures of the Territories and Dominions of the French King, hath much exhausted the Treasure of this Nation, lessened the Value of the native Commodities and Manufactures thereof, and caused great Detriment to this Kingdom in general."

2. The Preamble of the Prohibition-Act in the First of King William and Queen Mary, which differs very little from the former, except in the Conclusion, where instead of Detrimental, it calls the French Trade a Nuisance to this Kingdom.

But 'tis not for this reason alone that I have cited the abovemention'd Preambles, but because they point out to us the Rules, all the Rules by which it is possible to estimate the Value of our Trade with any particular Country; and by every one of those Rules the French Trade stood then condemn'd as a Nuisance to this Kingdom.

The first Charge against it in those Laws, is, That it hath much exhausted the Treasure of this Nation. Our Legislators, it seems, judged, that every Trade which encreased our Treasure

sure was beneficial, and every Trade which exhausted our Treasure was *detrimental*, was a *Nuisance to this Kingdom*.

And when shall a Trade be said to exhaust our Treasure? Certainly then when it diminishes our capital Stock of Gold and Silver; when it sells us a greater Value of Manufactures for our own consumption than it takes from us; when we do not sell Manufactures sufficient to even the Account between us, and are therefore forced to pay the Balance in clear Money; and when it is no way possible for us to repair the Loss by means of the Goods or Manufactures we have imported.

What Nations don't exhaust our Treasure, tho' we pay them a Balance in Gold or Silver.

I do not think our Trade with every Nation guilty of exhausting our Treasure, to which we pay a Balance in Gold or Silver. For if the Goods we buy from any Country are such as we export again in the Whole, or in Part, for the same or a greater Sum of Money, our Treasure is not exhausted by such a Trade: the Goods we buy make us full Restitution of all the Sums we were out for them.

East Country Trade.

First then, we buy Hemp, Pitch, Tar, and all Sorts of Naval Stores from the East Country. Unless we did this, we could not fit out a single Ship to Sea. The Goods we send to that Country are by no means sufficient to even the Account between us: we are forced to pay the Balance in Gold and Silver; and this, as I have heard, amounts to 200,000 *l. per Ann.*

Shall we be said then to lose so great an annual Sum by our East-Country Trade? No certainly; for not to insist upon the numberless People that are employ'd and subsisted by Shipping

Shipping and Navigation, we gain much more by our Shipping than the abovemention'd Sum from other Countries with which we trade: and it is certain we could gain nothing this way if we had not first bought the Naval Stores.

Advantage by Freight.

'Tis manifest the Freight of all exported Goods is paid by Foreign Nations; and I believe I should not be thought extravagant if I should affirm, that more than one Fifth of the Freight of all our Shipping is paid by the Nations with whom we trade. It is said, there are about 500,000 Tons of Shipping belonging to this Kingdom, and perhaps the Freight of 5 *l. per Ton per Annum* will not be thought so very extraordinary. If this is Fact, and also that one Fifth of the whole Freight is paid by other Nations, then we pay the East Country about 200,000 *l. per Annum* for our Naval Stores, which could not be had but from that Country, and gain above twice as much by our Shipping from other Nations. Therefore tho' we pay so great an annual Balance upon that Trade, yet our Treasure cannot be said to be exhausted by it: we have such Goods in exchange for it as make us very ample Amends, and enable us to supply that Loss by our other Commerce.

Trade to China and the East-Indies.

Possibly something like this may be said of our Trade to *China* and the *East-Indies*. It is certain, that besides Goods and Merchandizes, we export yearly to those Places our Bullion to the Value of 4 or 500,000 *l. per Ann.* And yet I cannot yield that our Treasure has been exhausted, nor indeed that it has been very much increased by means of that Trade. Salt-

Petre, Pepper, and some few Drugs of those Countries, perhaps we cannot be well without; and yet I believe our Merchants would fit out few or no Ships for so long a Voyage, if they were not also to have the liberty of importing Manufactures. But our own want of *East-India* Goods will by no means acquit that Trade of the Guilt of exhausting our Treasure, or make us any Amends for such a Loss; that is to be done no other way, than by our gaining as much Bullion from other Countries by means of the Manufactures we import from the *East-Indies*.

First then, the Use of wrought Silks and stain'd Callicoes of that Country is prohibited in *England*; those therefore are re-exported: But in the next place, of their white Callicoes and Muslins, of their Coffee, Tea, Pepper, Salt-Petre, and other Goods, very great Quantities are also re-exported, and at a much greater Price than the whole annual Sums sent from hence to the *East-Indies*. The Consequence is, that our Treasure is not exhausted by that Trade, since we have those Goods in exchange for our Money as procure us much greater Sums from other Countries, and since our whole Loss is more than repair'd by re-exporting part only of those Goods at a much higher Price than we paid for the whole.

Trade with Spain and the Levant.

I have never heard of any Trade (except with the abovemention'd Countries, and that of *France*) which has been at any time charg'd with exhausting our Treasure. But I will suppose, for once, that we never gain'd any Balance upon our Trade with *Spain*, or the

Levant:

Levant: On the contrary, tho' it is true, that we even paid in Money for the Wool and Cochineal of the former, and for the Dying Goods of the latter; yet I can by no means be persuaded that either the one or the other could, with any Justice, be accus'd of exhausting our Treasure, or diminishing our capital Stock of Gold and Silver, or of selling to us any Goods for our Money, without enabling us at the same time to get back the whole Price from other Countries. We have usually purchas'd Five Thousand Bags of *Spanish* Wool per Annum; and not to insist at present upon the great Numbers of People employ'd in working that Wool, have we ever sold less of it to other Nations than was sufficient to pay the whole Cost of all the Wool we bought from *Spain*, and of all other Foreign Materials mix'd with our Manufactures of that Wool? And for the Cochineal, and other Foreign Dying Goods that are necessary Ingredients in all our Woollen Manufactures, they are abundantly paid by the Manufactures we send abroad, and the Prices given for them in Foreign Countries. Dr. *Davenant*, the Inspector-General, in his Report before-cited, has given us an Account of Woollen Manufactures exported to *Holland* only in one Year, to the Value of 1,339,526 *l*. How prodigious then must have been our Exportations of that kind to all the World! And how considerable must have been the Foreign Ingredients in so vast a Value of Woollen Manufactures! And yet 'tis certain we could have made or exported very few, but for those Foreign In-

redients. The Trade therefore which carries out our Bullion, to enable us to export a greater Value of our Manufactures, cannot be said to exhaust our Treasure, or to diminish our capital Stock of Gold or Silver, or not to make us Amends by the Returns.

I would not be thought therefore to condemn every Trade which carries out our Bullion, of exhausting our Treasure; but that only which carries out our Bullion for Manufactures to be consum'd here, which return us no sort of Goods to be sent abroad again; and lastly, which no way enables us to repair ourselves of that Loss.

How to estimate what we gain by Trade with any particular Nation.

If we export any Value of our Manufactures for the consumption of a foreign Nation, and import thence no Goods at all for our own consumption, it is certain the whole Price of our own Manufactures exported must be paid to us in Money, and that all the Money paid to us is our clear Gain.

The Merchant perhaps does not get 20 per Cent. by the Goods he sends abroad; yet if he sells his Goods for the very Price he paid for them, and brings back the whole Price in Money, and not in Goods, to his Native Country, the Merchant in this case gets nothing, but his Country gets clear the whole Value of the Goods.

To make this intelligible, if I ask any Man what is the Gain of the Day-Labourer or Manufacturer; he will answer me, That it is just so much as he earns by his Work for the Subsistence of himself and his Family. His whole Wages are his Gain.

If

If his whole Time is taken up in working for the Consumption of the Portuguese; for instance, if his whole Wages are paid him by that Nation, he gains from Portugal the whole Value of his yearly Labour. And the same thing must be said of the Portuguese Manufacturer that works for the Consumption of the English Nation; he clears his whole Wages from this Kingdom.

But still the Question is, How much of these Wages is gained or lost to the one Nation or the other?

It is certain, that all that the Consumption of Portugal pays to the English Labourers, more than is paid by the Consumption of England to the Labourers of Portugal, is clear Gain to England, and so much Loss to Portugal. And therefore if the Wages of English People for Labour bestowed on the Corn, Lead, Tin, Woollen, and other Manufactures exported to Portugal, should amount to 800,000 l. per Ann. and the Wages of the Portuguese for their Labour bestowed upon the Wine, Oil, Fruit, and other Product of that Country imported hither for the Consumption of our People, should amount to no more than 200,000 l. per Ann. it is clear that in the Article of Wages for Labour, setting the Wages of one People against those of the other, we gain by the Balance 600,000 l. per Ann.

The next Question is, What is gained or lost by the Exchange of the Product of the Land between both Nations?

And here another Question will arise, What is gained by the Gentleman or Landholder? I believe

The Gain of the Landholder.

The British Merchant.

believe every Man will give me this Answer, That he gets just so much as is given for the Product of the Land, clear of the Charge of Labour that is bestowed upon it; and whoever is the Consumer, whether this or a foreign Nation, pays the Gentleman so much of his Rent.

If the Corn, Lead, Tin, Woollen, or other Manufactures of this Kingdom, are exported to Portugal for the Consumption of that Nation, it is certain that Portugal pays the English Landholder the whole Rent, or in other words, the whole Price which is paid upon account of Rent for those Goods; which is indeed the whole Price that is paid for them, deducting the Wages given for the Labour bestowed upon them. The same thing must be said of England; the Landholder of Portugal gets just so great a Part of his Rent from England, as is paid by the Consumption of this Nation to the Rents of that Kingdom.

How much then is gained or lost to the Landholders of either Nation? All that is given for the meer Product of the English Lands by the Portuguese, more than is given for the meer Product of Portugal by the English, is so much Gain to England, and so much Loss to Portugal.

Suppose then that the Product of the Lands of England (clear of the Wages of the Labourers) exported to Portugal, should amount to 400,000 l. per Ann. and that the Product of Portugal, clear of Labour, imported into England, should amount to no more than 100,000 l. per An. the Difference is 300,000 l. per

General Maxims of Trade.

per Ann. The English Landholders gain so much yearly from Portugal, and Portugal loses so much to this Nation.

The last thing is the Gain of the Merchant. The Merchant gains all that Part of the Price of his Goods in which his Sale exceeds his Purchase; and this Difference of the Price is paid by the Consumer. If England is the Consumer, the Merchant gains this Difference in England, but England gets nothing by her Consumption. But if Portugal is the Consumer of the Goods exported by the English Merchant, he gains the whole Difference from Portugal. And so in like manner does the Portuguese Merchant get from England the whole Difference of the Price upon all Goods which he buys in Portugal, and sells to this Kingdom.

Suppose then that our English Merchants buy here the Product of our Lands manufactur'd by the Labour of our People, at the Cost of 1,200,000 l. per Ann. and sell the same to Portugal for 1,300,000 l. per Ann. our English Merchants get from that Country 100,000 l. per Ann. On the other hand, if the Merchants in Portugal buy there their Oil, Wine, Fruit, &c. at the Cost of 300,000 l. per Ann. and sell the same to England for 325,000 l. per Ann. their Gain from England is no more than 25,000 l. per Ann. So that in this very Article of the Merchant's Gain, England would get clear 75,000 l. per Annum from Portugal; and so much would be yearly lost to that Nation.

The British Merchant.

For my own Part, I know no other way of estimating the Profit or Loss of Trade between two Nations. All that the Labour of the People, the Product of the Lands, and the Gain of the Merchants in one Nation, exceed in Value those in the other, is so much Gain to the first, and so much Loss to the second. This is plain and obvious to every Person, even of the meanest Capacity.

Rules to judge of the Balance of Trade.

Dr. Davenant, the Inspector-General, says, "In stating the Balance between two Countries, the prime Cost only in the said respective Countries should be calculated."

And indeed there can be no other Rule; for the Merchant of each Country asks and takes Advice from his Correspondent in the other what Goods are likely to come to the best Market; and accordingly receives Orders to buy for him, or send to him such Goods as are most demanded. And if this should not be reciprocally observed on both sides, if any Merchant should venture over his Goods without such previous Advice, instead of advancing any thing upon the Sale of them in the other Country, he may send them to a Market where they are a Drug, and lose a very great Part of his Principal.

To magnify our Exports, or diminish our Imports by comparative and superlative Words, serves for nothing but to amuse the Ignorant. The Balance, the Balance of both, is the only thing that can demonstrate our Profit or our Loss.

If we sell more Goods than we buy, the Balance must be coming to us in Money, and that is so much Gain.

If

General Maxims of Trade.

If we buy more Goods than we sell, we must pay the Balance in Money, and that is so much Loss to the Nation.

This is finely express'd in Sir William Temple's Observations upon the United Provinces, 5th Edition, p. 231. cap. 6. "The Vulgar mistake, that Importation of foreign Wares, if purchased with native Commodities, and not with Money, does not make a Nation poorer, is but what every Man that gives himself leisure to think, must immediately rectify, by finding out, that upon the End of an Account between a Nation, and all they deal with abroad, whatever the Exportation wants in Value to balance that of the Importation, must of necessity be made up with ready Money.

"By this we find out the Foundation of the Riches of Holland, as of their Trade, by the Circumstances already rehearsed. For never any Country traded so much, and consumed so little. They buy infinitely, but 'tis to sell again, either upon Improvement of the Commodity, or at a better Market. They are the great Masters of the Indian Spices, and of the Persian Silks; but wear plain Woollen, and feed upon their own Fish and Roots. Nay, they sell the finest of their own Cloth to France, and buy coarse out of England for their own Wear. They send abroad the best of their own Butter into all Parts, and buy the cheapest out of Ireland, or the North of England, for their own Use. In short, they furnish infinite Luxury, which they never

“ never practise, and traffick in Pleasures
 “ they never taste.”

And before, in p. 230. “ It is no con-
 “ stant Rule, that Trade makes Riches; for
 “ there may be a Trade that impoverishes a
 “ Nation. As it is not often going to
 “ market that enriches the Countryman,
 “ but on the contrary if every time he
 “ comes there he buys to a greater Value
 “ than he sells, he grows the poorer the oft-
 “ ner he goes; but the only and certain Scale
 “ of Riches arising from Trade in a Nation,
 “ is the Proportion of what is exported for
 “ the Consumption of others to what is im-
 “ ported for their own.”

To illustrate this farther, in trying the
 Worth of any particular Trade by the Exports
 and Imports between two Nations.

If we have at any time imported from *France*
 (for our own Consumption) a greater Value of
 Goods and Merchandizes than we exported
 for the Consumption of that Country, it is
 certain that one way or other we paid the Ba-
 lance in Money; and whether we paid this by
 exporting Bullion out of *England*, or by draw-
 ing Bullion from other Nations indebted to us
 into *France*, the Case is the very same; that
 whole Balance was so much Loss to this King-
 dom; so much we may be said to have lost by
 our *French* Commerce.

But the Nature of the Goods and Merchan-
 dizes exported and imported between the two
 Nations, ought also to be consider'd.

If we paid this Balance in Money for Ma-
 nufactures which must needs have interfered
 with

with our own; that is, which must have hin-
 der'd the Sale of such a Value of our Manu-
 factures at the same Market, and did not open
 a new Vent for them at any other, it is ma-
 nifest that both our Landholders and our La-
 bourers must have been deprived by Means of
 this Commerce of all those Sums of Money
 which were paid away for the Product and
 Manufactures of *France*; as also, that that
 Country had been so much enriched by the
 Impoverishment of this Kingdom.

If this is the Way to try the Value of our
 Commerce with any particular Nation, the
 Way to try the Value of a Treaty of Com-
 merce with any particular Nation, must be
 by the Customs or Duties reciprocally laid in
 each Nation on the Goods and Merchandizes
 of the other.

Before I proceed any further, I think it
 very necessary to give my Readers a Copy of
 the late Treaty of Commerce with *France*,
 as also of the Bill of Commerce brought in-
 to the House of Commons in order to ren-
 der that Treaty effectual by Act of Parlia-
 ment: The said Treaty and Bill of Com-
 merce being the Occasion of this Discourse,
 in order to open the Eyes of our Legislators,
 and thereby prevent the Ruin of the Trade of
 this Island, by the Mistakes in the Managers
 of this Treaty; which must inevitably ensue,
 if the said Treaty is render'd effectual by Par-
 liament.

Tractatus Navigationis & Commercio-
rum inter Serenissimam ac Potentissi-
mam Principem Annam, Dei Gratia,
Magnæ Britanniae, Franciæ, & Hi-
berniae Reginam, & Serenissimum ac
Potentissimum Principem Ludovicum
XIV. Dei Gratia, Regem Christianif-
simum, conclusus Trajecti ad Rhe-
num die ^{31 Martii} Anno 1713.
_{11 Aprilis}

Quemadmodum Serenissima ac Potentissima
Principes & Domina Anna, Dei Gratia,
Magnæ Britanniae, Franciæ, & Hi-
berniae Regina, & Serenissimus ac Potentissimus
Principes & Dominus Ludovicus Decimus Quar-
tus, Dei Gratia, Rex Christianissimus, ex quo
ad Pacis Studia, Deo disponente, animos adver-
terint, ad Utilitates Subditorum suorum inde pro-
venturas per mutuam Navigationis & Commer-
ciorum Libertatem adaugendas, utpote quæ præ-
cipuus pacis tam Fructus quam Firmamentum esse
debeant, prono utrinque desiderio ferebantur: eum-
que in finem Legatis suis extraordinariis & pleni-
potentiariis, Trajectum ad Rhenum conventuris,
in mandatis clementissimi dederunt, ut tam Paci
redintegrandæ, quam renovandis, adque hodiern-
um rerum statum aptandis anterioribus inter am-
bas Gentes, Commercio Fœderibus, operam
omni studio conferrent: Scilicet Sacra Regia Ma-
jestas Magnæ Britanniae, Reverendo admodum
Johanni, permissione Divina, Episcopo Bristolien-
si, Privati Angliæ Sigilli Custodi, Regiæ
Majestati

*Treaty of Navigation and Commerce be-
tween the most Serene and most Potent
Princess Anne, by the Grace of God,
Queen of Great Britain, France, and
Ireland, and the most Serene and most
Potent Prince Lewis XIVth, the most
Christian King, concluded at Utrecht
the ³¹ Day of ^{March} 1713.
_{11 April}*

WHereas the most Serene and most Po-
tent Princess and Lady Anne, by
the Grace of God, Queen of Great
Britain, France, and Ireland, and the most
Serene and most Potent Prince and Lord,
Lewis XIV, by the Grace of God, the most
Christian King, since they apply'd their Minds,
by the disposal of the Almighty, to the Study
of Peace, have both been moved with an ear-
nest Desire to increase the Advantages of their
Subjects, which are to arise therefrom, by a
reciprocal Liberty of Navigation and Com-
merce, which ought to be as well the princi-
pal Fruit, as Establishment of Peace: and to
that End they have most graciously given In-
structions to their Ambassadors Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiaries going to the Congress at
Utrecht, that they should employ their utmost
Diligence and Care both to re-establish Peace,
and to renew the former Treaties of Com-
merce between the two Nations, and to adapt
them to the present State of Affairs; that is
to

The British Merchant.

Majestati a Consiliis Intimis, Decano Windesoriensi, & Nobilissimi Ordinis Periscelidis Registrario: Ut & Nobilissimo, Illustrissimo, atque Excellentissimo Domino Domino Thomæ Comiti de Strafford, Vicecomiti Wentworth de Wentworth Woodhouse, & de Staineborough, Baroni de Raby, Regiæ suæ Majestati a Consiliis Intimis, ejusdem Legato extraordinario & plenipotentiaro ad Celsos & præpotentes Dominos Ordines Generales Uniti Belgii, Regiæ suæ Majestatis Dimachorum Legionis (vulgo Regiment) Tribuno, & Exercituum Reginum Locum-Tenenti Generali, primario Admiralitatis Magnæ Britannicæ & Hibernicæ Domino Commissario, & Nobilissimi Ordinis Periscelidis Equiti: Sacra autem Regia Majestas Christianissima Nobilissima, Illustrissimis, atque Excellentissimis Dominis, Domino Nicolao Marchioni de Uxelles, Marshallo Franciæ, Reginum Ordinum Equiti Torquato, & Locum-Tenenti Generali in Ducatu Burgundiæ; & Domino Nicolao Mesnager, Regii Ordinis Sancti Michaelis Equiti. Dicti proinde Legati, quo propositum Regiarum suarum Majestatum pium adeo & salutare optatum sortiretur effectum; habitis variis ea de re Colloquiis, concinnatisque, quantum præ temporis Augustia licuit, rerum utrinque momentis, inter ipsos tandem post plenipotentias, quibus hac in parte muniti sunt, communicatas invicem, & rite mutatas, quarum Apographa sub Finem hujus Instrumenti, Verbo tenus inserta sunt, super Navigationis & Commerciorum Articulis, modo formaque, prout sequitur, convenerunt.

I. Con-

Treaty of Commerce.

to say, her Sacred Royal Majesty of Great Britain to the Right Reverend John, by Divine Permission, Bishop of Bristol, Keeper of the Privy-Seal of England, one of her Majesty's Privy-Council, Dean of Windsor, and Register of the most Noble Order of the Garter: As also to the most Noble, Illustrious, and Excellent Lord Thomas Earl of Strafford, Viscount Wentworth, of Wentworth Woodhouse and Stainborough, Baron of Raby, one of her Majesty's Privy-Council, her Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the High and Mighty Lords the States General of the United Netherlands, Colonel of her Majesty's Regiment of Dragoons, Lieutenant-General of her Majesty's Forces, First Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty of Great Britain and Ireland, and Knight of the most Noble Order of the Garter. And his Sacred Royal most Christian Majesty, to the most Noble, Illustrious and Excellent Lords, Nicolas Marquess of Huxelles, Marshal of France, Knight of the King's Orders, and Lieutenant General of the Dukedom of Burgundy; and Nicolas Mesnager, Knight of the King's Order of St. Michael. Whereupon the said Ambassadors, to the End that the Design of their Royal Majesties, which is so pious and wholesome, might attain the desired Effect, having had several Conferences upon that Affair, and having adjusted the principal Matters on both sides, as far as they could in so short a Time, after having communicated to each other, and duly exchanged the full Powers wherewith they were provided for this Purpose, Copies where-

of

I.

“ **C**onventum & concordatum est inter
 “ Serenissimam & Potentissimam
 “ Magnæ Britanniae Reginam, & Serenissi-
 “ mum ac Potentissimum Regem Christianis-
 “ simum, quod reciproca & omnibus modis
 “ absoluta sit Libertas Navigationis & Com-
 “ merciorum inter utriusque partis Subditos,
 “ per omnia & quævis Regiarum suarum Ma-
 “ jestatum Regna, Status, Ditiones, & Pro-
 “ vincias in Europa, circa omnia & singula
 “ Mercium genera, iis in Locis, iisque Con-
 “ ditionibus, modo formaque, prout in se-
 “ quentibus Articulis definitur & statuitur.

II.

“ Ut vero inter antememoratarum partium
 “ Subditos, commercium & Amicitia secura
 “ dehinc, & ab omni perturbatione & mole-
 “ stia tuta sit, conventum & conclusum est,
 “ ut si quando inter Regiarum suarum Maje-
 “ statum Coronas mala aliqua Intelligentia, &
 “ Amicitiae Interruptio Rupturave suboriantur,
 “ (quod Deus avertat) tum Terminus sex men-
 “ sium post dictam Rupturam, utriusque partis
 “ Subditis in alterius Ditione commorantibus,
 “ dabitur, quo recipere sese una cum Fami-
 “ liis, Bonis, Mercimoniis, & Facultatibus
 “ suis, easque asportare licebit quoquoersum
 “ ipsis placuerit; Sicut & iis permessa tunc
 “ erit Venditio & Alienatio Bonorum suorum,
 “ Mobilium

of are inserted word for word at the End of this Instrument, have agreed upon Articles of Navigation and Commerce, in Manner and Form as follows.

I.

IT is agreed and concluded between the most Serene and most Potent Queen of Great Britain, and the most Serene and most Potent the most Christian King, That there shall be a reciprocal and entirely perfect Liberty of Navigation and Commerce between the Subjects on each Part thro' all and every the Kingdoms, States, Dominions and Provinces of their Royal Majesties in Europe, concerning all and singular Kinds of Goods, in those Places, and on those Conditions, and in such Manner and Form as is settled and adjusted in the following Articles.

II.

But that the Commerce and Friendship between the Subjects of the abovesaid Parties may be hereafter secure, and free from all Trouble and Molestation, it is agreed and concluded, That if at any Time any ill Understanding and Breach of Friendship or Rupture should happen between the Crowns of their Royal Majesties, (which God forbid) in such Case the Term of Six Months shall be allowed, after the said Rupture, to the Subjects and Inhabitants on each Part residing in the Dominions of the other, in which they themselves may retire, together with their Families, Goods, Merchandizes, and Effects, and carry them whithersoever they shall please;

In case of Rupture, 6 Months allow'd the Subjects of both sides to withdraw in.

as

“ Mobilium Immobiliumque rerum, libere
 “ & absque ulla Interturbatione : Nec eorum
 “ Bona, Res, Merces, & Facultates, ne-
 “ dum ipsimet Arresto, vel manus Iniectione
 “ interea temporis detinendi vel infestandi
 “ sunt ; Bona quinetiam interea promptaque
 “ Justitia fruentur, utentur, alterutrinque
 “ Subditi, quo currente dicto Spatio Seme-
 “ stri, Res & Facultates suas, tam publico
 “ quam privatis concreditas, recuperare pos-
 “ sint.

III.

“ Conventum quoque & statutum est, quod
 “ Subditi & Incolæ Regnorum, Provincia-
 “ rum, & Ditionum utriusque Regiæ Maje-
 “ statis, nullos in posterum exercent inter
 “ se Hostilitatis Actus & Violentias, nec
 “ Mari, nec Terra, nec in Fluviis, Flumi-
 “ nibus, Portibus, aut Stationibus, sub quo-
 “ cunque nomine aut prætextu, ita ut Sub-
 “ diti utriusque partis nullum Diploma, Com-
 “ missionem, vel Instructionem pro privatis
 “ Armaturis Navalibus exercendis, neque
 “ Literas Repressaliarum, ut vocant, aliquo-
 “ rum Principum aut Statuum, qui ipsis hinc
 “ inde hostes sunt, recipiant ; neque vi aut
 “ prætextu eorundem Diplomatum, Com-
 “ missionum, vel Repressaliarum, prædictos
 “ Magnæ Britanniæ Regiæ, aut Regis
 “ Christianismi Subditos & Incolas, turbent,
 “ infestent, vel Incommodo Damnove aliquo
 “ afficiant, neque ejusmodi vel Armaturam
 “ exercent, vel ea in altum procedant : In
 “ quem

as likewise at the same Time the selling and dis-
 posing of their Goods, both movable and im-
 movable, shall be allowed them freely and
 without any Disturbance ; and in the mean
 time their Goods, Effects, Wares, and Mer-
 chandizes, and particularly their Persons, shall
 not be detained or troubled by Arrest or Sei-
 zure : but rather in the mean while the Sub-
 jects on each side shall have and enjoy good and
 speedy Justice, so that during the said Space of
 Six Months, they may be able to recover their
 Goods and Effects entrusted as well to the
 Publick as to private Persons.

III.

It is likewise agreed and concluded, That The Subjects
of neither
side to com-
mit Hostili-
ties. the Subjects and Inhabitants of the Kingdoms,
 Provinces, and Dominions of each of their
 Royal Majesties, shall exercise no Acts of Ho-
 stility and Violence against each other, neither
 by Sea, nor by Land, nor in Rivers, Streams,
 Ports, or Havens, under any Colour or Pre-
 tence whatsoever, so that the Subjects of ei-
 ther Party shall receive no Patent, Commis-
 sion, or Instruction, for arming and acting at
 Sea as Privateers, nor Letters of Reprisal as
 they are called, from any Princes or States
 which are Enemies to one side or the other ;
 nor by Virtue, or under Colour of such Pa-
 tents, Commissions, or Reprisals, shall they
 disturb, infest, or any way prejudice or da-
 mage the aforesaid Subjects and Inhabitants of
 the Queen of *Great Britain*, or of the most
 Christian King ; neither shall they arm Ships
 in such manner as is aforesaid, or go out to
 Sea therewith. To which End, as often as
 it

The British Merchant.

“ quem finem toties quoties requiritur ab u-
 “ traque parte, in omnibus utriusque partis
 “ Regionibus, Dominiis, & Ditionibus qui-
 “ buscunque, Prohibitiones strictæ & expres-
 “ sæ renouentur & publicentur, ne quis hu-
 “ jusmodi Commissionibus, vel Literis Re-
 “ pressaliarum ullo modo utatur, sub pœna
 “ atrocissima, quæ contra Violatores infligi
 “ possit, præter Restitutionem & plenariam
 “ Satisfactionem iis præstandam, quibus dam-
 “ num aliquod intulerint, nec ullæ in poste-
 “ rum Repressaliarum Literæ ab altera dicto-
 “ rum Fœderatorum parte concedentur in al-
 “ terius Subditorum Detrimentum aut In-
 “ commodum, nisi eo tantum Casu, quo Ju-
 “ stitia denegata est, aut dilata; Cui Dene-
 “ gationi aut Dilationi fides non habebitur,
 “ nisi Libellus Supplex ejus qui prædictas Re-
 “ pressaliæ Literas postulaverit, communica-
 “ tus sit Ministro, qui a parte Principis il-
 “ lius, contra cujus Subditos illæ dandæ sunt,
 “ eo loci recidebit, ut intra quatuor mensium
 “ tempus, aut prius, si fieri possit, contrari-
 “ um docere, aut Complementum quod Ju-
 “ stitiæ debeat procurare possit.

IV.

“ Liberum sit utriusque prædictorum Con-
 “ fœderatorum Subditis & Incolis, Terre-
 “ stri, vel Maritimo, & quocunque denique
 “ Itinere, in alterius Fœderati Regna, Re-
 “ giones, Provincias, Terras, Insulas, Ur-
 “ bes, Villas, Oppida murata, vel non mu-
 “ rata, munita, vel immunita, Portus, Do-
 “ minia, vel Ditiones quascunque in Euro-
 “ pa, liberè & securè, absque Licentia vel
 “ salvo

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it is required by either side, strict and express
 Prohibitions shall be renewed and published in
 all the Regions, Dominions, and Territories
 of each Party wheresoever, That no one shall
 in any wise use such Commissions or Letters of
 Reprisal, under the severest Punishment that
 can be inflicted on the Transgressors, besides
 Restitution and full Satisfaction to be given to
 those to whom they have done any Damage;
 neither shall any Letters of Reprisal be here-
 after granted on either side by the said Confe-
 derates, to the Detriment or Disadvantage of
 the Subjects of the other, except in such case
 only as Justice is denied or delayed; to which
 Denial or Delay Credit shall not be given, un-
 less the Petition of the Person who desires the
 said Letters of Reprisal be communicated to
 the Minister residing there on the Part of the
 Prince, against whose Subjects they are to be
 granted, that within the Space of four Months,
 or sooner, if it be possible, he may evince the
 contrary, or procure the Performance of what
 is due to Justice.

IV.

The Subjects and Inhabitants of each of the
 aforesaid Confederates shall have Liberty free-
 ly and securely, without Licence or Passport,
 general or special, by Land or by Sea, or any
 other way, to go into the Kingdoms, Coun-
 tries, Provinces, Lands, Islands, Cities, Vil-
 lages, Towns walled or unwalled, fortified or
 unfortified, Ports, Dominions or Territories
 whatsoever of the other Confederates in Eu-
 rope,

*The Subjects
 on both sides
 may pur-
 chase Ne-
 cessaries.*

“ salvo Conductu generali aut speciali, in-
 “ gredi, ire atque inde redire, ibidem com-
 “ morari, aut eadem transire, & omnia in-
 “ terim victui, usuique suo necessaria emere,
 “ atque pretio pro lubitu comparere, omni-
 “ que benevolentia & favore reciproco trac-
 “ tentur. Cantum tamen esto ut in hisce
 “ omnibus ad præscripta Legum & Statuto-
 “ rum se gerant & componant, amice quo-
 “ que & pacate inter se vivant & conversen-
 “ tur, omnique bona Intelligentia Concordi-
 “ am mutuam alant.

V.

“ Subditis utriusque Regiæ Majestatis Li-
 “ bertas sit & Potestas, cum suis Navibus, ut
 “ & Mercibus, rebusque iisdem impositis,
 “ quorum commercium aut Asportatio Le-
 “ gibus utriusque Regni prohibita non sunt,
 “ ad utriusque partis Terras, Regiones, Ur-
 “ bes, Portus, Loca, & Fluvios in Europa
 “ appellere, eoque adire, ibique frequentare,
 “ commorari, ac residere, absque ulla tem-
 “ poris restrictione, Domicilia etiam condu-
 “ cere, vel apud alios hospitari, omniaque
 “ mercium genera licita, ubi visum fuerit,
 “ emere a primo opifice vel venditore, alio-
 “ ve quovis modo, sive in publico rerum
 “ venalium Foro, in Emporiis, Nundinis,
 “ aut ubicunque loci Merces istæ laborantur
 “ aut venduntur; Merces quoque aliunde
 “ advectas in Repositoriis & Apothecis suis
 “ condere, asservare, indeque venum expo-
 “ nere licebit, neque ullo modo dictas suas
 “ Merces in Emporia & Nundinas, nisi
 “ sponte & libenter, asportare tenebuntur,
 “ ea

rope, there to enter, and to return from
 thence, to abide there, or to pass thro' the
 same; and in the mean time to buy and pur-
 chase as they please, all Things necessary for
 their Subsistence and Use; and they shall be
 treated with all mutual Kindness and Favour.
 Provided however that in all these Matters
 they behave and comport themselves confor-
 mably to the Laws and Statutes, and live and
 converse with each other friendly and peacea-
 bly, and keep up reciprocal Concord by all
 manner of good Understanding.

V.

The Subjects of each of their Royal Ma-
 jesties may have Leave and Licence to come
 with their Ships, as also with the Merchan-
 dizes and Goods on Board the same (the
 Trade and Importation whereof are not pro-
 hibited by the Laws of either Kingdom) to
 the Lands, Countries, Cities, Ports, Places,
 and Rivers of either side in Europe, to enter
 into the same, to resort thereto, to remain
 and reside there, without any Limitation of
 Time; also to hire Houses, or to lodge with
 other People, and to buy all lawful Kinds of
 Merchandizes where they think fit from the
 first Workman or Seller, or in any other
 Manner, whether in the publick Market for
 the Sale of Things, in Mart-Towns, Fairs,
 or wheresoever those Goods are manufactur'd
 or sold. They may likewise lay up and keep
 in their Magazines and Warehouses, and from
 thence expose to Sale, Merchandizes brought
 from other Parts; neither shall they be in any
 wise obliged, unless willingly and of their own
 accord,

*And trade
 in all Places
 not prohibi-
 ted by Law.*

" ea tamen lege ne easdem in Tabernis, aut
 " alibi minutatim vendant. Ob dictam au-
 " tem Commerciorum libertatem, aliave
 " quacunq[ue] de causa, Impositionibus ullis
 " aut Oneribus gravandi non erunt, præter
 " ea quæ pro Navibus & Mercibus suis Le-
 " gibus & Consuetudinibus in utroque Reg-
 " no receptis solvenda veniunt. Quinetiam
 " libera iis sit, quandocunq[ue] & quocunq[ue]
 " ipsis visum fuerit, sese, ut & si Matrimo-
 " nium forte contraxerint, Uxores, Liberos,
 " Famulosq[ue] suos, una cum Mercibus & Fa-
 " cultatibus, Rebus, Bonisque suis, five emp-
 " tis, five advectis, extra Regni utriusq[ue] Li-
 " mites, Solutis Vectigalibus consuetis, Terra
 " Marique, per Fluvios & Aquas dulces, sine
 " Molestia, transferendi potestas; non ob-
 " stante Lege qualibet, Privilegio, Conces-
 " sione, Immunitate, aut Consuetudine, con-
 " trarium ullo modo designante. In re au-
 " tem Religionis integra Subditis utriusq[ue]
 " Fæderatorum, ut &, si Matrimonium
 " contraxerint, eorum Uxoribus ac Liberis,
 " constabit Libertas, neque in Ecclesiis, aut
 " alibi, sacris interesse cogendi erunt: Iphis
 " autem è contrario Rem Divinam suo mo-
 " re, etiamsi Legibus Regni vetito, priva-
 " tim, & inter proprios parietes, & absque
 " aliorum quorumcunq[ue] Interventu, facere,
 " omnino & absque ulla molestia licebit. Fa-
 " cultas porro Subditos utriusq[ue] partis in al-
 " terius Ditionibus defunctos, locis commo-
 " dis & honestis, ad id quacunq[ue] occasione
 " designandis, Sepeliendi deneganda non erit,
 " neque Sepulorum Cadavera ulla molestia
 " afficienda

accord, to bring their said Merchandizes to
 the Marts and Fairs, on this Condition how-
 ever, That they shall not sell the same by Re-
 tail in Shops, or any where else. But they
 are not to be loaded with any Impositions or
 Taxes on account of the said Freedom of
 Trade, or for any other Cause whatsoever,
 except what are to be paid for their Ships and
 Goods according to the Laws and Customs
 receiv'd in each Kingdom. And moreover,
 they shall have free Leave, without Molesta-
 tion, to remove themselves; also if they shall
 happen to be married, their Wives, Children
 and Servants, together with their Merchan-
 dizes, Wares, Goods and Effects, either
 bought or imported whensoever and whither-
 soever they shall think fit, out of the Bounds
 of each Kingdom, by Land and by Sea, on
 the Rivers and fresh Waters, discharging the
 usual Duties, notwithstanding any Law, Pri-
 vilege, Grant, Immunity or Custom, in any
 wise importing the contrary. But in the Bu-
 siness of Religion, there shall be an entire Li-
 berty allowed to the Subjects of each of the
 Confederates; as also if they are married, to
 their Wives and Children: neither shall they
 be compelled to go to the Churches, or to be
 present at the religious Worship in any other
 Place. On the contrary, they may without
 any kind of Molestation perform their religi-
 ous Exercises after their own way, altho' it be
 forbid by the Laws of the Kingdom, private-
 ly and within their own Walls, and without
 the Admittance of any other Persons whatsoe-
 ver. Moreover, Liberty shall not be refused

Liberty to remove them- selves, Family and Goods.

And have the Freedom of Religion in their own Houses.

The British Merchant.

“ afficienda erunt. Leges autem & Statuta
 “ utriusque Regni in pleno vigore manebunt,
 “ debitæque Executioni mandabuntur, five
 “ commercium & Navigationem, five Jus
 “ aliquod aliud respiciunt, iis duntaxat Casi-
 “ bus exceptis, de quibus in præsentis Trac-
 “ tatus Articulis aliter statutum fuerit.

VI.

“ Solvent utriusque partis Subditi Telonia,
 “ Vectigalia, & Introitus Exitusque Jura per
 “ omnes utriusque partis Ditiones & Provin-
 “ cias, debita & consueta. Et ut unicuique
 “ de prædictis Teloniis, Vectigalibus, & In-
 “ troitus Exitusque Juribus quibuscunque con-
 “ stare certo possit, Convenum pariter est,
 “ quod Indices Vectigalia, Portoria, & Im-
 “ positiones designantes, publicis extabunt lo-
 “ cis, tam Londini, & in aliis Urbibus intra
 “ Ditiones Reginæ Magnæ Britanniæ, quam
 “ Rothomagi, & in aliis Galliæ Urbibus Mer-
 “ caturæ affuetis, ad quas recurri possit quo-
 “ tiescunque Lis aut Quæstio de talibus Por-
 “ toriis, Vectigalibus, seu Impositionibus ori-
 “ atur; quæ eo modo, & non aliter, exigen-
 “ da erunt, prout disertis verbis & genuino
 “ supra-dictarum Tabularum tenori consenta-
 “ neum erit. Et si quis Officialis, aut alius
 “ nomine ejus, sub quovis prætextu, publice
 “ vel privatim, directe vel indirecte, a mer-
 “ catore,

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to bury the Subjects of either Party who die
 in the Territories of the other, in convenient
 and decent Places, to be appointed for that
 Purpose, as Occasion shall require; neither
 shall the dead Bodies of those that are buried
 be any ways molested. The Laws and Sta-
 tutes of each Kingdom shall remain in full
 Force, and shall be duly put in Execution,
 whether they relate to Commerce and Navi-
 gation, or to any other Right, those Cases on-
 ly being excepted, concerning which it is o-
 therwise determined in the Articles of this
 present Treaty.

*Places for
burying
their Dead.*

VI.

The Subjects of each Party shall pay the
 Tolls, Customs, and Duties of Import and
 Export thro' all the Dominions and Provinces
 of either Party, as are due and accustomed.
 And that it may be certainly known to every
 one what are all the said Tolls, Customs and
 Duties of Import and Export, it is likewise
 agreed, That Tables shewing the Customs,
 Port Duties and Imposts, shall be kept in pub-
 lick Places both at *London* and in other Towns
 within the Dominions of the Queen of *Great
 Britain*, and at *Raan* and other Towns of
France where Trading is used, whereunto Re-
 course may be had as often as any Question or
 Dispute arises concerning such Port Duties,
 Customs and Imposts, which are to be demand-
 ed in such Manner, and no otherwise, as shall
 be agreeable to the plain Words and genuine
 Sense of the abovesaid Tables. And if any
 Officer, or other Person in his Name, shall
 under any Pretence, publicly or privately,
 direct-

*The usual
Duties to be
paid.*

The British Merchant.

“ catore, vel alio, summam ullam pecuniæ,
 “ seu aliud quodcunque postulabit aut accipi-
 “ et, ratione Juris, Debiti, Stipendii, Ex-
 “ hibitionis, seu Compensationis, etiam sub
 “ nomine spontanei Doni, aut alio quovis
 “ modo vel prætextu, plus aut aliter quam
 “ super præfinitum est, tum dictus Officialis,
 “ aut Vicarius ejus, si coram Judice compe-
 “ tente, in Regione ubi Crimen admissum
 “ est, ejusdem reus & convictus teneatur,
 “ Parti læsæ plenam Satisfactionem dabit, &
 “ etiam juxta Legum præscripta poena debita
 “ afficietur.

VII.

“ Mercatores, Navarchæ, Naucleri, Nau-
 “ tæ, homines quicunque, Naves, & omnia
 “ in universum Mercimonia, & bona Con-
 “ fœderati alterius, ejusque Subditorum, &
 “ Incolarum, nullo publico privatove nomi-
 “ ne, vi alicujus Ediçti generalis, aut specia-
 “ lis, in Terris, Portibus, Stationibus, Lit-
 “ toribus vel Ditionibus quibuscunque, alte-
 “ rius Fœderati, in Usus publicum, Expe-
 “ ditiones bellicas, aliamve ob causam, mul-
 “ to minus ob Usus cujusquam privatum,
 “ apprehendantur, per Arresta detineantur,
 “ violentia aliqua, vel ulla ejusdem specie co-
 “ gantur, ullave afficiantur molestia vel inju-
 “ ria. Porro utriusque partis Subditis quid-
 “ quam aut capere, aut vi extorquere nefas
 “ esto, nisi consentiat ille cui competit, ac
 “ parata pecunia persolvatur, quod tamen non
 “ intelligendum est de ea detentione & ma-
 . nus

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directly or indirectly, ask or take of a Mer-
 chant, or of any other Person, any Sum of
 Money, or any Thing else on Account of
 Right, Dues, Stipend, Exhibition or Com-
 pensation, altho' it be under the Name of a
 free Gift, or in any other Manner, or under
 any other Pretence, more or otherwise than
 what is prescribed above; in such Case the
 said Officer, or his Deputy, if he be found
 guilty and convicted of the same before a com-
 petent Judge in the Country where the Crime
 was committed, shall give full Satisfaction to
 the Party that is wronged, and shall likewise
 be punished according to the Direction of the
 Laws.

VII.

Merchants, Masters of Ships, Owners, ^{Neither}
 Mariners, Men of all Kinds, Ships, and all ^{Persons nor}
 Merchandizes in general, and Effects of one ^{Goods to be}
 of the Confederates, and of his Subjects and ^{seized for}
 Inhabitants, shall on no publick or private ^{publick Use.}
 Account, by Virtue of any general or special E-
 dict, be seized in any of the Lands, Ports,
 Havens, Shores or Dominions whatsoever of
 the other Confederate, for the publick Use,
 for warlike Expeditions, or for any other
 Cause; much less for the private Use of any
 one, shall they be detained by Arrests, com-
 pelled by Violence, or under any Colour there-
 of, or in any wise molested or injured. More-
 over it shall be unlawful for the Subjects of
 both Parties, to take any Thing, or to extort
 it by Force, except the Person to whom
 it belongs consent, and it be paid for with
 ready Money. Which however is not to be
 D 3 under-

The British Merchant.

“ nus iniectione, quæ mandato & authori-
“ tate Justitiæ, viisq; ordinariis facta erit,
“ debiti vel delicti causa, quorum respec-
“ tu via Juris, secundum formam Justitiæ,
“ agendum fit.

VIII.

“ Præterea conventum & statutum est pro
“ Regulâ Generali, quod omnes & singuli
“ Serenissimæ Magnæ Britanniæ Reginæ, &
“ Serenissimi Regis Christianissimi Subditi,
“ in omnibus Terris, Locisque, hinc inde
“ ipsorum Imperio subjectis, circa omnia Ju-
“ ra, Impositiones, aut Vectigalia quæcun-
“ que, Personas, Merces, & Mercimonia,
“ Naves, Naula, Nautas, Navigationem &
“ Commercia concernentia, iisdem ad mini-
“ mum Privilegiis, Libertatibus & Immuni-
“ tatibus utantur, fruuntur, pariq; favore in
“ omnibus gaudeant, tam in Curis Justitiæ,
“ quam in iis omnibus quæ sive Commercia,
“ sive aliud Jus quodcunque respiciunt, qui-
“ bus amicissima quævis gens externa utitur,
“ fruitur, gaudetque, aut in posterum uti,
“ frui, aut gaudere possit.

IX.

“ Conventum ulterius est, quod intra spa-
“ tia duorum Mensium, ex quo in Magnâ
“ Britannia Lex lata fuerit, per quam satis
“ cautum erit, ut nulla Portoria, sive Vecti-
“ galia de Bonis, Mercimoniisq; e Gallia in
“ Magnam Britanniam deportatis, amplius
“ exigantur, quam quæ de Bonis, Mercimo-
“ niisq; ejusdem Naturæ, ex alia quavis Re-
“ gione

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understood of that Detention and Seizure,
which shall be made by the Command and
Authority of Justice, and by the ordinary
Methods on Account of Debt, or Crimes, in
respect whereof the Proceeding must be by
way of Law, according to the Form of Ju-
stice.

*But may
for Debt or
Crimes.*

VIII.

Furthermore it is agreed and concluded as
a general Rule, That all and singular the
Subjects of the most Serene Queen of *Great
Britain*, and of the most Serene the most
Christian King, in all Countries and Places
subject to their Power on each side, as to all
Duties, Impositions, or Customs whatsoever,
concerning Persons, Goods and Merchandizes,
Ships, Freights, Seamen, Navigation and Com-
merce shall use and enjoy the same Privileges,
Liberties, and Immunities at least, and have
the like Favour in all Things, as well in the
Courts of Justice, as in all such Things as re-
late either to Commerce, or to any other Right
whatever, which any Foreign Nation, the most
favoured, has, uses, and enjoys, or may here-
after have, use, and enjoy.

*Both sides
to have the
same Fa-
vour in
Trade as a-
ny foreign
Nation the
most fa-
voured.*

IX.

It is further agreed, that within the Space
of two Months after a Law shall be made in
Great Britain, whereby it shall be sufficiently
provided that no more Customs or Duties be
paid for Goods and Merchandizes brought from
France to Great Britain, than what are paya-
ble for Goods and Merchandizes of the like
Nature, imported into *Great Britain* from
any

*Goods from
France to
pay no more
Duty than
the like
Goods from
any other
part of Eu-
rope.*

“ gione in Europa sita, in Magnam Britan-
 “ niam deportatis, exiguntur, utq; Leges
 “ omnes post Annum 1664, in Magna Bri-
 “ tannia latæ ad prohibendam ullorum è Gal-
 “ lia venientium Bonorum, Mercimoniorum-
 “ que Importationem, quæ ante id tempus
 “ prohibita non fuerant, abrogentur, Tariffa
 “ Generalis decimo octavo Die Septembris
 “ Anni 1664, in Gallia facta, ibidem denuo
 “ obtinebit, & Vectigalia pro bonis advehen-
 “ dis evehendisq; in Gallia per Subditos Mag-
 “ næ Britanniæ solvenda, ad tenorem Tariffæ
 “ supradictæ pendentur, modumque in ea-
 “ dem constitutum, haudquaquam excedent
 “ in Provinciis, quarum ibi mentio facta est,
 “ in reliquis autem Provinciis Vectigalia non
 “ nisi ad normam tunc temporis præscriptam
 “ exigenda erunt, omnesque Prohibitiones,
 “ Tariffæ, Ediçta, Declarationes, sive De-
 “ creta post Tariffam illam Anni 1664, &
 “ contra illam, quoad Bona, Mercesque
 “ Magnæ Britanniæ, in Gallia factæ, abro-
 “ gabuntur. Quandoquidem vero ex parte
 “ Galliæ contenditur ut quædam Mercimo-
 “ nia, viz. Lanificia, Saccharum, Pisces Sa-
 “ liti, & quæ ex Cæcis proveniunt, ex Ta-
 “ riffæ supramemoratæ regula excipiantur,
 “ aliaque porro Capita rerum restent, ad
 “ hunc Tractatum spectantia, quæ ex parte
 “ Magnæ Britanniæ proposita, hæctenus au-
 “ tem mutuo accommodato non fuerint, quo-
 “ rum omnium in Instrumento separato, a
 “ Legatis utrinque Extraordinariis & Pleni-
 “ potentiariis subscripto, Specificatio conti-
 “ netur; Provisum hisce, concordatumque
 “ est,

any other Country in Europe; and that all
 Laws made in Great Britain since the Year
 1664, for prohibiting the Importation of any
 Goods and Merchandizes coming from France,
 which were not prohibited before that Time,
 be repealed, the general Tariff made in France
 the 18th Day of September in the Year 1664,
 shall take Place there again, and the Duties
 payable in France by the Subjects of Great
 Britain, for Goods imported and exported,
 shall be paid according to the Tenour of the
 Tariff abovemention'd, and shall not exceed
 the Rule therein settled, in the Provinces
 whereof Mention is there made; and in the
 other Provinces the Duty shall not be payable,
 otherwise than according to the Rule at that
 Time prescribed: and all Prohibitions, Ta-
 riffs, Ediçts, Declarations or Decrees made
 in France since the said Tariff of the Year
 1664, and contrary thereunto, in respect to
 the Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain,
 shall be repealed. But whereas it is urged on
 the Part of France, that certain Merchandizes,
 that is to say, Manufactures of Wool, Sugar,
 salted Fish, and the Product of Whales be ex-
 cepted out of the Rule of the abovementioned
 Tariff, and likewise other Heads of Matters
 belonging to this Treaty remain, which hav-
 ing been proposed on the Part of Great Bri-
 tain, have not yet been mutually adjusted, a
 Specification of all which is contained in a se-
 parate Instrument subscribed by the Ambassa-
 dors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiaries on
 both sides: It is hereby provided and agreed,
 That within two Months from the Exchange
 of

Laws since 1664. to be repealed.

The Tariff of 1664. to take place.

Woollen Manufactures, Sugar, Salt, Fish, and the Product of Whales excepted.

“ est, quod intra bimestre spatium, ab extra-
 “ ditis hujus Tractatus Ratihabitionum Ta-
 “ bulis, Londini conveniunt utriusque partis
 “ Commissarii, ad perpendendas, expedien-
 “ dasque difficultates de Mercimoniis è Ta-
 “ rissa Anno 1664, excipiendis, deque cæ-
 “ teris Capitibus nondum satis, ut supra dic-
 “ tum est, accommodatis, iidemque Com-
 “ missarii pariter operam dabunt, quod utri-
 “ usque Nationis Commodis maxime consen-
 “ taneum fore videtur, ut Comerciorum
 “ hinc inde Rationes penitus excutiantur, &
 “ Impedimentis hac in parte tollendis, Vec-
 “ tugalibusque mutuo componendis, media æ-
 “ qua, & utrinque utilia inveniantur, stabili-
 “ lianturque. Provisum tamen præcautum-
 “ que semper est, ut Articuli omnes & sin-
 “ guli hujus Tractatus in pleno interim vigo-
 “ re maneant; Atque imprimis ut nihil quid-
 “ quam Impedimento esse censeatur, sub quo-
 “ cunque prætextu, quo minus Tariffæ ge-
 “ neralis Anni 1664, Beneficium Subditis
 “ Regiæ suæ Majestatis Magnæ Britanniæ
 “ concedatur, atque eadem sine ulla mora,
 “ aut tergiversatione fruantur, gaudeantque
 “ dicti Subditi Britannici intra bimestre spa-
 “ tium à Lege in Magna Britannia, ut supra
 “ memoratum est, lata, modo formaque tam
 “ ampla, ac Subditi Gentis cujuscumque amicit-
 “ siæ, præfatæ Tariffæ beneficio frui, ac
 “ gaudere possent, omnino in contrarium
 “ laud obstantem re qualibet a Commissariis
 “ prædictis faciendam, discutendam.

of the Ratifications of this Treaty, Commis-
 saries on both sides shall meet at *London*, to
 consider of, and remove the Difficulties con-
 cerning the Merchandizes to be excepted out
 of the Tariff of the Year 1664, and concern-
 ing the other Heads, which, as is abovesaid,
 are not yet wholly adjusted. And at the same
 time the said Commissaries shall likewise en-
 deavour, (which seems to be very much for
 the Interest of both Nations) to have the Me-
 thods of Commerce on one Part and of the
 other more thoroughly examined, and to find
 out and establish just and beneficial Means on
 both sides for removing the Difficulties in this
 Matter, and for regulating the Duties mutual-
 ly. But it is always understood and provided,
 That all and singular the Articles of this Trea-
 ty do in the mean while remain in full Force,
 and especially that nothing be deemed, under
 any Pretence whatsoever, to hinder the Bene-
 fit of the general Tariff of the Year 1664,
 from being granted to the Subjects of Her
 Royal Majesty of *Great Britain*, and the said
British Subjects from having and enjoying the
 same, without any Delay or Tergiversation,
 within the Space of two Months after a Law
 is made in *Great Britain*, as abovesaid, in as
 ample Manner and Form as the Subjects of
 any Nation the most favour'd, might have
 and enjoy the Benefit of the aforesaid Tariff,
 any thing to be done or discuss'd by the said
 Commissaries to the contrary in any wise not-
 withstanding.

*Commissa-
 ries to meet
 at London
 about the ex-
 cepted Mer-
 chandizes.*

X.

“ Vectigalia pro Herba Nicotiana, five
 “ rudi, five elaborata, in Galliam advehenda,
 “ ad eandem dehinc Moderationis rationem
 “ revocabuntur, qua Herba eadem in
 “ quibusvis Europæ, aut Americæ oris enata,
 “ in Galliam introducta, gaudet, & gavisura
 “ erit; Pro dicta autem Herba eadem in Gallia
 “ Vectigalia solvent utriusque partis Subditi,
 “ par quoque in illa vendenda Libertas, eademque
 “ Leges erunt Subditis Britannicis, quibus
 “ gaudebunt, aut tenebuntur ipsimet Galliarum
 “ Mercatores.

XI.

“ Statutum quoque est, quod Impositio, seu
 “ Tributum quinquaginta Solidorum Turonensium
 “ per singulas Tunnas Navibus Britannicis in
 “ Gallia impositum, cesset penitus & in posterum
 “ abrogetur; Cessabit pariter Tributum quinque
 “ Solidorum Sterlingorum, per singulas Tunnas
 “ Navibus Gallicis in Magna Britannia impositum;
 “ neque eadem, aliave istiusmodi Onera Subditorum
 “ alterutrinque Navibus in posterum imponentur.

XII.

“ Statutum præterea & conventum est, quod
 “ omnibus Mercatoribus, Navarchis, aliisque
 “ Subditis Regiæ Magnæ Britanniarum integrum
 “ sit in omnibus Galliarum locis negotia sua,
 “ per se tractare, vel quibuscunque ipsis placuerit
 “ tractanda demandare. Nec tenebuntur Interprete
 “ aliquo, vel Institore uti, nec nisi uti velint,
 “ iisdem Salarium aliquid quod persolvere. Præterea
 “ Magistri Navium

X.

The Duties on Tobacco imported into France, either in the Leaf, or prepared, shall be reduced hereafter to the same moderate Rate as the said Tobacco of the Growth of any Country in Europe or America, being brought into France, does or shall pay. The Subjects on both sides shall also pay the same Duties in France for the said Tobacco: There shall be likewise an equal Liberty of selling it; and the British Subjects shall have the same Laws as the Merchants of France themselves have and enjoy.

Tobacco from Great Britain to pay the same Rate as any other in France.

XI.

It is likewise concluded that the Imposition or Tax of 50 Sols Tournois laid on British Ships in France for every Tun, shall wholly cease, and be from hence forward annulled. In like Manner the Tax of Five Shillings Sterling, laid on French Ships in Great Britain for every Tun, shall cease; neither shall the same, or any the like Impositions be laid hereafter on the Ships of the Subjects on either Side.

The 50 Sols per Tun on British Ships to be taken off, and 5 s. Sterl. per Tun on French Ships.

XII.

It is further agreed and concluded, that it shall be wholly free for all Merchants, Commanders of Ships, and other the Subjects of the Queen of Great Britain, in all Places of France, to manage their own Business themselves, or to commit them to the Management of whomsoever they please; nor shall they be obliged to make use of any Interpreter,

Subjects of Great Britain may manage their Business themselves.

“ vium non tenebuntur ad onerandas vel ex-
 “ onerandas Naves suas iis Operariis, qui
 “ publica autoritate ad id constituti fuerint,
 “ vel Burdegalæ, vel aliis in locis uti; sed
 “ ipsis integrum erit Naves suas vel per se
 “ nerare, aut exonerare, vel iis quibus visum
 “ fuerit in iis onerandis vel exonerandis uti,
 “ sine Salarii alicujus alii cuicunque solutio-
 “ ne; neque Merces quascunque vel in alia
 “ Navigia exonerare, vel in sua recipere, vel
 “ onerandas, ultra quam ipsis visum fuerit,
 “ expectare tenebuntur. Singuli autem Sub-
 “ diti Christianissimi Regis in omnibus locis
 “ Magnæ Britannæ Dominio in Europa sub-
 “ jectis, iisdem Privilegiis & Libertate vicif-
 “ sim gaudebunt, & fruentur.

XIII.

“ Mercatoribus, aliisque Magnæ Britan-
 “ niæ Reginæ, & Regis Christianissimi alter-
 “ utrinque Subditis, omnino fas & liberum
 “ erit, Testamento condito, & quavis alia
 “ dispositione, vel sub tempus valetudinis,
 “ vel quocunque spatio ante, aut juxta arti-
 “ culum mortis, facta legare, aut dono dare
 “ Mercimonia sua, Facultates, Pecuniam,
 “ Debita ad ipsos redeuntia, & omnia Bona
 “ mobilia, quæ tempore mortis intra Domi-
 “ nia, & quælibet loca ad Reginam Magnæ
 “ Britannæ, & Christianissimum Regem per-
 “ tinentia, vel habuerint, vel habere debue-
 “ rint.

ter, or Broker, nor to pay them any Salary,
 unless they chuse to make use of them. More-
 over, Masters of Ships shall not be obliged in
 loading or unloading their Ships to make use of
 those Workmen, either at *Bourdeaux*, or in
 any other Places as may be appointed by pub-
 lick Authority for that Purpose; but it shall
 be intirely free for them to load or unload their
 Ships by themselves, or to make use of such
 Persons in loading or unloading the same as
 they shall think fit, without the Payment of
 any Salary to any other whomsoever; neither
 shall they be forced to unload any Sort of
 Merchandizes either into other Ships, or to
 receive them into their own, or to wait for
 their being loaded longer than they please.

*Masters of
 Ships not o-
 bliged to im-
 ploy Men
 appointed by
 the Govern-
 ment.*

And all and every the Subjects of the Most
 Christian King shall reciprocally have and en-
 joy the same Privileges and Liberty in all
 Places in *Europe* subject to the Dominion of
Great Britain.

*The French
 to enjoy the
 same Privi-
 leges in
 Great Bri-
 tain.*

XIII.

It shall be wholly lawful and free for Mer-
 chants and others, being Subjects either to the
 Queen of *Great Britain*, or to the most Chri-
 stian King, by Will, and any other Disposi-
 tion made either during the Time of Sicknes,
 or at any other Time before, or at the Point
 of Death, to devise or give away their Mer-
 chandizes, Effects, Money, Debts belonging
 to them, and all moveable Goods, which they
 have or ought to have at the Time of their
 Death, within the Dominions and any other
 Places belonging to the Queen of *Great Bri-
 tain*, and to the most Christian King. More-
 over,

*Merchants
 and others
 of both sides
 may dispose
 of their Es-
 tates by
 Will.*

“ rint. Quinetiam five Testati, five Inte-
 “ stati moriantur, Legitimi eorundem Hære-
 “ des & Executores, vel Administratores in-
 “ tra alterutra Regna commorantes, aut ali-
 “ unde venientes, etiamsi non sint in Civium
 “ numerum relati, libere & quiete recipient,
 “ & occupabunt omnia dicta bona, & Facul-
 “ tates quascunque, secundum Magnæ Bri-
 “ tanniæ & Galliæ Leges respectivas, ita ta-
 “ men ut Testamenta, & Jus adeundi Hæ-
 “ reditates Intestatorum, tam a Subditis
 “ Magnæ Britanniæ Reginæ, quam a Subdi-
 “ tis Regis Christianissimi, probari ex Lege
 “ oporteat, iis in locis ubi quisque decefferit,
 “ five id in Magna Britannia, five in Gallia
 “ contigerit, Lege quacunque, Statuto, E-
 “ dicto, Consuetudine, five *Droit d'Aubeine*
 “ è contra non obstantibus.

XIV.

“ Orta Lite inter Navium utriusq; partis
 “ Præfectum aliquem, ejusque Nautas in
 “ Portu quovis alterius partis, super Salario
 “ dictis Nautis debito, aliisve Causis civili-
 “ bus, Magistratus loci, id tantum a Reo
 “ exiget, Declarationem scriptam Magistra-
 “ tus testimonio muniendam Actori tradat,
 “ qua se coram Judice in Patria sua compe-
 “ tente super ea Causa responsurum caveat;
 “ quo facto neq; Nautis Navem deserere, nec
 “ Præfectum in Itinere suo prosequendo im-
 “ pedire licebit. Licitum quinetiam Merca-
 “ toribus utrinque erit, in locis Domicilii
 “ sui, aut alibi, prout ipsis commodum fue-
 “ rit, Libros Rationum, & Negotiorum fu-
 “ orum

over, whether they die, having made their
 Will, or Intestate, their lawful Heirs and Ex-
 cutors, or Administrators, residing in either
 of the Kingdoms, or coming from any other
 Part, although they be not Naturalized, shall
 freely and quietly receive and take Possession
 of all the said Goods and Effects whatsoever,
 according to the Laws of *Great Britain* and
France respectively; in such manner however,
 that the Wills, and Right of entring upon the
 Inheritances of Persons Intestate, must be
 proved according to Law, as well by the
 Subjects of the Queen of *Great Britain*, as
 by the Subjects of the most Christian King,
 in those Places where each Person died, whe-
 ther that may happen in *Great Britain* or in
France, any Law, Statute, Edict, Custom,
 or *Droit d'Aubeine* whatever to the contrary
 notwithstanding.

XIV.

A Dispute arising between any Commander
 of the Ships on both sides, and his Seamen in
 any Port of the other Party, concerning
 Wages due to the said Seamen, or other Ci-
 vil Causes, the Magistrate of the Place shall
 require no more from the Person accused, than
 that he give to the Accuser a Declaration in
 Writing, witnessed by the Magistrate, where-
 by he shall be bound to answer that Matter be-
 fore a competent Judge in his own Country;
 which being done, it shall not be lawful either
 for the Seamen to desert their Ship, or to hin-
 der the Commander from prosecuting his Vo-
 yage. It shall moreover be lawful for the
 Merchants on both sides, in the Places of their
 Abode,

*Disputes
 between
 Commanders
 of Ships
 and Seamen
 about Wa-
 ges.*

*Merchants
 to keep
 Books, &c.
 in any Lan-
 guage.*

“ orum asservare, Literarum etiam Commer-
 “ cium habere, ea Lingua aut Idiomate, quo
 “ ipsis visum fuerit, absque ulla molestia aut
 “ indagatione quibuscunque. Quod si ad
 “ Litem aliquam & Controversiam dirimen-
 “ dam ipsis Rationum suarum Libros profer-
 “ re opus fuerit, eo in casu integros Codices
 “ Tabulasve in Judicium afferre tenebuntur;
 “ ita tamen, ut Judici non liceat alios indic-
 “ tis Codicibus Articulos inspicere, quam qui
 “ ad Testimonium vel auctoritatem de qui-
 “ bus agitur, spectabunt, vel qui ad fidem
 “ dictis Libris faciendam necessarii erunt.
 “ Neque dictos Codices, Tabulasve è Do-
 “ minorum manibus, sub quovis prætextu,
 “ eripere, vel retinere licitum erit: Solo ar-
 “ gentariæ Defectionis Casu, vulgo *Banque-*
 “ *route*, excepto; Neque tenebuntur dicti
 “ Magnæ Britanniae Reginae Subditi Ratio-
 “ num Tabulis, Literarum Exemplaria, Ac-
 “ tus, Commentariosve, ad commercium
 “ pertinentes, Papyro Signis munito, Gallice
 “ *Papier timbré*, inscribere, præter Librum
 “ Diarium, qui, ut fidem faciat in Lite, de-
 “ bet (gratis) secundum Leges quibus omnes
 “ in Gallia commercantes sunt astricti, Ju-
 “ dice subscribi & Chirographo subjici.

XV.

“ Armatoribus extraneis, non Subditis uni
 “ aut alteri Foederatorum, habentibus Com-
 “ missiones ab aliquo alio Principe, aut Sta-
 “ tu, utriusvis gentis inimico, non licebit in
 “ Portibus unius aut alterius Partium prædic-
 “ tarum,

Abode, or elsewhere, to keep Books of their
 Accounts, and Affairs, as they shall think fit,
 and to have an Intercourse of Letters, in such
 Language or Idiom, as they shall please, with-
 out any Molestation or Search whatsoever.
 But if it should happen to be necessary for
 them to produce their Books of Accounts for
 deciding any Dispute and Controversy, in such
 Case they shall be obliged to bring into Court
 the entire Books or Writings, but so as that
 the Judge may not have Liberty to inspect
 any other Articles in the said Books, than such
 as shall relate to the Testimony or Authority
 in question, or such as shall be necessary to
 give Credit to the said Books; neither shall it
 be lawful, under any Pretence, to take the
 said Books or Writings forcibly out of the
 Hands of the Owners, or to retain them, the
 Case of Bankruptcy only excepted; neither
 shall the said Subjects of the Queen of *Great*
Britain be obliged to write their Accounts,
 Copies of Letters, Acts or Instruments rela-
 ting to Trade, on Stamped Paper, in *French*,
Papier timbré, except their Day-book; which,
 that it may be produced as Evidence in any
 Law-Suit, ought, according to the Laws,
 which all Persons trading in *France* are to ob-
 serve, to be subscribed *gratis* by the Judge,
 and signed with his own Hand.

Books pro-
duced as E-
vidence,
how to be
inspected.

What
Books are to
be on stamp
Paper.

XV.

It shall not be lawful for any Foreign Pri-
 vateers, not being Subjects of one or of the
 other of the Confederates who have Commis-
 sions from any other Prince or State in Enmi-
 ty with either Nation, to fit their Ships in the
 Ports

“ tarum, Naves suas instruere, ea quæ cepe-
 “ rint, vendere, aut alio modo quocunque
 “ mutare tam Naves, Mercimonia, quam
 “ alia Onera quæcunque, & ne Victualia
 “ quidem coemere illis licitum erit, nisi quæ
 “ necessaria erunt ut perveniant ad Portum
 “ proximum illius Principis a quo Commis-
 “ siones obtinuerint.

XVI.

“ Naves utriusque Partis oneratæ Oras vel
 “ Littora alterutrius præter-navigantes, at-
 “ que ad Stationes aut Portus Tempestate co-
 “ actæ, vel alio modo appellentes, non co-
 “ gantur ibidem Merces suas, aut aliquam
 “ earum partem exonerare, aut aliquod Vec-
 “ tigo perfolvere, nisi Mercimonia sua spon-
 “ te ibidem exonerent, aut aliquid de Onere
 “ distrahant: Licitum tamen fit particulam
 “ Oneris, impenetrata ad hoc venia eorum
 “ qui rebus maritimis præfunt, eum tantum
 “ in finem è Navi solvere & divendere, ut
 “ Necessaria, vel refectio Navis, vel Vic-
 “ tui emantur, eoque in Casu, non integrum
 “ Navis Onus Vectigale fiet, sed ea tantum
 “ particula, quæ exonerata, vel divendita
 “ fuerit.

XVII.

“ Magnæ Britannæ Reginæ, & Regis
 “ Christianissimi Subditis omnibus & singulis
 “ licitum erit, cum suis Navibus, omni cum
 “ libertate & securitate, nulla distinctione
 “ habita quinam Mercium in iisdem onerata-
 “ rum Proprietarii sunt, navigare à quocun-
 “ que Portu, ad loca eorum quibus Inimici-
 “ tia

Ports of one or the other of the aforesaid Par-
 ties, to sell what they have taken, or in any
 other Manner whatever to exchange their
 Ships, Merchandizes, or any other Ladings;
 neither shall they be allowed even to purchase
 Victuals, except such as shall be necessary for
 their going to the next Port of that Prince
 from whom they have Commissions.

XVI.

The Ships of both Parties being laden, fail-
 ing along the Coasts or Shores of the other,
 and being forced by Storm into the Havens or
 Ports, or coming to Land in any other Man-
 ner, shall not be obliged there to unlade their
 Goods, or any Part thereof, or to pay any
 Duty, unless they do of their own Accord un-
 lade their Goods there, or dispose of any Part
 of their Lading: But it may be lawful to take
 out of the Ship, and to sell, leave being first
 obtained from those who have the Inspection
 of Sea-Affairs, a small Part of their Lading,
 for this End only, that Necessaries either for
 the Refreshment or Victualling of the Ship
 may be purchased; and in that Case the whole
 Lading of the Ship shall not be subject to pay
 the Duties, but that small Part only which has
 been taken out and sold.

*Ships
 for c'd in by
 Storm not o-
 bliged to un-
 load or pay
 any Duty.*

XVII.

It shall be lawful for all and singular the
 Subjects of the Queen of Great Britain, and
 of the most Christian King, to sail with their
 Ships with all manner of Liberty and Securi-
 ty, no Distinction being made who are the
 Proprietors of the Merchandizes laden there-
 on, from any Port to the Places of those who
 are

*Both sides
 to trade
 with the E-
 nemies of ei-
 ther.*

"tia aliqua cum Magnæ Britannæ Regina,
 "aut Rege Christianissimo, jam aut dehinc,
 "intercedet; Licitum itidem erit Subditis &
 "Incolis prædictis, cum præfatis Navibus &
 "Mercibus navitare, & negotiari eadem cum
 "libertate & securitate a Locis, Portibus,
 "& Stationibus eorum, qui utriusque vel al-
 "terius Partis hostes sint, absque contradic-
 "tione & perturbatione qualicunque, non
 "tantum directe ab illis præmemoratis Locis
 "hostilibus ad locum neutralem, verum etiam
 "ab uno loco hostili, ad locum hostilem ali-
 "um, sive illi sub Jurisdictione ejusdem Prin-
 "cipis sint, sive sub diversis. Et sicut jam
 "circa Navigia & Merces stipulatum est, ut
 "Naves liberæ Libertatem quoque Mercibus
 "vindicerent, atque pro immuni ac libero ha-
 "beatur omne id, quod Navibus ad Subditos
 "alterius Fœderati spectantibus immissum
 "deprehenditur, etiamsi totum Oneris, vel
 "ejusdem pars aliqua, ad hostes utriusvis Ma-
 "jestatis pertinuerit, exceptis semper Mercibus
 "contrabandis, quibus interceptis omnia
 "ad Articulorum subsequentiū mentem fi-
 "ant. Ita Conventum pariter est, eandem
 "Libertatem ad personas quoque extendi de-
 "bere, quæ Navi libera vehuntur, eo cum
 "effectu, ut quamvis utriusque Partis, aut
 "alterutrius hostes sint, ex Navi ista libera
 "non extrahantur, nisi milites sint, & hosti-
 "bus effectivè Ministeria sua præstent.

are now or shall be hereafter at Enmity with
 the Queen of *Great Britain* or the most Chri-
 stian King. It shall likewise be lawful for the
 Subjects and Inhabitants aforeaid, to sail with
 the Ships and Merchandizes aforemention'd,
 and to trade with the same liberty and security
 from the Places, Ports and Havens of those
 who are Enemies of both or of either Party,
 without any Opposition or Disturbance what-
 soever, not only directly from the places of
 the Enemy aforemention'd to neutral places,
 but also from one place belonging to an Ene-
 my, to another place belonging to an Enemy,
 whether they be under the Jurisdiction of the
 same Prince, or under several. And as it is
 now stipulated concerning Ships and Goods,
 that free Ships shall also give a freedom to
 Goods, and that every thing shall be deemed
 to be free and exempt which shall be found on
 board the Ships belonging to the Subjects of
 either of the Confederates, altho' the whole
 Lading, or any part thereof should appertain
 to the Enemies of either of their Majesties,
 contraband Goods being always excepted, on
 the Discovery whereof Matters shall be mana-
 ged according to the Sense of the subsequent
 Articles. It is also agreed in like manner,
 That the same Liberty be extended to Persons
 who are on board a free Ship, with this Effect,
 That altho' they be Enemies to both, or to
 either Party, they are not to be taken out of
 that free Ship, unless they are Soldiers, and in
 actual Service of the Enemies.

XVIII.

“ Illa Navigandi & Commercandi Libertas
“ ad omnia Mercimoniorum genera se exten-
“ det, exceptis solum iis quæ Articulo proxi-
“ mo sequuntur, & Contrabandæ nomine in-
“ digitantur.

XIX.

“ Sub isto nomine Contrabandæ, seu Mer-
“ cimoniorum prohibitorum, comprehendan-
“ tur Arma, Sclopeta, aut Tormenta majo-
“ ra, Bombardæ cum suis Ignariis, & aliis
“ ad ea pertinentibus, Ignes Missiles, Pulvis
“ Tormentarius, Fomites, Globi, Cuspides,
“ Enses, Lanceæ, Hestæ, Bipennes, Tubi
“ Catapultarii (vulgo Mortarii) Inductiles
“ Sclopi (vulgo Petardæ) Glandes Ignariæ
“ missiles (vulgo Grenadæ) Salpetræ, Sclo-
“ peta, Globuli, seu Pilæ quæ Sclopetis ja-
“ culantur, Cassides, Galeæ, Thoraces, Lo-
“ ricæ, (vulgo Cuirasse) & familia Armorum
“ Genera, ad instruendos milites comparata,
“ Sclopothecæ, Balthei, Equi cum eorum Ap-
“ paratu, & quæcunque alia Instrumenta Bel-
“ lica.

XX.

“ Inter Bona prohibita nequaquam cen-
“ buntur hæc quæ sequuntur Mercimonia,
“ omnes scilicet Pannorum species, omnes-
“ que aliæ Manufacturæ textæ ex quacunque
“ Lana, Lino, Serico, Gossipio, vel alia
“ quacunque materia; omnia Vestium & In-
“ dumentorum genera, una cum speciebus ex
“ quibus confici solent; Aurum & Argen-
“ tum, tam signatum quam non signatum,
“ Stannum, Ferrum, Plumbum, Cuprum,
“ Orichal-

XVIII.

This liberty of Navigation and Commerce
shall extend to all kinds of Merchandizes, ex-
cepting those only which follow in the next
Article, and which are signified by the Name
of Contraband.

XIX.

Under this name of contraband or prohibi-
ted Goods shall be comprehended Arms, great
Guns, Bombs, with their Fuses and other things
belonging to them, Fire-Balls, Gunpowder,
Match, Cannon-Ball, Pikes, Swords, Lan-
ces, Spears, Halberts, Mortars, Petards,
Granadoes, Saltpetre, Muskets, Musket-Ball,
Helmets, Head-Pieces, Breast-Plates, Coats
of Mail, and the like kinds of Arms, proper
for arming Soldiers, Musket-Rests, Belts,
Horses with their Furniture, and all other
warlike Instruments whatever.

Contra-
band Goods.

XX.

These Merchandizes which follow shall not
be reckoned among prohibited Goods; that is
to say, all sorts of Cloths, and all other Ma-
nufactures woven of any Wool, Flax, Silk,
Cotton, or any other Materials whatever; all
kinds of Clothes and Wearing Apparel, toge-
ther with the Species whereof they are use to
be made; Gold and Silver, as well coined as
uncoined, Tin, Iron, Lead, Copper, Brass,
Coals; as also Wheat and Barley, and any other
kind

What is
not to be
reckon'd
contraband.

“ Orichalcum, Carbones focarii; Triticum
 “ etiam & Hordeum, & aliud quodcunque
 “ Frumenti & Leguminis genus; Herba Ni-
 “ cotiana (vulgo Tobacco) nec non omne
 “ genus Aromatum, Carnes salitæ & Fumo
 “ duratæ, Pisces saliti, Caseus & Butyrum,
 “ Cerevisiæ, Olea, Vina, Sacchara, & omne
 “ genus Salis, necnon omnis generatim An-
 “ nona, quæ ad victum hominum, & vitæ
 “ sustentationem facit; Gossipii porro, Can-
 “ nabis, Lini, Picis, tam liquidæ quam ari-
 “ dæ, omne genus, Funes, Rudentes, Vela,
 “ Linteamen velis nauticis aptum, Anchoræ,
 “ & Anchorarum partes quælibet, Mali item
 “ Navales, ut & Asseres, Tabulæ, & Trabes,
 “ ex quibuscunque arboribus, omniaque alia
 “ ad Naves seu construendas seu reficiendas
 “ comparata; sed nec aliæ quæcunque Mer-
 “ ces, quæ Instrumenti vel Apparatus alicu-
 “ jus pro Terrestri, vel Maritimo Bello for-
 “ mam non acceperunt, pro Contrabandis ha-
 “ bebuntur, multo minus quæ ad alium quem-
 “ vis usum jam apparatus & conformatae sunt,
 “ quæ omnia plane inter mercimonia libera
 “ censentur, juxta ac aliæ quælibet merces
 “ & res, quæ in Articulo proxime præceden-
 “ ti non comprehenduntur, ac speciatim de-
 “ signantur, ita ut a Subditis utriusque Con-
 “ fœderati liberrime transportari & invehiri pos-
 “ sint, etiam ad Loca inimica, exceptis dun-
 “ taxat Oppidis Locisve tunc temporis Obsi-
 “ dione cinctis, circumseptis, vel investitis.

XXI.

“ Quo autem Discordiæ & Simultates om-
 “ nimodæ hinc inde evitentur, hisque obviam
 “ eatur,

kind of Corn and Pulse; Tobacco, and like-
 wise all manner of Spices, salted and smoaked
 Flesh, salted Fish, Cheese and Butter, Beer,
 Oils, Wines, Sugars, and all sorts of Salt,
 and in general all Provisions which serve for
 the Nourishment of Mankind and the Suste-
 nance of Life. Furthermore, all kinds of
 Cotton, Hemp, Flax, Tar, Pitch, Ropes,
 Cables, Sails, Sail-Cloths, Anchors, and any
 parts of Anchors, also Ship-Masts, Planks,
 Boards and Beams of what Trees soever; and
 all other things proper either for building or
 repairing Ships; and all other Goods whate-
 ver, which have not been worked into the
 form of any Instrument or thing prepared for
 War, by Land or by Sea, shall not be reputed
 Contraband, much less such as have been al-
 ready wrought and made up for any other use;
 all which shall wholly be reckon'd among free
 Goods; as likewise all other Merchandizes
 and Things which are not comprehended and
 particularly mention'd in the preceding Arti-
 cle, so that they may be transported and carried
 in the freest manner by the Subjects of both
 Confederates, even to places belonging to an
 Enemy, such Towns or Places being only ex-
 cepted as are at that time besieged, blocked up
 round about, or invested.

XXI.

To the end that all manner of Dissensions
 and Quarrels may be avoided and prevented on
 E 2 one

The British Merchant.

“ eatur, conventum est, quod casu quo altera Foederatarum Regiarum Majestatum Bello implicetur, Naves & Navigia ad Subditos alterius Foederati spectantia, instructa esse debeatur Literis Maritimis, exprimentibus nomen, proprietatem, & magnitudinem Navis, ut & Nomen & Locum habitationis Magistri, sive Praefecti ejusdem Navis, ut inde constare possit Navem illam ad Subditos alterutrius Principis vere & realiter pertinere; quae Literae Maritimae, juxta Formulam huic Tractatui appositam, concipientur & concedentur; quotannis etiam revocabuntur, scilicet si contingat Navem intra decursum anni domum reverti. Conventum etiam est, quod ejusmodi Naves oneratae, non tantum munitae esse debeant Literis Maritimis supra indicatis, sed & Certificatoriis, continentibus Species Oneris, Locumque unde Navis discessit, & quo tendere instituit, ut sic dignosci queat an Merces ullae vetitae, seu Contrabandae, Articulo decimo nono hujus Tractatus enumeratae, eadem vehantur; quae Literae Certificatoriae ab Officialibus illius Loci unde Navis solvit, Forma ibidem solita expedientur: & si cui consultum visumque fuerit in ejusmodi Literis exprimere ad quem Merces pertineant, liberum hoc ei erit.

XXII.

“ Naves Subditorum & Incolarum Serenissimarum Regiarum hinc inde Majestatum, venientes ad aliquas Oras Maritimas intra alterutrius Confederati Ditionem, non tantum
“ men

Treaty of Commerce.

one side and t'other, it is agreed, That in case either of their Royal Majesties who are allied should be engaged in War, the Ships and Vessels belonging to the Subjects of the other Ally must be furnished with Sea Letters or Passports, expressing the Name, Property, and Bulk of the Ship, as also the Name and Place of the Habitation of the Master or Commander of the said Ship, that it may appear thereby that the Ship really and truly belongs to the Subjects of one of the Princes; which Passports shall be made out and granted according to the Form annexed to this Treaty: they shall likewise be recalled every Year, that is, if the Ship happens to return home within the space of a Year. It is likewise agreed, That such Ships being laden, are to be provided not only with Passports as abovemention'd, but also with Certificates containing the several Particulars of the Cargo, the Place whence the Ship sailed, and whether she is bound, that so it may be known whether any forbidden or contraband Goods as are enumerated in the 19th Article of this Treaty, be on board the same; which Certificates shall be made out by the Officers of the Place whence the Ship set sail, in the accustomed form. And if any one shall think it fit or adviseable to express in the said Certificates the Person to whom they belong, he may freely do so.

If either engage in War, the other to furnish Passes to their Ships.

XXII.

The Ships of the Subjects and Inhabitants of both their most Serene Royal Majesties coming to any of the Sea-Coasts within the Dominions of either of the Confederates, but not
E 3 willing

“ men Portum intrare volentes, aut ingressi,
 “ nolentes exponere aut distrahere Onera su-
 “ arum Navium, non tenebuntur Onerum
 “ suorum rationem reddere, nisi certis indi-
 “ ciis suspectæ fuerint transferendarum ad ho-
 “ stes alterius Confœderati Mercium prohibi-
 “ tarum de Contrabanda Nuncupatarum.

XXIII.

“ Et casu dicta suspitionis manifestæ, dic-
 “ ti Subditi & Incolæ Ditionum Serenissima-
 “ rum Regiarum hinc inde Majestatum, ob-
 “ ligati erunt exhibere in Portibus Literas
 “ suas Maritimas & Certificatorias, modo
 “ ante declarato.

XXIV.

“ Quod si Naves Subditorum & Incolarum
 “ Serenissimarum Regiarum hinc inde Maje-
 “ statum, ad Oras maritimas progressæ, aut
 “ in pleno mari, obviam factæ fuerint Navi-
 “ bus Bellicis alterutrius, aut Navibus sump-
 “ tibus privatis ad Bellum instructis, dictæ
 “ Navis Bellicæ, & Armatæ Privatorum, ad
 “ quævis evitanda incommoda, maneat extra
 “ Jactum Tormenti Bellici, mittantque Sca-
 “ pham ad Navem Mercatoriam quæ obviam
 “ facta erit, & cum duobus aut tribus solum-
 “ modo hominibus intrent quibus monstren-
 “ tur a Magistro vel Præfecto talis Navis aut
 “ Navigii Literæ Maritimæ de proprietate e-
 “ jusdem, conceptæ juxta Formam præsentis
 “ Tractatui appositam; & Navi quæ eas ex-
 “ hibuerit liber erit transitus, eandemque
 “ molestia aliqua afficere, excutere, aut de
 “ Cursu destinato ut deflectat, cogere, ne-
 “ fas esto.

XXV. Illa

willing to enter into Port, or being entred,
 yet not being willing to shew or to sell the
 Cargoes of their Ships, shall not be obliged to
 give an Account of their Lading, unless they
 are suspected upon sure Evidence, of carrying
 to the Enemies of the other Confederate pro-
 hibited Goods, called Contraband.

*Ships of
 either in the
 other's
 Ports, not ob-
 liged to de-
 clare their
 Lading, ex-
 cept contra-
 band.*

XXIII.

And in case of the said manifest Suspicion, the
 said Subjects and Inhabitants of the Dominions
 of both their most Serene Royal Majesties shall
 be obliged to exhibit in the Ports their Pas-
 ports and Certificates, in the manner before
 specified.

XXIV.

But in case the Ships of the Subjects and In-
 habitants of both their most Serene Royal Ma-
 jesties, either on the Sea-coast, or on the high
 Seas, shall meet with the Men of War of the
 other, or with Privateers, the said Men of
 War and Privateers, for preventing any Incon-
 veniences, are to remain out of Cannon-shot,
 and to send a Boat to the Merchant Ship which
 has been met with, and shall enter her with
 two or three Men only, to whom the Master
 or Commander of such Ship or Vessel shall
 shew his Passport, concerning the property
 thereof, made out according to the Form an-
 nexed to this present Treaty; and the Ship
 which shall exhibit one, shall have free Pas-
 sage, and it shall be wholly unlawful any way
 to molest her, search, or compel her to quit
 her intended Course.

*Men of
 War, &c. at
 Sea, to keep
 out of shot of
 Merchant
 Ships.*

*The manner
 of examining
 Passes.*

E 4

XXV. But

The British Merchant.

XXV.

“ Illa vero Navis Mercatoria alterius partis, quæ ad Portum alteri Fœderatorum inimicum tendere instituerit, aut de cujus itinere, aut Mercium subvectarum specie, iusta suspicio subfit, non tantum Literas Maritimas, verum etiam Certificatorias, five in pleno Mari, five in Portibus & Stationibus, exhibere tenebitur, exprimentes quod de genere Mercium prohibitarum in Articulo decimo nono specificatum non sint.

XXVI.

“ Quod si per exhibitionem supradictarum Literarum Certificatarum, experimentium rerum subvectarum Indices, altera pars deprehenderit aliqua istius generis mercimonia, quæ Contrabanda, seu prohibita esse, in hujus Tractatus Articulo decimo nono, declarantur, ad Portum alterius Hostibus obtemperantem destinata, Foros illius Navis in qua ea reperiri contigerit, five ad Subditos Magnæ Britanniæ, five Galliæ, spectaverit, resignare, Capsas, Sarcinas, aut Vasa in eadem referare, vel partem licet minimam Mercimontiorum distrahere, nisi onere, præsentibus Tribunalis Maritimi Officialibus, in Terram exposito, & in Inventarium redacto, Nefas esto. Eorum venditioni tamen, permutationi, aut alienationi qualicunque, nullatenus locus erit, nisi postquam rite & legitime contra ejusmodi Bona prohibita processum fuerit, eademque rerum Maritimarum Judices, lata sententia Fisco respective suo addixerint; falvis

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XXV.

But that Merchant Ship of the other Party, which intends to go to a Port at Enmity with the other Confederate, or concerning whose Voyage, and the Sort of Goods on Board, there may be just Suspicion, shall be obliged to exhibit, either on the high Seas, or in the Ports and Havens, not only her Passports, but her Certificates, expressing, that they are not of the Kind of Goods prohibited, which are specified in the 19th Article.

And if bound to an Enemy's Port, must shew her Certificates.

XXVI.

But if one Party, on the exhibiting the abovesaid Certificates, mentioning the Particulars of the Things on Board, should discover any Goods of that Kind which are declared Contraband or Prohibited by the 19th Article of this Treaty, designed for a Port subject to the Enemy of the other, it shall be unlawful to break up the Hatches of that Ship, wherein the same shall happen to be found, whether she belong to the Subjects of Great Britain, or of France, to open the Chests, Packs, or Casks therein, or to remove even the smallest Parcel of the Goods, unless the Lading be brought on Shore, in the Presence of the Officers of the Court of Admiralty, and an Inventory thereof made; but there shall be no Allowance to sell, exchange, or alienate the same in any Manner, unless after that due and lawful Process shall have been had against such Prohibited Goods, and the Judges of the Admiralty respectively shall by a Sentence pronounced, have Confiscated the same, saving always as well the Ship itself, as the other Goods found therein,

Contraband Goods must be landed.

And not confiscated but upon Conviction, the other Goods and Ships to be free.

The British Merchant.

“ salvis semper tam ipsa Navi, quam cæteris
 “ Mercibus, in eadem repertis, quæ ex hoc
 “ Tractatu liberæ censendæ sunt, nec ex
 “ prætento Mercium prohibitarum Contagio,
 “ detineri, nedum pro præda legitima confis-
 “ cari possint. Sin autem non totum, sed
 “ pars oneris duntaxat ex Mercibus Prohibi-
 “ tis vel Contrabandis confiterit, easque
 “ Præfectus Nævis Captori qui eas deprehen-
 “ derit, extradere se promptum & paratum
 “ præstet, eo in Casu Captor, iis Mercibus
 “ receptis, Navem illico dimittet, neque ul-
 “ la ratione impediatur, quo minus Cursum
 “ quem instituerat, libere prosequatur.

XXVII.

“ Conventum autem è contrario est, quod
 “ quicquid a Subditis & Incolis alterutrius
 “ Partis in Navem quamcunque, ad alterius
 “ hostem aliquem, ejusque Subditos, spec-
 “ tantem, immisissum deprehendetur; id to-
 “ tum quamvis de genere Mercium prohibi-
 “ tarum non sit, Fisco addici possit, perinde
 “ ac si ad ipsum hostem pertineret: Exceptis
 “ iis Mercibus & Mercimoniis, quæ, ante
 “ Belli Declarationem, istiusmodi Navi im-
 “ posita fuerint, vel etiam post eam Decla-
 “ rationem, modo intra tempus & terminos
 “ sequentes actum sit. Nimirum si imposita
 “ isti Navi fuerint in aliquo portu & loco in-
 “ tra spatium Sex Septimanarum post talem
 “ Declarationem, intra Terminos *The Naze*
 “ in Norvegia, & *Soundings* vocatos; Duo-
 “ rum Mensium, inter Terminos *The Sound-*
 “ *ings*, & Civitatem *Gibraltar*; Decem Sep-
 “ timanarum in Mari Mediterraneo; & Oc-
 “ to

Treaty of Commerce.

therein, which by this Treaty are to be esteem-
 ed Free; neither may they be detained on
 Pretence of their being, as it were, infected
 by the Prohibited Goods, much less shall they
 be confiscated as lawful Prize: But if not the
 whole Cargo, but only Part thereof, shall con-
 sist of Prohibited or Contraband Goods, and
 the Commander of the Ship shall be ready and
 willing to deliver them to the Captor, who has
 discovered them, in such Case the Captor ha-
 ving received those Goods, shall forthwith dis-
 charge the Ship, and not hinder her, by any
 means, freely to prosecute the Voyage on which
 she was bound.

XXVII.

On the contrary it is agreed, That whate-
 ver shall be found to be laden by the Subjects
 and Inhabitants of either Party on any Ship be-
 longing to the Enemy of the other, and his
 Subjects, the whole, altho it be not of the sort
 of Prohibited Goods, may be confiscated, in
 the same manner as if it belonged to the Ene-
 my himself; except those Goods and Mer-
 chandizes as were put on Board such Ship be-
 fore the Declaration of War, or even after
 such Declaration, if so be it were done within
 the time and limits following, that is to say,
 If they were put on Board such Ship in any
 Port and Place within the space of six Weeks
 after such Declaration within the bounds called
 the *Naze* in *Norway*, and the *Soundings*; of
 two Months from the *Soundings* to the City of
Gibraltar; of ten Weeks in the *Mediterranean*
 Sea; and of eight Months in any other Coun-
 try or Place in the World; so that the Goods

*Goods load-
 ed on board
 an Enemy, in
 what Case
 to be Confis-
 cated.*

of

“ to Mensium in quavis alia Orbis Regione
 “ aut Loco, adeo ut Subditorum alterutrius
 “ Principis Bona, five de genere Mercium
 “ Prohibitarum sint, five aliter, quæ prout
 “ jam dictum est, ante Bellum, vel etiam
 “ post ejus Declarationem, intra Tempus &
 “ Terminos prædictos, Navi alicui hostili im-
 “ missa fuerint, Confiscationi obnoxia nullo
 “ modo sint, sed sine Dilatione Proprietariis
 “ eadem repetentibus, bona fide restituantur,
 “ ita tamen ut si dicta Mercimonia Contra-
 “ banda sint, ea ad Portus inimicos postmo-
 “ dum devehere omnino non liceat.

XXVIII.

“ Quo autem Serenissimarum Regiarum
 “ hinc inde Majestatum Subditorum Securi-
 “ tati abundantius cautum sit, quod nulla in-
 “ juria per alterius Partes Naves Bellicas, vel
 “ alias Sumptibus privatis ad Bellum instruc-
 “ tas, iis inferetur, omnibus Magnæ Britan-
 “ niæ Reginæ, & Christianissimi Regis Navi-
 “ um Præfectis, omnibusque eorum Subditis,
 “ omni in alteram partem injuria & damno
 “ interdicetur; sin secus faciant, Pœnas au-
 “ ent, & preterea obstricti erunt de Damno-
 “ rum omni causa, & eo quod interest satif-
 “ facere, per Reparationem sub Obligatione
 “ & Nexu Personæ Bonorumque.

XXIX.

“ Ob hanc causam singuli Navium sump-
 “ tibus privatis ad Bellum instructarum Præ-
 “ fecti, antequam Diplomata, five Commis-
 “ siones suas speciales, recipient, sufficientem
 “ Fiduciarium Cautionem pro viros idoneos,
 “ qui solvendo sint, & nullum interesse ha-
 “ beant

of the Subjects of either Prince, whether they
 be of the nature of such as are Prohibited, or
 otherwise, which, as is aforesaid, were put
 on Board any Ship belonging to an Enemy be-
 fore the War, or after the Declaration of the
 same, within the time and limits aforesaid,
 shall no ways be liable to Confiscation, but
 shall well and truly be restored without Delay
 to the Proprietors demanding the same; but
 so that if the said Merchandizes be Contra-
 band, it shall not be any ways lawful to carry
 them afterwards to the Ports belonging to the
 Enemy.

XXVIII.

And that more abundant care may be taken
 for the Security of the Subjects of both their
 most Serene Royal Majesties, that they suffer
 no Injury by the Men of War or Privateers of
 the other Party, all the Commanders of the
 Ships of the Queen of Great Britain, and of
 the most Christian King, and all their Sub-
 jects, shall be forbid doing any Injury or Da-
 mage to the other Side; and if they act to
 the contrary, they shall be punished, and shall
 moreover be bound to make Satisfaction for
 all Cause of Damage, and the Interest there-
 of, by Reparation, under the Bond and Obli-
 gation of their Person and Goods.

*Men of
 War, &c.
 not to injure
 the Subjects
 of either.*

XXIX.

For this Cause all Commanders of Priva-
 teers, before they receive their Patents, or spe-
 cial Commissions, shall hereafter be obliged
 to give, before a competent Judge, sufficient
 Security for good Bail, who are Men able to
 pay, and have no Interest in the said Ship, and
 are

*Command-
 ers of Pri-
 vateers not
 to injure the
 Subjects of
 either.*

“ beant in dicta Nave, & singuli in solidum
 “ obligati coram Judice competente, inter-
 “ ponere in posterum tenebuntur in Summa
 “ mille quingentarum Librarum Sterlinga-
 “ rum, aut sedecim millium & quingentarum
 “ Librarum Turonensium; vel si ejusmodi
 “ Navis ultra centum & quinquaginta Nautis
 “ Militibusve instructa sit, in Summa trium
 “ millium Librarum Sterlingarum, vel tri-
 “ ginta trium millium Librarum Turonen-
 “ sium, se damnis & injuriis quibuscunque,
 “ quas suo cursu Navali ipsi, vel sui Officia-
 “ les, aliive sibi inservientes, contra præsen-
 “ tem hunc Tractatum, aut Serenissimarum
 “ Regiarum hinc inde Majestatum Edicta,
 “ ejusdem vigore emanata, committunt, in
 “ solidum satisfacturos, sub poena etiam Re-
 “ vocationis & Cassationis Literarum Com-
 “ missionalium specialium, & Diplomatum.

XXX.

“ Antememoratae Regiae hinc inde Maje-
 “ states, alterutrius Subditos, ac si proprii
 “ sui Subditi essent, mutuo eodemque favore,
 “ in omnibus suis respective Ditionibus, pro-
 “ sequi volentes, quae necessaria fuerint, fi-
 “ mul & efficacia, dabunt Mandata, ut jus
 “ super Prædis administretur in Curia Admi-
 “ ralitatis secundum Justitiae & Aequitatis
 “ normam, & hujus Tractatus Leges, a Ju-
 “ dicibus omni suspicione majoribus, & quo-
 “ rum, in Causa quae disceptatur, nullatenus
 “ intererit.

XXXI.

“ Quandoeunque antememorarum Re-
 “ giarum hinc inde Majestatum Legati, ali-
 “ que

are each bound in the whole, for the Sum of
 1500 *l.* Sterling, or 16500 *Livres Tournois*;
 or if such Ship be provided with above one
 hundred and fifty Seamen or Soldiers, for the
 Sum of 3000 *l.* Sterling, or 33000 *Livres Tour-*
nois, that they will make intire Satisfaction for
 any Damages and Injuries whatsoever, which
 they, or their Officers, or others in their Ser-
 vice, commit during their course at Sea, con-
 trary to this present Treaty, or the Edicts of
 either of their most Serene Royal Majesties;
 published by virtue thereof; under Penalty
 likewise of having their special Commissions
 and Patents revoked and annulled.

XXX.

Both their abovenamed Royal Majesties be-
 ing willing to shew a mutual and equal Favour
 in all their Dominions respectively, to the
 Subjects of each other, in the same manner as
 if they were their own Subjects, will give such
 Orders as shall be necessary and effectual,
 That Justice be administr'd concerning Prizes
 in the Court of Admiralty, according to the
 Rule of Equity and Right, and the Articles
 of this Treaty, by Judges who are above all
 Suspicion, and who have no manner of Inte-
 rest in the Cause in Dispute.

*Impartial
Justice to be
administr'd
about Prizes;*

XXXI.

Whensoever the Ambassadors of each of their
 Royal Majesties abovenamed, and other their
 Ministers,

“ que Ministri, publica autoritate muniti,
 “ in Aula alterius Principis commorantes,
 “ querentur de iniquitate Sententiarum quæ
 “ latæ fuerint, Regiæ Majestates easdem in
 “ Consilia hinc inde suo revideri, & ad exa-
 “ men revocare curabunt, ut constet utrum
 “ Ordinationes & Cautelæ in hoc Tractatu
 “ præscriptæ, servatæ, & debitum effectum
 “ fortitæ fuerint; Curabunt itidem ut huic
 “ rei omnino provideatur, Jusque suum cui-
 “ que queritanti, intra trimestre spatium,
 “ reddatur. Nihilominus ante vel post Sen-
 “ tentiam latam, pendente ejusdem Revisi-
 “ one, Bona controversa vendere, vel exo-
 “ nerare, nisi ex Consensu eorum quorum
 “ interest, quo damnum omne evitetur, nul-
 “ latenus licebit.

XXXII.

“ Lite mota inter Prædarum Captores ex
 “ una, & earundem Reclamatores ex altera
 “ parte, lataque Sententia vel Decreto pro
 “ parte reclamante, eadem Sententia five De-
 “ cretum, interposita Cautione, Executioni
 “ mandabitur, Captoris ad superiorem Judi-
 “ cem Appellatione nullatenus obstante; quod
 “ quidem non observabitur ubi Sententia lata
 “ fuerit contra Reclamatores.

XXXIII.

“ Casu quo Naves five Bellicæ, five One-
 “ rariæ, tempestate, aliove infortunio coac-
 “ tæ, in Rupes aut Scopulos incidant circa
 “ Oras unius alteriusve partis, ibique dif-
 “ rumpantur & Naufragium faciant, quid-
 “ quid

Ministers, having a publick Character, and
 residing in the Court of the other Prince, shall
 complain of the unjustness of the Sentences
 which have been given, their Majesties on each
 side shall take care that the same be revised with
 and re-examined in their respective Councils,
 that it may appear whether the Directions and
 Provisions prescribed in this Treaty have been
 observed, and have had their due effect: They
 shall likewise take care, that this matter be ef-
 fectually provided for, and that Right be done
 to every Complainant, within the space of
 three Months. However, before or after
 Judgment given, the Revision thereof still de-
 pending, for the avoiding all Damage, it shall
 not be lawful to sell the Goods in Dispute, or
 to unlade them, unless with the Consent of the
 Persons concerned.

*And upon
 Complaint of
 publick Mi-
 nisters, Sen-
 tences and
 Justice to be
 done.*

XXXII.

A Suit being commenced between the Cap-
 tors of Prizes on one part, and the Reclaimers
 of the same on the other, and a Sentence or
 Decree being given in favour of the Reclaimer,
 that same Sentence or Decree, Security being
 given, shall be put in execution, the Appeal
 of the Captor to a superior Judge in any wise
 notwithstanding; which however is not to be
 observ'd when Judgment has been given against
 the Reclaimer.

*A Decree
 in favour of
 a Reclaimer
 to be execut-
 ed.*

XXXIII.

In case that either Ships of War or Merchant-
 Men, forced by Storm or other Misfortunes,
 be driven on Rocks or Shelves on the Coasts of
 one or the other Party, and are there broken
 to pieces and shipwreck'd, whatever part of
 the

*Whatever
 can be saved
 of Ships
 wrecked on
 the Coasts,
 or of Goods,
 to be restor-
 ed.*

“ quid Navium, Apparatusve earum, itidem
 “ Bonorum & Mercimoniorum servatum fu-
 “ erit, aut Pretium quod ex iis provenerit,
 “ Proprietariis, Reclamatoribus, aut eorum
 “ Negotiorum Gestoribus, bona fide restitu-
 “ atur, solutis duntaxat Impensis quæ servan-
 “ dis iis factæ sunt, prout ab utraque parte
 “ circa rei servatæ mercedem statutum fue-
 “ rit; Salvis etiam utriusque Nationis Juri-
 “ bus & Consuetudinibus. Et Serenissimæ
 “ Regiæ hinc inde Majestates Autoritatem
 “ suam interponent, quo puniantur severe e-
 “ rum Subditi, qui tali eventu Inhumanitatis
 “ rei reperientur.

XXXIV.

“ Liberum erit utriusque partis Subditis uti
 “ Advocatis, Procuratoribus, Notariis, Solli-
 “ citatoribus, & Negotiorum Gestoribus,
 “ quibus ipsis visum fuerit; quo sine iidem
 “ Advocati, & alii supra nominati, commit-
 “ tantur ab ordinariis Judicibus, si opus, &
 “ Judices ad illud requisiti fuerint.

XXXV.

“ Et quo securius, liberiusque exercentur
 “ commercium & Navigatio, conventum
 “ est insuper, ut neque Magnæ Britanniæ
 “ Regina, neque Rex Christianissimus, in
 “ quoscunque ipsorum Portus, Stationes, Ur-
 “ bes aut Oppida, Piratas quosvis, Prædo-
 “ nesque recipiant, neque a quibuscunque al-
 “ terutrius ipsorum Subditis, Civibusve, eos-
 “ dem in Portus recipi, protegi, aut quocun-
 “ que hospitii auxiliive genere sublevari per-
 “ mittent; quin efficient ut omnes ejusmodi
 “ Piratæ, Prædoneque maritimi, aut quicun-
 “ que

the Ships or Tackling thereof, as also of the
 Goods and Merchandizes, shall be saved, or
 the Produce thereof, shall be faithfully restor'd
 to the Proprietors, Reclaimers, or their Fac-
 tors, paying only the Expences of preserving
 the same, in such manner as it may be settled
 on both sides concerning the Rate of Salvage;
 saving at the same time the Rights and Customs
 of each Nation. And both their most Serene
 Royal Majesties will interpose their Authority,
 that such of their Subjects may be severely pu-
 nish'd who in the like Accident shall be found
 guilty of Inhumanity.

XXXIV.

It shall be free for the Subjects of each Party
 to employ such Advocates, Attornies, Nota-
 ries, Solicitors and Factors as they shall think
 fit; to which end the said Advocates and others
 abovemention'd, may be appointed by the or-
 dinary Judges if it be needful, and the Judges
 be required thereunto.

XXXV.

And that Commerce and Navigation may
 be more securely and freely followed, it is fur-
 ther agreed, That neither the Queen of *Great*
Britain, nor the most Christian King, shall
 receive any Pirates and Robbers into any of
 their Ports, Havens, Cities, or Towns; nei-
 ther shall they permit them to be received in-
 to their Ports to be protected or assisted by any
 manner of harbouring or support by any the
 Subjects or Inhabitants of either of them; but
 they shall rather cause all such Pirates and Sea-
 Robbers, or whoever shall receive, conceal or
 assist

*No Pirates
 to be protect-
 ed by either.*

“ que eos reciperint, occultaverint, vel ad-
 “ juvaverint, apprehendantur, meritisque
 “ Pœnis afficiantur, in aliorum terrorem &
 “ exemplum. Et omnes eorundem Naves,
 “ Bona, Mercesve, Piraticè per eosdem rap-
 “ tæ, & in Regni alterutrius Portus advec-
 “ tæ, quotquot deprehendi poterint, etiamfi
 “ venditione ad alios transfiverint, legitimis
 “ Dominis, ipforumve Vicariis, ad eadem
 “ repetenda Delegationis Tabulas, & Procu-
 “ rationis Authoritatem habentibus, restitu-
 “ entur, & resarciantur, adductis prius in
 “ Maritimæ Præfecturæ Curia Testimoniis,
 “ ad proprietatem comprobendam idoneis:
 “ omnesque omnino Naves Mercesque, cujus-
 “ cunque sint Naturæ quotquot super altum
 “ Mare ob eorum Manibus redimi possint, in
 “ aliquem Regni alterutrius Portum adducen-
 “ tur, Portusque ejusdem Officialibus custo-
 “ diendæ concredentur, eum nempe in finem,
 “ ut vero Proprietario integræ tradantur,
 “ quam primum de earundem proprietate de-
 “ bite & sufficienter constabit.

XXXVI.

“ Serenissimarum Regiarum hinc inde Ma-
 “ jestatum Navibus tam Bellicis, quam iis
 “ quæ Sumptibus privatis ad Bellum instructæ
 “ sunt, licitum esto Naves Mercesque ab ho-
 “ stibus captas libere conducere quoquover-
 “ sum ipsis placuerit, nec quidquam rei Ma-
 “ ritimæ Præfectis aut Judicibus aliis quibus-
 “ vis solvere teneantur, neque etiam ante-
 “ dictæ Prædæ ubi ad dictarum Serenissima-
 “ rum Regiarum hinc inde Majestatum Por-
 “ tus appulerint, & intraverint, Arresto ullo
 “ detineantur,

assist them, to be apprehended and punished as
 they deserve, for a Terror and Example to o-
 thers. And all the Ships, Goods or Merchan-
 dizes being piratically taken by them, and
 brought into the Ports of the Kingdom of ei-
 ther, as much as can be found, altho they have
 by Sale been conveyed to others, shall be re-
 stored to the lawful Owners or their Deputies,
 having Instruments of Delegation, and an Au-
 thority of Procuracy for reclaiming the same;
 and Indemnification shall be made, proper Evi-
 dence being first given in the Court of Admi-
 ralty for proving the Property. And all Ships
 and Merchandizes, of what nature soever,
 which can be rescued out of their hands on the
 high Seas, shall be brought into some Port of
 either Kingdom, and shall be delivered to the
 Custody of the Officers of that Port, with this
 Intention, that they be delivered entire to the
 true Proprietor, as soon as due and sufficient
 Proof shall have been made concerning the
 Property thereof.

Whatever they sell, to be restored.

XXXVI.

It shall be lawful as well for the Ships of
 War of both their most Serene Royal Maje-
 sties, as for Privateers, to carry whithersoever
 they please, the Ships and Goods taken from
 their Enemies, neither shall they be obliged to
 pay any thing to the Officers of the Admiral-
 ty, or to any other Judges; nor shall the a-
 bovemention'd Prizes, when they come to
 and enter the Ports of either of their most Se-
 rene Royal Majesties, be detained by Arrest,
 neither shall Searchers or other Officers of
 those

Men of War on both sides may sell their Prizes.

“ detineantur, nec Scrutatores, aliive loco-
 “ rum Officialés, in eas, aut de earum vali-
 “ ditate inquirant, quin vela quovis tempore
 “ explicare, discedere, & Prædas eo loci de-
 “ ducere liceat qui in Commissionum Literis,
 “ aut Diplomate expressus sit; quas literas
 “ Præfecti hujusmodi Bellicarum Navium
 “ monstrare tenebuntur; è contrario autem
 “ in eorum Portibus Azylum aut Refugium
 “ non dabitur iis qui Prædam fecerint in utri-
 “ usvis Regiæ Majestatis Subditos. Quod
 “ sicubi tales, necessitate Tempestatis, aut
 “ Maris periculo coactæ, intraverint, enixe
 “ curandum est (in quantum anterioribus
 “ Pactis, cum aliis Regibus & Statibus ini-
 “ tis, id ipsum non adversatur) ut exeant,
 “ & quam primum fieri possit, inde se reci-
 “ piant.

XXXVII.

“ Serenissimæ Regiæ hinc inde Majestatis
 “ nequaquam permittent ut in Oris, Portu-
 “ bus, aut Fluminibus Ditionum suarum,
 “ Naves, Mercesve Subditorum alterius ca-
 “ piantur a Navibus Bellicis, aut aliis, quæ,
 “ Diplomate alicujus Principis, Reipublicæ,
 “ aut Oppidi qualiscunque instructæ sunt. Et
 “ casu quo id acciderit, Pars utraque autho-
 “ ritatem, viresque unitas interponent, quo
 “ damnum datum resarciatur.

XXXVIII.

“ Si dehinc per Inadvertentiam, vel aliter,
 “ contigerit, Contraventiones, vel Inconve-
 “ nientias aliquas, circa observationem hujus
 “ Tractatus, hinc inde oboriri, tunc non sta-
 “ tim propterea Amicitia & bona Intelligentia
 “ in-

those places make Examination concerning
 them, or the validity thereof; but rather they
 shall have liberty to hoist Sail at any time, to
 depart, and to carry their Prizes to that place
 which is mentioned in their Commission or
 Patent, which the Commanders of such Ships
 of War shall be obliged to shew. On the con-
 trary, no Shelter or Refuge shall be given in
 their Ports to such as have made a Prize upon
 the Subjects of either of their Royal Majesties.
 And if perchance such Ships shall come in, be-
 ing forced by stress of Weather, or the danger
 of the Sea, particular care shall be taken, (as
 far as it is not repugnant to former Treaties
 made with other Kings and States) that they
 go from thence, and retire elsewhere as soon
 as possible.

*Those who
 make prize
 upon either
 Subjects, not
 to be re-
 ceiv'd into
 Port.*

XXXVII.

Neither of their most Serene Royal Maje-
 sties shall permit that the Ships or Goods of the
 other be taken upon the Coasts, or in the Ports
 or Rivers of their Dominions, by Ships of
 War of others having Commission from any
 Prince, Commonwealth, or Town whatsoe-
 ver. And in case such a thing should happen,
 both Parties shall use their Authority and united
 Force, that the Damage done shall be made
 good.

*Neither to
 permit the o-
 ther's Ships,
 &c. to be
 taken on their
 Coasts.*

XXXVIII.

If hereafter it shall happen thro' Inadverten-
 cy or otherwise, that any Contraventions or
 Inconveniencies on either side arise concerning
 the observation of this Treaty, the Friendship
 and good Intelligence shall not immediately
 there-

*No inad-
 vertent Con-
 travention to
 make void
 the Treaty.*

“ interrumpetur ; sed subsistet hoc Foedus
 “ omni cum Effectu, procurabiturque Reme-
 “ dium tollendis Inconvenientiis congruum,
 “ ut & Reparatio Contraventionum ; sique
 “ Subditi unius alteriusve deprehendantur in
 “ culpa, illi soli severè punientur & castiga-
 “ buntur.

XXXIX.

“ Quod si vero confiterit Captorem ullo
 “ Torturæ genere, in Navarcham, Plebem
 “ Nauticam, aliosve qui in Navi aliqua ad
 “ alterius partis Subditos spectante reperien-
 “ tur, usum fuisse ; eo casu, non tantum
 “ ipsa Navis, una cum Personis, Mercimo-
 “ niis, & Rebus quibuscunque, statim abs-
 “ que ulteriori mora relaxabitur, & in ple-
 “ nam libertatem restituetur, verum etiam
 “ qui tanti Criminis rei deprehendentur, ut
 “ & ejusdem Participes, gravissimis condig-
 “ nisque poenis plectendi erunt ; id quod ut
 “ absque omni personarum respectu fiat, ob-
 “ stringunt se mutuo Magnæ Britanniae Re-
 “ gina, & Rex Christianissimus.

Notum

thereupon be broke off ; but this Treaty shall
 subsist in all its force, and a proper Remedy
 for removing the Inconveniencies shall be pro-
 cured, as likewise Reparation of the Contra-
 vention ; and if the Subjects of the one or the
 other be found in fault, they only shall be se-
 verely punished and chastised.

XXXIX.

But if it shall appear that a Captor made
 use of any kind of Torture upon the Master of
 the Ship, the Ship Crew, or others who shall
 be on board any Ship belonging to the Subjects
 of the other Party ; in such case not only the
 Ship itself, together with the Persons, Mer-
 chandizes and Goods whatsoever, shall be
 forthwith released without any futher delay,
 and set entirely free, but also such as shall be
 found guilty of so great a Crime, as also the
 Accessaries thereunto, shall suffer the most se-
 vere Punishment suitable to their Crime. This
 the Queen of Great Britain and the most Chri-
 stian King do mutually engage shall be done
 without any respect of Persons.

No Torture
on board
Ships.

NOtum sit omnibus, Quod cum in Articulo Nono Tractatus Commerciorum inter Serenissimam Reginam Magnæ Britanniae, & Serenissimum Regem Christianissimum, per Majestatum suarum Legatos Extraordinarios & Plenipotentiaros hodie conclusi, mentio facta sit quorundam rerum Capitum, quæ ex parte Magnæ Britanniae proposita, hætenus autem mutuo accommodata non fuerint; adeoque ad Commissarios eadem discutienda & determinanda remittere visum sit: Nos igitur infra scripti Legati, quo certo constet quænam ea sint rerum Capita, quæ ad Commissarios remitti debent, specialem eorum omnium hoc in scripto designationem exhibere decrevimus; declarantes eadem illa, nec alia esse, quæ sequuntur.

I.

“ **N**Ullæ in posterum Manufacturæ alterius Regni & Ditionum hinc inde subjectarum, Inspectioni & Confiscationi subjicientur, sub prætextu quovis Fraudis aut Vitii in iisdem conficiendis, vel elaborandis, vel propter alium quemcunque earundem Defectum; absolute autem ceditur libertas Emptori & Venditori de iisdem stipulari & pacisci, prout illis libitum fuerit; Lege quavis Statuto, Edicto, Arresto, Privilegio, Concessione, vel Consuetudine non obstantibus.

II.

“ Et quandoquidem Mos quidam, non Lege aliqua ratus, in quibusdam Magnæ Britanniae

BE it known unto all Men, That whereas in the 9th Article of the Treaty of Commerce, concluded this Day between the most Serene Queen of Great Britain, and the most Serene the most Christian King, by their Majesties Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiaros, mention is made of some Heads of Matters, which being proposed on the part of Great Britain, have not as yet been mutually adjusted; and therefore it was thought fit to refer them to be discussed and determined by Commissioners: We therefore the underwritten Ambassadors, that it may certainly appear what are those Heads of Matters which are to be referred to Commissioners, have resolved to give a particular Description of them in this Writing, declaring that they are the same and no other than what follow.

I.

NO Manufactures of either Kingdom, and the Dominions belonging thereunto, shall hereafter be subject to be inspected and confiscated, under any pretence of Fraud or Defect in making or working them, or because of any other Imperfection therein; but absolute freedom shall be allowed to the Buyer and Seller to bargain and agree for the same, as they shall see good; any Law, Statute, Edict, Arrest, Privilege, Grant, or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Manufactures not to be confiscated on pretence of any defect.

II.

And for as much as a certain Usage, not confirmed by any Law, has obtained in several

The British Merchant.

“ tanniæ & Galliæ Urbibus obtinuit, viz. ut
 “ unusquisque pro Introitu & Exitu genus
 “ quoddam Tributi solvat, Anglice dictum
 “ *Head-Money*, & Gallice *Du Chef*, conclu-
 “ sum est, quod neque illud, neque ratione
 “ illius, Vectigal aliud amplius exigetur.

III.

“ Neque Mercatoribus Britannicis prohi-
 “ bitum in posterum sit dictam Herbam Ni-
 “ cotianam cuicumque Emptori pro libitu
 “ vendere; in quem quidem finem Vectiga-
 “ lium super dicta Herba Elocatio, Redemp-
 “ toribus (Vulgo *Fermiers*) hactenus facta
 “ cessabit, neque in posterum introducenda
 “ erit.

IV.

“ Excepto tantum casu sequenti, nimirum,
 “ ubi Naves Britannicæ Merces acceptas in
 “ aliquo Galliæ Portu, in alium Galliæ Por-
 “ tum deponendas transvehent; quo casu,
 “ neque quovis alio, Subditi Britannici Vec-
 “ tigalia hoc in Articulo abrogata, & abolita,
 “ secundum Mercium receptarum tantum-
 “ modo proportionem, non autem Navis ca-
 “ pacitatem solvere tenebuntur.

V.

“ Quandoquidem plurima Mercimoniorum
 “ genera, pro quibus Vectigalia ad Pondus
 “ solvuntur, Doliis, Cistis, aliisque Involucris
 “ inclusa, in Galliam per Subditos Britanni-
 “ cos advehenda, & evehenda erunt; Con-
 “ ventum igitur est, quod eo in casu Vecti-
 “ galia antedicta ad rationem ponderis ipsarum
 “ tantummodo Mercium exigentur, Doliorum
 “ autem,

Treaty of Commerce.

Towns of *Great Britain* and of *France*; that
 is to say, that every one for coming in, and go-
 ing out, shall pay a kind of Tax, called in
English, *Head Money*, and in *French*, *Du* No Head
Money to be
paid.
Chef; it is concluded, that neither the same
 nor any other Duty on that Account, shall any
 more be exacted.

III.

And the *British* Merchants shall not here-
 after be forbidden to sell the said Tobacco to
 any Buyer whom they please; for which pur-
 pose the letting out the Duties on the Tobacco
 to Farmers, which has been hitherto practised,
 shall cease, neither shall such Farming be used
 again hereafter. British
Merchants
may sell To-
bacco to
whom they
please.

IV.

The following Case only being excepted, Duty paid
on Goods
coast-ways.
 that is to say, where *British* Ships shall take up
 Merchandizes in one Port, and carry them to
 another Port of *France*; in which case, and in
 no other, the *British* Subjects shall be obliged
 to pay the Duties abrogated and abolished by
 this Article, only in proportion to the Goods
 which they take in, and not according to the
 bulk of the Ship.

V.

Whereas several kinds of Goods, contained Tare al-
lowed on
Goods.
 in Casks, Chests or other Cases, for which the
 Duties are paid by weight, will be exported
 from, and imported into *France* by *British* Sub-
 jects; it is therefore agreed that in such case
 the aforesaid Duties shall be payable only ac-
 cording to the Weight of the Goods them-
 selves; but the weight of the Casks, Chests,
 and

“ autem, Cistarum, aut Involucrorum quo-
“ rumcunque pondera eo modo, eaque pro-
“ portione deducuntur, prout in Anglia hac-
“ tenus in usu fuit, & nunc obtinet.

VI.

“ Præterea conventum est, quod si quis
“ Lapsus, aut Error alterutrinque admissus
“ fuerit a quovis Navarcha, Interprete suo,
“ five Negotiorum Gestore, vel aliis ipsi in-
“ servientibus, in peragenda Notificatione,
“ seu Declaratione Mercium, quæ Navi sua
“ vehuntur, ob talem defectum, modo de
“ Fraude manifeste non constiterit, neque
“ Navis, neque ejusdem Onus Confiscationi
“ subiacere possint; quin Bona, quæ ita Na-
“ varchæ Indice, vel Declaratione omissa fu-
“ erint, Proprietariis liberum erit recipere,
“ solutis modo, secundum Censum in Tabulis
“ designatos, Vectigalibus usitatis; neque
“ Mercatores, neque Navarcha ea de causa,
“ vel dictis Bonis, vel alia quavis poena
“ mulcentur, dummodo dicta Bona ita præ-
“ termittantur, ante factam super iisdem Decla-
“ rationem, & soluta Telonia, in Terram
“ non fuerint exposita.

VII.

“ Cumque Navis, & Navarcha, & Mer-
“ cium Qualitas, è Literis ejusmodi Mariti-
“ mis & Certificatoriis sufficienter appareat,
“ Navium Bellicarum Præfectis fas non erit
“ ullas alias Verificationes, quocunque sub
“ Titulo, exigere; sin autem Navis aliqua
“ Mercatoria caruerit ejusmodi Literis, five
“ Maritimis, five Certificatoriis, poterit tunc
“ quidem examinari per Judicem competen-
“ tem,

and other Cases whatever, shall be deducted in
such manner and in such proportion, as has
been hitherto in use in *England*, and is still
practised.

VI.

It is further agreed, that if any Mistake or
Error shall on either side be committed by any
Master of a Ship, his Interpreter, or Factor,
or by others employed by him, in making the
Entry or Declaration of the Goods on Board
his Ship, for such defect, if so be some Fraud
does not evidently appear, neither the Ship nor
the Lading thereof shall be subject to be con-
fiscated, but it shall be free for the Proprietors
to take back again such Goods as were omitted
in the Entry or Declaration of the Master of
the Ship, paying only the accustomed Duties
according to the Rates settled in the Books;
neither shall the Merchants, or the Master of
the Ship lose the said Goods, or suffer any other
punishment, if so be that the said Goods, so
omitted, were not brought on Shore before the
Declaration made, and the Customs paid for
the same.

*Ships and
Goods not to
be confiscated
for mistakes
of Entry.*

VII.

And whereas the Quality of the Ship, Ma-
ster, and Goods, will sufficiently appear from
such Passports and Certificates, it shall not
be lawful for the Commanders of Men of War
to exact any other Verification under any title
whatsoever. But if any Merchant Ship shall
want such Passports or Certificates, then it may
be examined by a proper Judge, but in such
manner as if it shall be found from other Proofs

*Men of
War to ex-
act no Veri-
fication for
the Quality
of Ships and
Goods, but to
be determin-
ed by a pro-
per Judge.*

“ tem, ita tamen ut si ex aliis Indiciis & Do-
 “ cumentis deprehendatur revera pertinere
 “ ad Subditos alterutrius Foederatorum, nec
 “ ullas continere Merces vetitas, ad hostem
 “ alterius destinatas, in Confiscationem cade-
 “ re non debeat, sed etiam una cum Onere
 “ relaxetur, ut Iter suum persequatur, cum
 “ sæpe accidere possit ejusmodi Literas ad Na-
 “ vem è Portu aliquo solventem pervenire
 “ non potuisse, vel casu aliquo periisse, aut
 “ Navi ademptas fuisse; & si præter has Li-
 “ teras juxta Formulam hujus Conventionis
 “ exaratas, aliæ etiam Literæ, five Mariti-
 “ mæ, five Certificatorix alia forma, forte
 “ ex præscriptis Pactorum cum aliis, in Navi
 “ inveniuntur, nullus exinde prætextus capi-
 “ etur detinendi, seu ullo modo inquietandi,
 “ vel Navem, vel Homines, vel Merces. Si
 “ contigerit Navarcham in Literis Martimis
 “ nominatum, vel morte, vel quocunque ca-
 “ su amotum, aliumque suffectum esse, con-
 “ stabit nihilominus Literis Martimis suis
 “ Vigor, & Navi & Mercibus eidem impo-
 “ sitis sua Securitas.

VIII.

“ Cautum utrinque præterea sit, & pro
 “ Regula habeatur, quod Navis & Res, licet
 “ per horas viginti quatuor in potestate hosti-
 “ um permanferint, ne ideo capta censean-
 “ tur, & illico in Prædam veniant; sed si a-
 “ lias restitui debeant, repetantur, & Pro-
 “ priariis denuo reddantur.

IX. Sere-

and Documents that it does truly belong to the
 Subjects of either of the Confederates, and
 does not contain any prohibited Goods, design-
 ed to be carried to the Enemy of the other, it
 shall not be liable to Confiscation, but shall be
 released, together with its Cargo, in order to
 proceed on its Voyage; since it may often
 happen that such Papers could not come to the
 Ship when she was setting sail from any Port,
 or that they have been lost by some chance or
 other, or that they have been taken away from
 the Ship. And if besides the Passports and Cer-
 tificates made according to the Form of their
 Treaty, other Passports and Certificates happen
 to be found in the Ship, in another form, and
 perhaps according to the Prescription of Trea-
 ties made with others, no pretence shall be
 taken from thence, of detaining, or in any
 wise molesting, either the Ship, or Men, or
 Goods. If the Master of the Ship named in
 the Passports be removed by Death, or any o-
 ther cause, and another be put in his place, the
 Passports shall nevertheless retain their force,
 and the Ships, and Goods laden thereon, shall
 be secure.

VIII.

It is further provided on both sides, and shall
 be taken for a general Rule, that a Ship and
 Goods, altho they have remained in the Ene-
 mies Power for four and twenty Hours, shall
 not therefore be esteemed as Capture, and be
 immediately made Prize; but if on other Ac-
 counts they ought to be restored, they may be
 reclaimed, and shall be given again to the Pro-
 priators.

*A Ship 24
 Hours in the
 Enemy's
 Hands no
 Prize.*

F 5

IX. It

IX.

“ Serenissimis hinc inde Majestatibus Re-
 “ giis, Liberum erit Subditorum suorum
 “ Commodo, in Regnis, & Ditionibus alter-
 “ utrius Mercaturam facientibus, Consules
 “ Nationales ex Subjectis suis instituire, qui
 “ gaudeant eo Jure & Libertate, quæ ipsis
 “ ratione Exercitii Functionis suæ competit;
 “ de loco autem constituendorum ejusmodi
 “ Consulum, Pars utraque inter se postmo-
 “ dum conveniet.

“ In quorum Fidem Nos S. Regiæ Maje-
 “ statis Magnæ Britanniæ, & S. Regiæ Ma-
 “ jestatis Christianissimæ Legati Extraordina-
 “ rii & Plenipotentiarum præsentibus Tabulas
 “ manibus nostris subscriptas, Sigillis nostris
 “ Munivimus. Trajecti ad Rhenum die
 “ $\frac{\text{tricesimo primo}}{\text{undecimo}}$ Mensis $\frac{\text{Martii}}{\text{Aprilis}}$ Anni Mille-
 “ simi Septingentesimi decimi tertii.

(L.S.) Joh. Bristol C. P. S. (L.S.) Huxelles.
 (L.S.) Strafford. (L.S.) Mesnager.

Notum

IX.

It shall be free for both their Royal Majesties, ^{National} for the advantage of their Subjects trading to ^{Consuls.} the Kingdoms and Dominions of the other, to constitute national Consuls of their own Subjects, who shall enjoy that Right and Liberty which belongs to them by reason of the Exercise of their Function; but as to the Places where such Consuls are to be appointed, both sides shall afterwards agree between themselves.

In Witness whereof we the Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiaries of Her Sacred Royal Majesty of Great Britain, and of His Sacred Royal most Christian Majesty, have Subscribed this present Instrument with our Hands, and set our Seals thereunto. At Utrecht the $\frac{11}{31}$ th Day of the Month of $\frac{\text{March}}{\text{April}}$ in the Year 1713.

(L.S.) Joh. Bristol C. P. S. (L.S.) Huxelles.
 (L.S.) Strafford. (L.S.) Mesnager.

BE

NOtum sit omnibus, Quod cum in Articulo Nono Tractatus Navigationis, & Commerciorum, inter Serenissimam Reginam Magnæ Britanniae, & Serenissimum Regem Christianissimum, per Majestatum suarum Legatos Extraordinarios, & Plenipotentiaros die trigesimo primo Martii ^{undecimo Aprilis} conclusi, quædam Mercimonia, viz. Lanificia, Saccharum, Pisces saliti, & quæ ex Cetis proveniunt, verbis generalibus ex Tariffæ die 18 Mensis Septembris Anni 1664, factæ Regula excipiuntur, Commissariorum postea Discussioni remittenda; Quo igitur omnis Error & Dubitatio evitentur, quæ ex Terminis ad eo generalibus forsitan oriri possint, certiusque constet de quibus speciatim Mercimoniis Deliberatio inter prædictos Commissarios habenda est, Nos Infra scripti Legati Extraordinarii & Plenipotentiarum declaravimus, & declaramus Mercimonia memoratorum Exceptionem intelligendam esse, prout sequitur.

I.

“ **L**A Baleine coupée & aprestée, les Fapons & les Huiles de Baleine, payeront à toutes les Entreés du Royaume les droits portez par le Tarif du 7 Decemb. 1699.

II.

“ Les Draps, Ratines, & Serges, seront sujets aux memes droits du Tarif du 7 Decemb. 1699, & pour en faciliter le Commerce, il sera permis de les faire entrer

BE it known unto all Men, That whereas in the 9th Article of the Treaty of Navigation and Commerce, concluded the ³¹/₁₁ Day of ^{March}/_{April} 1713, between the most Serene Queen of Great Britain and the most Serene the most Christian King, by the Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiaros of their Majesties, certain Merchandizes, namely Woollen Manufactures, Sugar, Salt Fish, and what is produced from Whales, are excepted in general words from the Rule of the Tariff made the 18th Day of the Month of September, in the Year 1664, in order to be afterwards referred to the discussion of Commissaries: To prevent therefore all Mistakes and Ambiguity, which might perhaps arise from such general Terms, and to make it more evidently appear what particular Sorts of Goods are to come under the Consideration of the aforesaid Commissaries; We the under-written Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiaros have declared by these Presents, and do declare, That the Exception of the abovemention'd Merchandizes is to be understood in the manner following.

I.

WHalebone cut and prepared, Fins and Oils of Whales, shall pay at all places of Importation in the Kingdom, the Duties appointed by the Tariff of the 7th of Decemb. 1699.

II.

Cloths, Ratines and Serges shall be likewise subject to the same Duties of the Tariff of the 7th of Decemb. 1699, and in order to facilitate the Trade thereof, it shall be allowed to import them

The British Merchant.

“ trer par St. Valery sur Somme, par Rouen
“ & par Bourdeaux, ou ces Etoffes seront fu-
“ jettes à la visite de la meme Maniere que
“ celles qui se fabriquent dans la Royaume.

III.

“ On ne pourra pas apporter dans la Roy-
“ aume que le Poisson salé en Baril, & il
“ fera leve a toutes les entrees du Royaume,
“ Pais & Terres de l'Obeissance du Roy,
“ mesme des Ports Francs les droits d'abord
“ & de Consommation, ordonnés avant le
“ Tarif de 1664, & en outre quarante
“ Livres par Leth composé de 12 Barils
“ pesant 300 lb. chacun pour le droit d'En-
“ trée, laquelle Entrée ne sera permise que
“ par St. Valery sur Somme, Rouen, Nantes,
“ Libourne, & Bourdeaux, & demoura inter-
“ dite par les autres Havres ou Ports, tant de
“ la Mer Oceane, que de la Mediterranée.

IV.

“ Le Sucre rafine en pain, ou en poudre,
“ Candis blanc & brun, payera les droits
“ portes par le Tarif du 7 Decemb. 1699.

“ In quorum Fidem nos infra Scripta S.
“ Magnæ Britannæ Reginae, & S. Regis
“ Christianissimi Legati Extraordinarii & Ple-
“ potentiarii Præsentes Manibus Nostriis Sub-
“ scriptas, Sigillis Nostriis munivimus. Tra-
“ jecti ad Rhenum, die ^{vicefimo octavo Aprilis}
“ _{nono Maii}
“ Anni Millesimi septingentesimi decimi tertii.

(L.S.) Joh. Bristol C. P. S. (L.S.) Huxelles.
(L.S.) Strafford. (L.S.) Mesnager.

Treaty of Commerce.

them by St. Valery upon the Somme, by Rouen,
and by Bourdeaux, where these Goods shall be
subject to Visitation in the same Manner as
those which are made in the Kingdom.

III.

Salt Fish in Barrels only is to be imported
into the Kingdom; and at all places of En-
trance in the Kingdom, Countries and Terri-
tories under the Dominion of the King, even
at all free Ports the Duties of Landing and of
Consumption shall be paid which were appoint-
ed before the Tariff of 1664, and besides 40
Livres per Last, consisting of 12 Barrels, weigh-
ing each 300 lb. for the Duty of Entry, which
Entry shall not be permitted but by St. Valery
upon the Somme, Rouen, Nants, Libourne and
Bourdeaux, and shall remain prohibited at all
other Harbours or Ports as well in the Ocean
as in the Mediterranean.

IV.

Refined Sugar in Loaf or in Powder, white
and brown Sugar Candy, shall pay the Duties
appointed by the Tariff in 1699.

In Confirmation of which, We the under-
written Ambassadors Extraordinary and Pleni-
potentiaries of her Majesty the Queen of Great
Britain and the most Christian King, have
Sign'd and Seal'd these Presents at Utrecht the
²⁸/₉ Day of ^{April}/_{May} in the Year 1713.

(L.S.) Joh. Bristol C. P. S. (L.S.) Huxelles.
(L.S.) Strafford. (L.S.) Mesnager.

The

The BILL to make Effectual the Eighth and Ninth Articles of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between *Great Britain* and *France*.

May it please your most Excellent Majesty,

Whereas a Treaty of Navigation and Commerce between your Majesty and *Lewis XIV*, the most Christian King, was concluded at *Utrecht* on the 31st of *March* in the Year of our Lord 1713, and by the 8th Article of the said Treaty it is agreed and concluded as a general Rule, that all and singular the Subjects of your Majesty and of the said King, in all Countries and Places subject to your Majesty's and his Power on each side, as to all Duties, Impositions, or Customs whatsoever, concerning Persons, Goods and Merchandizes, Ships, Freight, Seamen, Navigation and Commerce, shall use and enjoy the same Privileges, Liberties and Immunities at least, and have the like Favour in all things, as well in the Courts of Justice as in all such things as relate either to Commerce, or to any other Right whatsoever, which any foreign Nation, the most favour'd, hath, useth and enjoyeth, or may hereafter, have, use, and enjoy.

And by the 9th Article of the said Treaty it is further agreed, that within the space of two Months after, a Law shall be made in
Great

Great Britain, whereby it should be sufficiently provided, That no more Customs or Duties be paid for Goods and Merchandizes brought from *France* to *Great Britain*, than what are payable for Goods and Merchandizes of the like nature imported into *Great Britain* from any other Country in *Europe*; and that all Laws made in *Great Britain* since the Year 1664. for prohibiting the Importation of any Goods and Merchandizes coming from *France* which were not prohibited before that time, be repealed. The general Tariff made in *France* the 18th Day of *September*, in the Year 1664. shall take place there again, and the Duties payable in *France* by the Subjects of *Great Britain* for Goods imported and exported, shall be paid according to the Tenour of the Tariff abovementioned, and shall not exceed the Rule therein settled in the Provinces whereof mention is there made; and in the other Provinces, the Duties shall not be payable otherwise than according to the Rule at that time prescribed; and all Prohibitions, Tariffs, Edicts, Declarations, or Decrees made in *France* since the said Tariff of the Year 1664, and contrary thereunto, in respect to the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, shall be repeal'd.

In which 9th Article, as also in certain Instruments relating thereunto, other Provision is made touching some particular Goods or Merchandizes, and other Matters therein specified, as by the said Treaty of Navigation and Commerce, and the said separate Instruments, relation being thereunto respectively had, may more fully and at large appear. Now

Laws prohibiting French Goods since 1664. not prohibited before, to be repeal'd.

Now to the end that no more Customs or Duties may be payable for Goods and Merchandizes brought from France to Great Britain, than what are payable for Goods and Merchandizes of the like Nature imported into Great Britain from any other Country in Europe, and that all Laws made in Great Britain since the Year 1664, for prohibiting the Importation of any Goods and Merchandizes coming from France, which were not prohibited before that time, may be repealed, so that your Majesty's Subjects may speedily have, use, and enjoy the Benefit of the said Tariff, and other Benefits and Advantages of Trade, according to the Tenour and true Meaning of the said Tariff:

Laws for high Duties on French Goods, the like.

We your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled, do humbly pray your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That the Duties of 25 l. for every Ton of French Wine, and 30 l. for every Ton of French Brandy of single Proof, and 60 l. for every Ton of French Brandy of double Proof, and 15 l. for every Ton of French Vinegar, and 25 l. per Cent. ad valorem, for all other Goods of the Growth, Product, or Manufacture of France, and so proportionably for greater or lesser quantities imported, by an Act made in the 7th Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King William, entitled,

K. W's Acts relating to that Subject, and prohibiting foreign Lacc, to be repeal'd.

entitled, An Act for granting to his Majesty an additional Duty upon all French Goods and Merchandizes, in regard these Duties, or any of them, or any part thereof, are not chargeable upon the like Goods and Merchandizes imported from any other foreign Part, shall cease and determine as to all such of the French Goods and Merchandizes chargeable by that Act as shall be imported into Great Britain from and after the Expiration of two Months, to be reckon'd from and after the first Day of July, 1713. and shall not be due or payable during the residue of the Term and Time for which the said additional Duties were by the mention'd Act granted, any thing in the same Act, or any other Act contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

And whereas by an Act made in the 9th Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King William III, it was enacted, That all and every Person and Persons who should from and after the 25th Day of March 1698. import, or cause to be imported, or should from and after the 24th Day of December 1698. sell, barter, or offer to Sail or Barter, or should knowingly keep in his, her, or their Custody, for Sale or for the Use or Benefit of any Importer or Dealer, any such foreign Lacc, as amongst other things is therein mention'd, should forfeit and lose the Sum of twenty Shillings per Yard, together with all the said Lacc: and the Importation, Selling, Bartering, offering to Sale or Barter, or knowingly keeping for that purpose any such foreign Lacc, is thereby declared to be a common Nuisance. And by an Act made in the 9th

5th Year of her Majesty's Reign, intituled, *An Act to repeal all the Laws prohibiting the Importation of foreign Bone-Lace made of Thread*, reciting, that the former Acts for prohibiting or restraining the Importation of foreign Lace, or for rendring the Laws more effectual for preventing the Importation of foreign Lace, had obstructed the Exportation and vending or selling of the Woollen Manufactures of *England* in the *Spanish* Low-Countries, and other Places abroad, it was enacted, That all Acts of Parliament whatsoever, made at any time before the said Act of the 5th Year of her Majesty's Reign, for prohibiting or restraining the Importation, vending or selling of foreign Lace, should from henceforth be repeal'd, so far forth as they relate to such foreign Lace made of Thread in the *Spanish* Low-Countries, or in any other place not within the Dominions of the *French* King, provided at the same time that nothing in that Act contain'd should extend to permit or allow the Importation of Lace made in any of the Dominions of the *French* King, or in any such other Lands, Towns, or Countries, as are therein mention'd.

Now for the better pursuing the End and Intent of the two Articles of the Treaty before-mention'd, it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every the Acts of Parliament heretofore made for prohibiting or restraining the Importation, vending or selling of foreign Lace, so far forth as the said Acts, or any of them, relate to foreign Lace made of Thread within the Dominions of the said *French* King, shall likewise be repeal'd, and

and that the same Acts, and every Clause, Matter and Thing in them contain'd, so far as they relate to such foreign Lace made of Thread within the Dominions of the same King, be and are hereby repeal'd and made void from and after the said Expiration of two Months, to be reckon'd from the said first Day of *July* 1713. any thing therein contain'd to the contrary notwithstanding.

Provided always, and it is hereby enacted, That if her Majesty, after the Expiration of two Months, to be reckon'd from the said first Day of *July* 1713. and before the beginning of the Session of Parliament then next ensuing, shall find that her Subjects shall not have, use and enjoy the Benefits of Trade and Commerce in *France*, and other Advantages, according to the Tenour and true Meaning of the said Treaty in that behalf; then her Majesty may be graciously please by her Royal Proclamation under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, to declare, that this present Act shall cease and determine.

And it is hereby enacted, That from and after the End or Expiration of twenty Days, to be reckon'd from the time of issuing and publishing such Proclamation, this present Act, and every Clause, Matter and Thing therein contain'd, shall cease, determine, and become void; and then, and from thenceforth, all and every the Rates, Duties, Impositions, and Sums of Money by this Act taken away, lessen'd or alter'd, and all the Prohibitions and Restrictions by this Act repeal'd, shall be reviv'd and be in full force to all intents and purposes,

*In what
case this Act
to be void.*

poses, as if this Act had never been made, any thing herein to the contrary notwithstanding.

And whereas during the late Wars between the Crowns of Great Britain and France, several Acts of Parliament were made against trading with France, whereby the Importation of French Goods was prohibited in the manner and form therein respectively mention'd; and during the continuance of the same Acts, or some of them, certain Duties were impos'd upon the Importation of foreign Goods and Merchandizes by general Words in other Acts of Parliament in that behalf made: And altho the said Acts prohibiting Trade with France are all of them now expired, it may nevertheless be doubted whether the general Words in the said Acts imposing such Duties will extend to French Goods of the same kind; and it being reasonable to make Provision by Authority of Parliament that the like Customs and Duties be paid for such Goods and Merchandizes brought from France into Great Britain as are payable for Goods and Merchandizes of the like nature imported into Great Britain from other Countries in Europe:

The additional Duties on Goods imported from other Foreign Parts to be paid on the like Goods from France while those Acts continue.

Be it therefore further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the several additional and other Rates and Impositions, Duties and Charges upon several sorts of Goods and Merchandizes, which were granted by one Act of Parliament made in the 2d Year of the Reign of King William and Queen Mary, intituled, An Act for granting to their Majesties certain Impositions upon all East-India Goods and Manufactures, and upon all wrought Silks, and several o-ther

ther Goods and Merchandizes to be imported after the 25th Day of Decem. 1690. and which thereby, and by several subsequent Acts of Parliament since expired, were continued until the first Day of August, 1712. and which by an Act made in the 6th Year of her Majesty's Reign, are to have continuance until the first Day of August, 1714. for the Uses and Purposes therein expressed, and which by an Act of Parliament, made in the 7th Year of her Majesty's Reign, are to have continuance until the first Day of August, 1716. for the Uses and Purposes therein expressed, and which by an Act of Parliament made in the 8th Year of her Majesty's Reign, are to have continuance until the first Day of August, 1720. for the Uses and Purposes therein expressed, and which by an Act made in the 9th Year of her Majesty's Reign, are to continue for ever, for the Use and Purposes, and subject to such Redemption as in the last-mention'd Act are expressed, (except as in the said Acts, or any of them, is excepted) shall be charged and chargeable upon such of the said Goods and Merchandizes of the like nature, which from and after the expiration of the said two Months, to be reckon'd from the said first Day of July, 1713, shall be brought from France to Great Britain, during the continuance of the same Acts respectively, as fully as such Goods or Merchandizes from France would have been charged or chargeable by the said Act of the 2d Year of their late Majesties Reign, if there had been no Prohibition of Trade and Commerce with France, at the time of making thereof; and that

that the same Act of the 2d Year of their late Majesties Reign, and all the Provisions, Penalties, and Forfeitures, and Causes contained therein, or in any subsequent Acts relating thereunto, shall be in force, and be applied and executed for raising, levying and paying such Rates and Impositions upon such Goods and Merchandizes so brought from *France* as aforesaid, and for the several Uses and Purposes in the said Acts respectively mention'd, and subject to such Allowances, Drawbacks, Matters and Things, as are thereby prescribed, as fully as if the said Act of the 2d Year of their late Majesties Reign, and every Clause, Matter and Thing therein, or in such subsequent Act or Acts contained, were again repeated and re-enacted, excepting always as to such kinds of the same Goods and Merchandizes, touching which, any other Provisions or Alterations are to have been made by any Act or Acts of Parliament now in force, which other Provisions and Alterations shall be duly observed, during the continuance of the said Acts respectively.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That such, or the like additional and other Rates, Impositions, Duties and Charges upon several sorts of Goods and Merchandizes, which were granted by one Act of Parliament made in the 4th Year of the Reign of the said late King *William* and Queen *Mary*, intituled, *An Act for granting to their Majesties certain additional Impositions upon several Goods and Merchandizes for prosecuting the present War against France*, and which thereby, and by several

veral subsequent Acts of Parliament since expired, were continued until the first Day of *August*, 1712. and which by an Act made in the 6th Year of her Majesty's Reign are to have continuance until the first Day of *August*, 1714. for the Uses and Purposes therein expressed, and which by an Act made in the 7th Year of her Majesty's Reign are to have continuance until the first Day of *August*, 1716. for the Uses and Purposes therein expressed, and which by an Act made the 8th Year of her Majesty's Reign are to have continuance until the first Day of *August*, 1720. for the Uses and Purposes therein expressed, and which by an Act of Parliament made in the 9th Year of her Majesty's Reign, are to have continuance for ever, for the Uses and Purposes, and subject to such Redemption as in the last-mention'd Act are expressed, (other than, and except such of the said additional Rates and Duties, or such parts of the same, touching which other Provision is hereafter made in this present Act) shall be charged and chargeable upon such of the said Goods and Merchandizes, which from and after the Expiration of the said two Months, to be reckon'd from the said 1st day of *July*, 1713. shall be brought from *France* to *Great Britain*, as by the said Act of the 4th Year of their late Majesties Reign, or by the said Acts for continuing the same, are charged or chargeable upon Goods and Merchandizes of like nature imported from other Countries, and shall have continuance for the Uses and Purposes, and subject to such Redemption as in the said respective Acts now in

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force are mention'd; and that the same Act of the 4th Year of their said late Majesties Reign, and all the Provisions, Penalties and Forfeitures, and Clauses contain'd therein, or in any subsequent Act or Acts relating thereunto, shall be in force, and be applied and executed for raising, levying and paying such additional Impositions or Duties upon such Goods and Merchandizes so brought from *France*, as aforesaid, and every part and parcel thereof, to and for the several Uses and Purposes in the said Acts respectively mention'd, and subject to such Allowances, Drawbacks, Matters and Things, as are hereby prescribed, as fully as if the said Act of the 4th Year of their late Majesties Reign, and every Clause, Matter and Thing therein, or in such subsequent Act or Acts contained, were again repeated and re-enacted: provided always, that in all Cases where any other Provision or Alteration is made by any other Act or Acts of Parliament now in being, touching or concerning any the additional Rates, Duties, Impositions, or Charges last-mention'd, such other Provisions or Alterations shall be observed, according to the true meaning thereof, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

25 l. per Cent. on French Goods more than on other foreign of like kind, to be repeal'd.

And whereas by the said Act of the 4th Year of their late Majesties Reign, and by the said Acts for continuing the same, there was and is imposed upon all *French* Goods and Merchandizes (except as therein is excepted) 25 l. for every hundred Pounds value thereof, more than the same were before charged with in the Book of Rates, and so in proportion for any greater

greater or lesser quantity, (which Duty of 25 l. per Cent. is not chargeable upon the like Goods and Merchandizes imported from any other foreign Parts.) Be it therefore farther provided and enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that the said Duty of 25 l. per Cent. shall cease and determine as to all such of the *French* Goods chargeable by the said Acts in that behalf, as shall be imported into *Great Britain* from and after the expiration of the said two Months, to be reckoned from the said first Day of *July*, 1713. any thing herein, or in this present Act contained, to the contrary notwithstanding.

And whereas the whole of the Duties chargeable on the Importation of *French* Wines (besides the said Duty of 25 l. per Ton, which by this Act is appointed to cease and determine, as aforesaid) being compared with the whole of the Duties chargeable upon *Portugal* Wines, (as being the Nation whose Wines are most favour'd in point of Duties in *Great Britain*) It is evident, that the said Duties on *French* Wines (over and above the said Duty of 25 l. per Ton) do exceed the said Duties upon *Portugal* Wines, by the Sum of 4 l. in every Ton, and after that Rate or Proportion, in greater or lesser Quantities:

And whereas by the said Act of the Fourth Year of their late Majesties Reign, and by the said Acts for continuing the same, there was and is imposed for every Ton of *French* Wine imported 8 l. above all Duties charged thereupon in the Book of Rates, or by any Law made before the said Act of the 4th Year

The Duties on French Wine to be no higher than those on Portuguese Wines

of their late Majesties Reign; now it is hereby provided and enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that for establishing a Parity between the Duties of *French Wines* and *Portugal*, according to the purport and true meaning of the said Treaty, one moiety or half part only of the said Duty of eight Pounds for every Ton of *French Wines* shall continue and be payable during the said Acts respectively, and the other moiety or half part of the said Duty of eight Pounds for every Ton of *French Wines* that shall be imported into *Great Britain* from and after the expiration of the said two Months, to be reckon'd from the first Day of *July 1713* shall cease and determine, any thing herein, or in any other Act of Parliament to the contrary notwithstanding. It being intended that the Duties upon *French Goods* shall be equal to the Duties which by the said Act of the 4th Year of their late Majesties Reign, and by the Acts for continuing the same, are chargeable for Goods of the like Nature imported from all other parts of *Europe*, other than as to the said Duty of eight Pounds per Ton on *French Wines*, whereof one moiety is to determine and the other moiety is to continue and be payable, according to the purport and true meaning of this Act.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that in all Cases whereby general Words in any Act or Acts of Parliament made or passed during the Prohibitions of Trade and Commerce with *France*, or any of them, any Duties of Customs or Excise, or any Rates, Duties, Impositions, or Sums of Money

Money whatsoever (excepting such touching which other Provision is before made in this present Act) were granted or continued upon the Importation of any foreign Goods, Merchandizes, or Commodities whatsoever, (whether the same Rates, Duties, or Impositions were granted or continued for any Term or Terms of Years now in being, or unexpired, or in perpetuity) for any Use or Uses, Purpose or Purposes whatsoever; the like Rates, Duties, Impositions, and Sums of Money, shall be understood to be due and payable, and shall be charged and chargeable from and after the expiration of the said two Months, to be reckon'd from the said first Day of *July 1713*, upon Goods, Merchandizes, and Commodities of the like Nature, which shall be brought from *France* into *Great Britain*, during the continuance of the last-mention'd Acts of Parliament respectively, as fully as the said Goods, Merchandizes, and Commodities from *France*, would have been charged or chargeable with the same Rates, Duties, Impositions, or Sums of Money, by the general Words of the said Acts for granting or continuing the same, if no Prohibition of the Trade and Commerce with *France* had been at the time or times of making or passing the said Acts respectively, and that the same Acts, and all the Provisions, Penalties and Forfeitures, and Clauses therein contained, shall be in force, and be applied and executed, for raising, levying, and paying the Rates, Duties, Impositions, and Sums of Money last-mention'd (except as aforesaid) upon such of

the said Goods, Merchandizes, and Commodities, as may be imported or brought from *France*, for the several Uses and Purposes mention'd in the said Acts now in force, and subject to such Drawbacks, Allowances, Matters and Things, as are thereby prescribed during the continuance of the same Acts respectively, as fully and effectually as if the same Acts, and every Clause, Matter and Thing therein contained, were again repeated and re-enacted in this present Act.

This Act not to repeal any Duties on French Commodities before 1664.

Provided always, that in all cases where any other Provision or Alteration is made by any other Act or Acts of Parliament now in being, touching any the Goods, Merchandizes, or Commodities so to be imported or brought in, or the Duties thereof, such other Provisions or Alterations shall always be observed, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding. Provided also, that this Act, or any thing therein contained, shall not extend to repeal or alter any Law or Laws relating to the Importation of any Goods or Merchandizes into *Great Britain*, which were in force in the Year 1664, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

All prohibitions in France since 1664, to be repeal'd.

Provided always, and it is hereby declared by the Authority aforesaid, that that part of the 9th Article of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation above-recited, whereby it is agreed, That all Prohibitions, Tariffs, Edicts, Declarations, or Decrees, made in *France* since the Tariff of the Year 1664, and contrary thereunto, in respect to the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, shall be repealed,

pealed, is, and shall be intended to extend not only to the Goods of the Growth, Production, and Manufacture of *Great Britain*, but also to all Goods and Merchandizes which the Subjects of *Great Britain* did, or might import into or export from *France*, at any time since the making of the said Tariff of the 18th of *September*, 1664, and to such British Ships and Vessels wherein the same shall be imported, except as the Species of Goods and Merchandizes excepted by the said 9th Article, the consideration of which is referred to the Commissioners to be appointed on both sides; a particular Specification of which Merchandizes was executed at *Utrecht* the 28th Day of *April* 1713, by the Ambassadors and Plenipotentiaries of her Majesty and the most Christian King.

As to which excepted Species of Merchandize, it is hereby further declared, by the Authority aforesaid, That by the 8th and 9th Articles of the said Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, it is and shall be intended, that the Subjects of *Great Britain* shall, and may at all times hereafter, import into *France*, all sorts of Merchandizes, comprehended under the said excepted Species, and enjoy all Privileges, Immunities, and Exemptions of Duties in respect thereof, which the Subjects of any Nation or State the most favour'd, have, use, enjoy, or are exempted from, or shall have, use, enjoy, or be hereafter exempted from, concerning the like Kinds or Species of Merchandize.

IF many of our Goods and Merchandizes stand prohibited in *France* notwithstanding our late Treaty; if on others it has left so very heavy Duties, that there is not the least room to hope that we shall export any considerable Value to that Country; when, on the other hand, that very Treaty has taken off all our Prohibitions upon the Goods and Merchandizes of *France* which have been made since the Year 1664, (that is all that ever were made) and left the Duties so very easy, that we have just reason to expect an Inundation of Manufactures from that Country, which cannot chuse but interfere with our own, and for which we shall be obliged to pay a Balance in Money; will not any Man see that such a Treaty as this is destructive?

Our Loss
by the Treaty
of Commerce.

A fair Commercial Treaty for *England*, with the *French* Nation, would have taken care that the Duties and Customs should have been reciprocal in both Countries, and such at least as might have made our Exports equal to our Imports from that Nation; so that a Balance in Money should not be issued out of *England* to pay for the Goods and Merchandizes of *France*; and that no greater Numbers of our Land-holders and Manufacturers should be deprived of their Revenues arising from the Product of the Lands, and the Labour of the People, by *French* Importations, than in *France* by our Exportations to that Country. Whereas, on the contrary, the Custom on our Woollen Manufactures in *France*, by the Tariff of 1664. amounted to at a medium,

On

General Maxims of Trade.

On Cloths Long	40	} per Cent. on their Value.
Short	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Spanish	23 $\frac{1}{3}$	
Mill'd Serges	26 $\frac{2}{3}$	
Serges	27	
Bays Single	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Double	33 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Minikin	36	
Hose	26 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Kerseys	23 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Flannels	27 $\frac{2}{3}$	
Pennistones	24	
Cottons and Freize	10	}

And that by the Tariff of 1699, we are liable to pay at a medium,

On Cloths Long	55	} per Cent. on their Value.
Short	51 $\frac{2}{8}$	
Spanish	33 $\frac{1}{3}$	
Dozens	30	
Mill'd Serges	29 $\frac{1}{3}$	
Serges	36	}

Also, that Perpets, Stuffs and Says, are liable (as is concluded) to the same Rate as Serges, and that *Spanish* Cloth is prohibited by the Edict of 1701.

By this Account we see that *Spanish* Cloths made in *England* remain'd prohibited in *France*, notwithstanding our late Treaty.

And, Secondly, that the two Species of Cloths and Serges, which were pretended to be exported, did comprehend Cloths long and short, Dozens, mill'd Serges, Serges, Perpets, Stuffs and Says; that the Duties on these, remaining by the late Treaty, are 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. of their real value at a medium.

G 5

And

The British Merchant.

And lastly, that the French Duties remaining by that Treaty on Bays, Single, Double, and Minikin, Hose, Kerseys, Flannels, Pen-nistones, Cottons and Freizes, did amount to 24½ per Cent. of their real value at a medium.

If it should be allowed that the several sorts of woollen Manufactures mention'd under the Duties of 24½ per Cent. at a medium, are not prohibited in France, yet is 24½ per Cent. so moderate a Duty, as to be little or no Obstruction to these Goods? I believe there is not one of our Manufacturers so fond as to promise himself a market for any of them in France, under so heavy a Load of Duties.

But these are a small Exportation in comparison of our Cloth, long, short, and Spanish Dozens, and all sorts of Serges. The Treaty has not taken off the Prohibition of Spanish Cloths, and has left a sufficient Prohibition on all the rest in the Duties of 38¾ per Cent. of their real value at a medium. What a monstrous Mistake was it in our late Managers, to say there was but 10 per Cent. laid upon our woollen Manufactures in France? By this we see that the said French Treaty was an effectual Prohibition on our woollen Manufactures.

I shall now give my Readers an Account of the Custom to which their wrought Silks, and Lockrams and Dowlafs, are liable by the Treaty of Commerce, that they may judge whether (as Dr. Davenant says) France listned to the Terms of a fair commercial Treaty, viz.

	s. d.
On one Pound of wrought Silk	10 6
On a Piece of Lockram or Dowlafs	12 7
Whereby	

General Maxims of Trade.

Whereby it will appear that

	l. s. d.	
One Pound of wrought Silk worth	2 5 00	pays 23¼
	2 10 00	21
	3 00 00	17½
	3 10 00	15
	4 00 00	13½
} per C.		
And a Piece of Lockram or Dowlafs worth	4 00 00	pays 15¼
	5 00 00	12¼
	6 00 00	10¾
	7 00 00	8¾
	8 00 00	7½
} per C.		

There were formerly imported from France in these Commodities only (besides their other sorts of Linens and Manufactures) at least three times as much as we exported thither in our woollen Manufactures, besides what was run by them. Our Imports from France much exceed our Exports.

Tho' our Duties are high upon their Wines, yet this is upon our consumption; and having no Wines of our own Growth, this can be no way prejudicial to their Importation, since neither the Price nor the Quantity of French Wines have been abated by any of our former high Duties.

The Reader may observe here, that the Duties left in Great Britain by this Treaty on French wrought Silks, did not exceed 17½ per Cent. and those on Lockrams and Dowlafs not above 10 per Cent. of their value at a medium.

If they will be at the pains to consult the old Entries at the Custom-house, they will find that either of these Articles were near double the value of all our woollen Manufactures exported to the French Nation before our Prohibitions.

hibitions and high Duties on their Goods and Merchandizes.

They will likewise see by those Entries, that our woollen Manufactures were above one third of our whole Exports to that Nation, but that Lockrams and Dowlafs were not above two thirds of the value of Linens imported thence into *England*; and that the Articles of *French* wrought Silks, Lockrams, and Dowlafs, were seldom more than half the value of our whole Imports from that Country.

I ask these Gentlemen then, Is this an equal Treaty? Is this a Treaty to make the Exports and Imports even between the Nations? Can the Duties left by it on the Goods and Merchandizes of each be said to be reciprocal?

Is ten and a half *per Cent.* on Lockrams and Dowlafs imported into *Britain* sufficient to bring these Goods to an Equality with the several sorts of our Woollen Manufactures, which were to pay above 24 *per Cent.* at a medium in *France*? And yet this at the best is the Case of all our Woollen Manufactures, which are not brought under the Rule of the Tariff of 1669. The Duties on those Goods, even by the Tariff of 1664, are twenty-four and a half *per Cent.* at a medium: and are our Duties of ten and a half *per Cent.* on their Lockrams and Dowlafs by the late Treaty, and theirs of twenty-four and a half *per Cent.* upon our Woollen Manufactures, equal and reciprocal?

But 'tis not the greatest part of our Woollen Manufactures that are to pay this moderate Duty of twenty-four and a half *per*

per Cent. our *Spanish* Cloths are still prohibited, and all the rest of our Cloths and Serges are left to the Tariff of 1699, and the Duties by that Tariff come out at almost 40 *per Cent.* at a medium. A world of Cloths and Serges, no doubt, we shall send to *France* under Duties equal to two fifths of their whole Value.

Seventeen and a half *per Cent.* here on their wrought Silks, and thirty-eight and a half *per Cent.* in *France* on our Cloths, Serges, Stuffs, Says, and Perpetuanas, is no doubt the way to make these Exports and Imports even between the two Nations.

What I expect from this Treaty is no Vent at all for any of our Woollen Manufactures to the *French* Nation, but such an Inundation of wrought Silks and Linens from that Country, as must carry out yearly great Quantities of our Bullion, destroy numberless Looms in the Silk, Linen, and Woollen Manufactures; bring numberless Artificers to the Lands for their Subsistence; and not only reduce the Rents of the whole Kingdom, but Gentlemens Tenants, for want of Markets for the Product of their Lands, and by a Charge of new Poor, must be compelled to throw their Farms upon their hands.

It would certainly be worth the while of any Gentleman to understand the whole Progress of a Manufacture from its Commencement to its Consumption, and how much it pays to the Subsistence of the People. This, I think, is handsomely made out in an Instance from one of my Correspondents of 100 broad Cloths sent
to

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to Turkey, and the Returns of raw Silk that are manufactured for our own Consumption, which is a follows.

An Account of our Wool from the Pack, wrought into Cloths, sold in Turkey, with the Returns in Raw Silk manufactured and sold here.

“ A Clothier buys at Market
 “ 50 Packs of Wool pick'd 1.
 “ and sorted, at 10 l. per Pack 500 00 00
 “ With which Wool he
 “ makes 100 Broad Cloths ;
 “ and the Manufacture there-
 “ of in Carding, Spinning,
 “ Weaving, Milling, Dressing,
 “ &c. as they are usually
 “ brought to and sold white at
 “ Blackwell-hall, will amount
 “ to about the first Cost of the
 “ Wool 500 00 00

“ So that these 100 Cloths
 “ are sold by the Clothier to
 “ the Merchant at 10 l. per
 “ Cloth 1000 00 00

“ And the Merchant pays for
 “ Dying of the said 100 Cloths,
 “ viz. one 3d Part in Grain
 “ Colours, at 7 l. and 2 Thirds
 “ in ordinary Colours at 30 s
 “ per Cloth 333 06 08

“ Also for Setting, Drawing,
 “ Pressing, Packing, &c. 15 s.
 “ per Cloth 75 00 00

“ The said 100 Cloths will
 “ cost the Merchant 14 l. 1 s.
 “ 8 d. per Cloth on Board,
 “ which amounts to 1408 06 08

“ And to repay him their
 “ Cost

General Maxims of Trade.

“ Cost and Charges here, and
 “ their Charges abroad, with
 “ a bare Allowance for Infu-
 “ rance, and the Interest of his
 “ Money, they cannot purchase
 “ less, I should think than 22
 “ great Pounds of Sherbaffee (or
 “ Persia fine Raw Silk) for e-
 “ very Cloth. Thus he pro-
 “ bably receives for the said
 “ 100 Cloths 2200 Pounds wt.
 “ of the said Raw Silk.

“ Now if the Half-part of
 “ this Silk is wrought up into
 “ plain coloured Tabies, the
 “ Manufacturers will receive
 “ 13 s. 7 d. per lib. 747 01 08

“ And if the other Half-part
 “ is wrought up into rich flow-
 “ er'd Silks brocaded, the Ma-
 “ nufacturers will receive 1 l.
 “ 19 s. 9 d. per lib. 2186 05 00

“ And the Additional Charge
 “ of Dying, suppose but of
 “ one 8th Part of the said Silk
 “ into Grain Colours at 9 s.
 “ per lib. 123 15 00

“ Then the Cost and Charges
 “ of 100 Woollen Cloths shipp'd
 “ from London to Turkey, and
 “ the Manufacture of the Raw
 “ Silk brought from thence in
 “ Returns thereof, must amount
 “ to 4465 08 04
 “ The

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“ The Freight of the said	
“ 100 Cloths, and of the said	
“ 2200 <i>lib.</i> of Raw Silk, is	
“ computed at	40 12 06
“ Her Majesty’s Customs on	
“ the said 2200 <i>lib.</i> of Raw Silk	
“ is	156 15 00
“ English Factors Commis-	
“ sions abroad on the Sale of the	
“ Cloth, and on investing the	
“ Returns in Silk, as aforesaid,	
“ computed at	100 00 00

It is hereby clearly represented to the View of every Reader, that every 2200 *lib.* wt. of Raw Silk imported from *Turkey*, and manufactur’d here for our own Consumption, without paying any thing to the Merchants or the Mercers Gain, pays to the Land-holders, the Labourers, and the Crown, the Sum of . . 4762 15 10

If any thing is to be added for the Merchants and the Mercers Gain, (and we may depend upon it they will not be at the trouble of driving their Trades for nothing) we may very well affirm that the whole Cost of this Manufacture for consumption cannot be less than the Sum of 5000 *l.* so that 2200 Pound weight of *Turkey* raw Silk manufactur’d here, pays the Sum of 5000 *l.* to the Subsistence of our own People.

This

General Maxims of Trade.

This Account takes the Returns upon 100 Cloths exported to *Turkey*, and makes them pay 5000 *l.* to the Subsistence of our People. But we have exported annually two hundred times as many Cloths for *Turkey*, and receive for about half that quantity of Cloth the same kind of Returns in raw Silk for our own consumption; and consequently our own consumption of *Turkey* Silk paid for the Subsistence of our own People the Sum of 500,000 *l.* per *Annum*, besides what is paid by the other half of that Trade. But if the consumption of 5000 *l.* value of *Turkey* Silk manufactur’d pays 500 *l.* to the Landed Interest for the Wool that is exported to *Turkey* in Manufacture, then the annual Consumption of 500,000 *l.* value of that Silk must pay 50,000 *l.* per *Annum* to the Landed Interest.

And yet this is not all that the Landed Interest receives annually by means of this half part of the *Turkey* Trade; the Crown and the Subjects, who receive nine times as much for Customs and Labour, pay perhaps a ninth part of what they receive to the Landed Interest for Clothes and Provision; by which means the consumption of *Turkey* Silk manufactur’d in *England*, either directly or indirectly, pays a fifth part of its whole value to the Landed Interest, that is, it pays directly one tenth part of the value of the Silk by the Woollen Manufacture exported, and as much more by enabling the People to purchase necessary Clothes and Provisions, of which much more than a tenth part is paid to the Landed Interest.

It

It will be objected here, that the 10 *l.* above-mention'd upon a Pack of Wool, is not paid to the Landed Interest, since a part of it is paid to the Shepherd's Wages, and a part to the Labour of picking and sorting this Wool.

It is very true : but then considering how much of the Product of the Lands is exported to purchase Dying-Goods, and especially Cochineal, care ought to have been taken by our Treaty of Commerce with *Spain* for our purchasing Cochineal with *English* Manufactures, the tenth Part of the Price of the whole Silk Manufacture may be very well said to be paid for the Product of the Landed Interest.

But what a Condition would the Lands be in if it were not for this Trade?

It is evident, that of every 5000 *l.* value of Manufacture from *Turkey* Silk, 500 *l.* is paid for the manufacturing of the *English* Wool that is sent abroad, 333 *l.* 6 *s.* and 8 *d.* to the Charge and Labour of dying, 75 *l.* to other Labour bestowed on that Manufacture, 747 *l.* 1 *s.* 8 *d.* for manufacturing one half of our Returns, and 2186 *l.* 5 *s.* of the other, besides 123 *l.* 15 *s.* for dying the same in Grain-Colours; add to this the Freight of 40 *l.* 12 *s.* 6 *d.* besides the Charges to Factors abroad and Merchants and Mercers at home, and it will appear that near 4000 of every 5000 *l.* value, or that near 400,000 of every 500,000 *l.* value of *Turkey* Silk wrought in *England*, is paid to the Labour of the People bestowed upon it.

Now, what shall the People do for Subsistence, if they should be deprived of this 400,000 *l.*? Certainly they must come to the Parish

Parish and the Lands for a Maintenance. We are obliged therefore to this Part of the *Turkey* Trade, this which imports raw Silk from that Country, that it pays 100,000 *l.* per Annum to our Lands, and saves them from maintaining as many People as are now subsisted at their own Charge to the value of 400,000 *l.* per Ann.

I think this is enough to shew, that the *Turkey* Trade ought to be the Care of every Gentleman in *England*.

Some of those who pretend to be of another Opinion, say, That our Trade to *France* is worth all our other Trades. I only ask how many poor Families would have been employed by the *French* Trade if the Bill of Commerce had pass'd.

I will show them: For 500,000 *l.* value of Silk imported from *Turkey*, and manufactur'd in *England*, we should have consum'd such a value of *French* wrought Silks, for which we should have paid with ready Money, and not with the Product of our Lands nor the Labour of our People. Our Trade to *Turkey* has been generally carried on by exporting Manufactures, and not Money; whereas that to *France* has been always carried on by exporting ready Money, and not Manufactures.

The exporting our Money to *France* pays nothing at all to our Lands, nothing to the Labour of our People.

If we should leave off the consumption of our *Turkey* wrought Silks to the value of 500,000 *l.* per Ann. and consume such a value of the *French* Silks, the Landed Interest would lose the sending that 50,000 *l.* value of Wool to

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to *Turkey*, without finding any new Market for her Woollen Manufactures in *France*.

The *French* Silks too are already manufactur'd to the utmost perfection, so that nothing at all is left for the Labour of our own People, they would lose the Wages they now earn in the manufacturing the *Turkey* Silks, which I have shewn before amounts to 400,000 *l. per Ann.* from the Labour bestowed upon the Cloth exported for *Turkey* to the Silk upon the Ladies Backs. And what must they do when they shall be deprived of all these Wages? The Answer is very easy: They must be maintained at the Charge of the Landed Interest.

The difference is only this, the half part of the *Turkey* Trade pays and saves to the Lands 50,000 *l. per Ann.* If that Trade shall be given up to make way for that of *France*, the Landed Interest must lose the selling annually 50,000 *l.* value of her Wool, and must also be burden'd with as many Poor as are now subsisted for 400,000 *l. per Annum*, without any Charge at all to the Lands; for *France*, which will only receive our Money, cannot by any possibility ease us of any part of the Charge.

To conclude these *Maxims on Trade in general*. We may perceive that the same Rules which help us to judge by what Trade we gain or lose, will direct us what Treaties of Commerce are gainful, or otherwise, and may be sum'd up in short thus.

If a Treaty of Commerce be likely to add to our capital Stock; if it shall add to the Rents of our Landed Gentlemen; if it shall increase the Employment and Subsistence of the Poor; it must needs be beneficial. On

The Trade of England in general.

On the contrary; if it don't make the Customs and Duties reciprocal in both Countries; if it diminishes our Gold and Silver; if it shall prove a means of introducing the Product of Foreign Countries to interfere with our own; if it shall lessen the demand of our own Manufactures at our own or foreign Markets, and bring our Manufacturers to the Parish and Lands for their Subsistence; every Man is able to determine that a Treaty which shall do any of these things, is destructive to the Kingdom.

Of the Trade of England in general.

THE best way to preserve our Commerce, is to recommend the preservation of the best Markets for the Product and Manufactures of our Native Country.

The first and best Market of *England* are the Natives and Inhabitants of *England*. It is computed that we have Seven millions of People; and that great and small, rich and poor, one with another, are not lodg'd, fed and cloth'd for less than 7 *l. per Head*; so that the Expence or Consumption of our whole People must amount to Forty-nine or Fifty millions of Pounds Sterling *per Annum*.

Number of People in England and their annual Expence.

This whole Sum is annually paid for the Product and Manufactures of *Great Britain*, except only so much of it as is paid for our foreign Consumption, and for the annual Lodging of our People.

Our

Our annual Importations and Consumption.

Our whole Importations do not exceed the value of Five millions *per Ann.* great Quantities of these are re-exported, and there is not the least reason to believe that our whole foreign Consumption can amount to Four millions.

Our House-Rents.

Neither is there any reason to believe that our People are lodg'd at above the Price of Ten Shillings *per Head* at a Medium; or that the whole House-Rents of *England* for Seven millions of People can exceed Three millions and a half.

How much of our Expence is annually paid by their own Product.

And consequently allowing Seven Millions and a half for Lodging and our foreign Consumption, above Forty-two of the Fifty millions Expence of our People are paid for the Product and Manufacture of our Native Country. Our own People are a constant Market for our own Product and Manufacture of so great a value.

The Gentleman fondly imagines that he receives his Rent from his Tenant; the Weaver that he is paid his Wages by the Master-Clothier: but it is the Consumer that pays both, he pays the Price of the Wool and the Charge of the Manufacture, neither the one nor the other can be paid but by the consumption of the People.

What every Person pays annually to our Land and Labour.

For my part therefore, I consider every Person in the Kingdom for what he eats and drinks and wears, as a Tenant to the Lands, and a Paymaster of our Labourers: and if Seven millions of People consume the yearly Value of Forty-two millions of our native Product and Manufacture, as was said above, every

every one at a medium pays the yearly Sum of Six Pound to the Lands and Labour of this Kingdom; every one is a Market of such a Value to his Country.

All our annual Exportations to foreign Countries, both of our own and foreign Goods and Merchandizes, do not amount to Seven millions; and therefore since our own People are a Market for our own Product and Manufactures to the value of Forty-two millions yearly, all our foreign Markets join'd together are not one sixth part of that value.

Our annual Exports, how much.

Besides, from the value of our foreign Markets, there ought to be deducted the Price of all the Goods we buy, and especially that interfere with and hinder the consumption of our own; and if this shall be consider'd, it will be found that all our foreign Markets, far from a sixth part, cannot be equal to one twentieth part of our own, for taking off our native Product and Manufactures.

It remains therefore, as I said at first, that our own Consumption, the Consumption of our own People, are the best and greatest Market for the Product and Manufactures of our own Country.

The Preservation and Increase of this Market ought therefore to be the thing principally regarded.

Every Argument which proves that *France* heretofore over-balanc'd all our Exports to that Country by her Importations into *England*, or that she would do so again, if the present high Duties should be taken off, or that the Linens, Wrought Silk, Paper and other

Arguments against the Bill of Commerce with France.

ther Manufactures of *France*, are so much cheaper than those of the same kind made in *England*; that the Duties by the Treaty of Commerce will not render them so dear as ours; or that those vast Improvements we have made in several Manufactures since the Commencement of the high Duties on those of *France*, must all fall to the ground when the Duties shall be reduced to the Terms of the late Treaty: in short, every Argument which proves that by rendring the late Treaty effectual, we should consume less of our own Manufactures, and more of the *French* than we do at present, is an Argument against the Bill of Commerce, against suffering the Importation of any foreign Goods and Merchandizes that shall any way prejudice the Sale of our own.

Reasons why foreign Manufactures are to be discouraged in England.

It is not to be expected that our own People will ever buy the Product or Manufactures of their own Country, if the like are to be had cheaper from foreign Nations. Therefore those of foreign Nations are either prohibited or loaded with high Duties, that our own may have no Rival to contend with among our selves. And I make no doubt that the Use of foreign Manufactures in *England* will always be discourag'd by our Legislators for this very Reason, that our own Consumption, which pays annually the Sum of 42 Millions to our own Product and Manufactures, that is to the Rents of our Lands, and the Labour of our People, may never pay any part of the abovemention'd Sum to the Rents and Labour of foreign Nations; or at least that sufficient Care will be always taken that the Consumption of every other

ther Nation shall pay as much to the Rents and Labour of *Great-Britain*, as *Great-Britain* shall pay to any such other Nation. And there is no way of doing this but by Prohibitions or high Duties, to prevent our being over-balanc'd by their Importations.

We suffer the Goods and Merchandizes of *Holland, Germany, Portugal and Italy*, to be imported and consumed among us; and it is well we do, for we export a much greater Value of our own to those Countries than we take from them; so that the Consumption of those Nations pays much greater Sums to the Rents of our Lands, and the Labour of our People than ours does to them.

Except those of Holland, Germany, Portugal and Italy.

But we keep out as much as possible the Goods and Merchandizes of *France*, because our Consumption of them would very much hinder the Consumption of our own, and abate a great Part of forty two Millions, which it now pays to the Rents of our Lands, and the Labour of our People. Neither would *France* make us any amends by that Treaty of Commerce with her, which still left so many Prohibitions and high Duties on our Product and Manufactures in that Country that very few of them would be receiv'd there.

Reasons against those of France.

The next Care to that of confining the English People to our English Product and Manufactures, will be that of confining them to *England*; since if any Numbers of them should leave the Kingdom, this could not chuse but make a great Abatement in the 42 Millions that are now yearly paid to the Rents of our Lands, and the Labour of our People.

Reasons for keeping our People at home.

Every Resident in *England* will easily be believed to pay at least 10 s. per Ann. for his House-Rent, and at least 6 l. per Ann. for our Product and Manufactures; but how much will he pay of this if he should retire into any other Country? Nothing at all for House-Rent, and very little for the Product and Manufactures of the Kingdom.

Holland our greatest foreign Market.

The *United Provinces* are the greatest of all our foreign Markets, since the Lands there are not sufficient to produce Provisions for the Bellies nor Clothes for the Backs of their own Inhabitants; and therefore they take off very great Quantities of both from us: Yet our whole Exports to those Provinces, at a Medium, have not exceeded two Millions per Ann. which is not above 10 s. per Head for every one of their Inhabitants. What then should we get by driving our People into *Holland*? We should drive them out of *England*, where every one pays at least 6 l. 10 s. to the Rents and Labour of our own Country, into a Nation where no one amongst them will pay above 10 s. for our Product and Manufactures: We should therefore lose 6 l. per Ann. by every Subject that should retire from this Kingdom into the *United Provinces*.

Liberty of Conscience promotes Trade; but Persecution destroys it.

The *United Provinces* are almost wholly peopled, by giving that Ease to Strangers, which they want in their native Countries. When I made my Ramble through that Country, I could not but observe with regret, that there was an *English* Congregation in almost every one of their great Towns, and several such in *Rotterdam*. By the best Information I could

could gather there, above an hundred Thousand of their whole Inhabitants, were either Deserters from this Nation, or the Descendants of such Deserters, such as had fled thither for the Ease they wanted in their own Country. I could not but reflect what a Loss this was to *Great Britain*, and what a Gain to those Provinces: If every Resident in this Nation pays at least 6 l. 10 s. for Lodging, Product, and Manufactures to *Great Britain*, and the Resident in *Holland* does not pay above 10 s. yearly to *Great Britain* upon any Account whatsoever; tho' he pays a great deal more than 6 l. 10 s. for the Lodging, Product and Manufactures of that Country; then by this Desertion of a hundred thousand of our People and their Increase, *Great Britain* has lost 600,000 l. per Ann. and *Holland* has gained a great deal more than that Sum, and an Estate too still increasing with the Descendants of those Deserters.

100000 English in Holland by Persecution here.

The Damage to England.

His most Christian Majesty was so sensible that his Subjects were the Riches of his Country, that tho' he resolved to make them all of his own Religion, yet he made the Penalty to be Death or Gallies if they deserted their Country upon this account. But 'twas hedging in the Cuckow. Infinite are the Deserters from *France* over *England*, *Holland*, *Germany*, and *Switzerland*. There is no Man in his Senses can believe that in other Countries they now pay as much to the Product and Manufactures of *France* as if they still liv'd in that Kingdom.

People can never be kept at home if persecuted.

Arguments
against Per-
secution as
detrimental
to Trade.

One of the extraordinary methods in *France*, is, that the People who are suspected to differ from the King's Religion in their Hearts, shall not have the liberty of chusing what Tutors or Masters they think fit for their own Children: But if they cannot have this liberty in *France* they will retire, and we see they do retire with their Children into other Countries, where they shall not be under any such Restraint.

I have said before, that 'tis not sufficient to confine our People to our own Product and Manufactures, we must also confine them to their own Country; for if they shall be forc'd to desert to other Nations, there is an end of the Sums which they pay for the yearly Product and Manufactures of this Kingdom. With every Subject the Nation will lose 6 *l.* 10 *s.* per Ann. with every hundred thousand 650,000 *l.* per Ann. And, what many will think a great Aggravation of our Loss, is, that *Holland*, which is the common Refuge of Deserters, will gain as much Revenue as shall be lost to *Great Britain*.

But how is it that our People are to be confin'd to our own Country? By using wholesom Severities to bring them over to the national Religion; by forcing Dissenters to worship God in a way they do not like; by chusing Tutors for the Children which the Parents would not chuse; by making it penal for any Person to be a Teacher that is not of the Church of *England*. It is senseless to imagine, that the Father will not be as careful of his Child's Soul as of his own, and that both together will not seek that ease of Conscience

in

in other Countries which they shall not be allowed in *England*. But let them retire to whatsoever Country they will, *England* is sure to lose so much as every one pays to the Product of our Lands and the Manufactures of our People.

I remember something pertinent to this Discourse that fell from a Reverend Divine of the Church of *England*. He had tried, in vain, those wholesom Severities that were heretofore in fashion, but the Dissenters increas'd upon them. After the Toleration came, he cared and courted the Dissenters, and by degrees brought most of them over to the Church. One day he took me along with him to visit a Farmer of his Parish, a very zealous Man, that wish'd all the Dissenters were banish'd out of the Kingdom. The Divine, without correcting him for his Zeal, ask'd him the Price of Wool. He answer'd, It was so low, and had been for several Years, that he should be obliged to leave his Farm. What, says the Divine, if we should banish 3 or 400,000 Dissenters, who all wear our Woollen Manufactures, would the Banishment of so many Buyers mend the Price of Wool? But our Zeal is generally so great, that we seldom think of Consequences.

Every Man living is able to reason upon this Subject: but our Unhappiness is such, that some will not believe me, if I do not bring them Authorities for common Sense. I shall give them two Authorities upon this Occasion, both great Men and Courtiers in the Reign of King *Charles II.*

Sir Wm. Temple's Observation on the Liberty of Conscience granted in Holland.

The first shall be Sir William Temple, who in his Chapter concerning the Religion of the United Netherlands, says, " That whosoever " designs the Change of Religion in a Coun- " try or Government, by any other means " than that of a general (by which it's plain " he means voluntary) Conversion of the Peo- " ple, designs all the Mischiefs to a Nation " that use to usher in or attend the two " greatest Distempers of a State, Civil War, " or Tyranny: That Belief is no more in a " Man's Power than his Stature or his Fea- " ture; and he that tells me I must change " my Opinion for his, because 'tis truer or " better, without other Arguments that have " to me the force of Conviction, may as well " tell me I must change my grey Eyes for o- " thers, like his, that are black, because these " are lovelier, or more in esteem. Every " Man has as much care of his own Soul as " another. Therefore it is provided in the " very Constitution of the United Provinces, " That every Man shall remain free in his " Religion, and none be examined or en- " trapped for that cause. The Dutch suffer " no Violence or Oppression upon any Man's " Conscience, whose Opinions break not out " into Actions of ill Consequences to that " State. The Violence or Sharpness which " accompanies the Differences of Religion in " other Countries, is appeas'd or soften'd here " by the general freedom which all Men enjoy. " And lastly, This has contributed vastly to " the increase of their People, and the vast " Growth of their Trade and Riches."

Many

Many Men remember how full our Prisons were of Dissenters before the Toleration; and will therefore readily believe, that many of them might escape into Holland for more ease in their Religion, to the vast Increase of the People, Trade, and Riches of that Country, and the great Impoverishment of ours.

Sir W. Petty is my second Author, who in his first Chapter of Political Arithmetick, among other Reasons for the Dutch Policy of absolute and universal freedom in Religion, assigns, " That no Man can believe what himself " pleases; and to force Men to say they be- " lieve what they do not, is vain, absurd, " and without Honour to God. That the " Hollanders think all Men will be careful to " save their own Souls, and that their State " has no more reason to interest itself in this " matter, than to take Bonds of their Seamen " not to cast away their Ships and Lives. That " Heterodoxy does still prevail where the ut- " most Care is used to preserve Uniformity. " That tho' all Heterodox People should be " removed out of a Country, yet a new He- " terodox Party will start up in the Remain- " der; and that the Heterodox Party of eve- " ry Country are, generally speaking, the " more industrious, and contribute most to " the Riches of the Nation."

Sir W. Petty the like.

But whatever are the Reasons by which Sir W. Temple or Sir W. Petty are govern'd in this matter, we are sure that the absolute Freedom of Conscience in Holland has robb'd us of great numbers of People, who, if they were now in England, must pay a very great Price for

H. 4.

House-

House-room, Product and Manufactures. God grant no more may be sent away, to the great Enriching of that Nation, and no less Improvement of our own.

The Advantage we have had by prohibiting the French Trade.

The prodigious Increase of our foreign Traffick since that Prohibition, is really amazing; instead of paying Two millions annually upon our general Balance to those Nations with which we traded, to gain Two millions annually from them, is hardly to be credited, if the Inspector-General, who is the proper Officer, was not the Voucher.

Being in hopes to give my Countrymen a better Relish of Trade, and of the said wholesome Prohibition, I have extracted out of his Discourses on Trade several Passages, which if duly consider'd, must answer my Design,

The Rental of England in 1600.

He asserts, That in the Year 1600, (which was before we became considerable in Trade) it does not appear the general Rental of England for Land, Houses, Mines, &c. did exceed Six Millions per Annum.

Which at twelve Years Purchase (and they were not worth more in 1621, as Sir Tho. Culpepper and other later Authors have also affirmed) amount to Seventy-two Millions.

How much increas'd in 1688.

But in 1688, (after England had extended her Trade to all the known Parts of the Universe) the said general Rental was computed at Fourteen Millions.

And being valued at eighteen Years Purchase, (as Lands were worth one with another in 1688) amount to Two hundred fifty-two Millions.

Which effectually demonstrates the great Ad-

Advantage our Landed Interest has enjoy'd by encouraging and promoting our foreign Trade and Commerce.

After this, our Author proceeds to give his Opinion concerning the Stock of the Kingdom, how it stood formerly, and how it has since proceeded; and he computes,

That the Stock of England was Anno 1600 about	1.	17,000,000
That in 30 Years it near doubled, and Anno 1630, was about		28,000,000
That in 30 Years it doubled, and Anno 1660, was about		56,000,000
That from 1660, to 1688, it about half doubled, and was in 1688, about		88,000,000

The Stock of England in 1600 and 1688.

If this Account is exact, or near the true State thereof, (which I never heard question'd) the Inference is very clear, That by our Industry at home and our Traffick to foreign Parts, the Stock, as well as the Value of the Lands of England, have been prodigiously encreas'd and augmented; and consequently that every one who has any Interest or Concern therein, ought to take care the Trade of England receive no Prejudice.

But, says the Inspector-General, it may be here asked, how it came to pass that this Stock did not double the last, as well as the next preceding thirty Years? To which he answers.

H 5

That

Reasons why it did not increase proportionably afterwards.

That in the first sixty Years wherein England minded Trade, it had introduced but little foreign Luxury, &c. But there was a Stop put to our Career by the great Plague in 1665, by the Fire of London, which consumed a large part of the present Stock, by our Wars abroad, and by our growing Luxuries, which drew to other Uses what formerly was left wholly to run in the Channel of Trade.

And this he reasonably thinks was the cause that from 1660 to 1688, our National Stock did not encrease in the same proportion as before.

However, when the Kingdom had recover'd these Losses and Shocks, which he had Grounds to think it had perfectly done about 1680, (Trade augmenting all the while, and becoming more extensive) its Wealth grew faster towards the latter end of this last Æra of thirty Years, than before.

From whence I argue,

Stopp'd by the Supply of our Luxury from France.

1. That tho' the Plague, the Fire, the Wars, and our Luxury, alias the French Commerce, did every one contribute to prevent the Increase of our National Stock from 1660 to 1688, as aforesaid, yet in the preceding thirty Years we were also interrupted in our Course of Trade by our unnatural and fatal Civil Wars, &c. and therefore the failure of this Increase must be wholly charged to the Account of our Luxury.

2. That

2. That from 1666 to 1688, our excessive Luxuries being supplied chiefly from France, it was impossible that our Stock could increase in the same proportion as in the preceding Years, until that Trade was cramped and stinted.

3. That when the Prohibition in 1678 had put a stop to that vast Expence of Treasure, which was then annually sent to France to purchase her Manufactures and Products, the National Stock did increase immediately in the same or a greater proportion than formerly, until 1685, when that Prohibition was repeal'd. And,

But reviv'd by the Prohibition of French Commodities.

4. That tho' our general Trade was augmenting all the while, yet this Advantage was so far from being owing to our French Commerce, that it's beyond all doubt a very great part of what was gained by our Trade with other foreign Nations only paid our Debts in France before the Prohibition was in force.

For our said Inspector-General has proved in his Reports, that in 1662-3 and 1668-9, we lost by that Trade.

The old Scheme I must therefore bring in as an Evidence against the same Trade, both for the Years 1668-9 and 1674.

See the Scheme, in the following Pages.

A

LONDON, 29 Nov. 1674.

A SCHEME of the Trade, as it is at present carried on between *England* and *France*, in the Commodities of the Native Product and Manufacture of each Country; Calculated as exactly as possible, in Obedience to the Command of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners for the Treaty of Commerce with *France*: And humbly tender'd to their Lordships.

Quantities.	Commodities exported from England into France.		Amount of Particulars.	Total Amount of Exports.
	<i>l. s. d.</i>	at <i>per Pc.</i>		
<i>Woollen and Silk Manufactures.</i>				
354 Pieces of <i>Norwich</i> Stuffs,	<i>l. s. d.</i>	at <i>per Pc.</i>	<i>l. s. d.</i>	<i>l. s. d.</i>
5564 Pieces of Serges and Perpetuanas,	2 00 0	2 10 0	708 0 0	13910 0 0
2288 Pieces of single Bays,	2 10 0	2 10 0	5764 0 0	5764 0 0
166 Small Minikin Bays,	6 00 0	6 00 0	996 0 0	996 0 0
466 Small double Bays,	4 00 0	4 00 0	1864 0 0	1864 0 0
2140 Dozen Mens Worsted Hofe,	2 00 0	2 00 0	4280 0 0	4280 0 0
832 Dozen Mens Worsted Hofe,	1 05 0	1 05 0	1040 0 0	1040 0 0
1170 Dozen of Childrens Hofe,	0 08 0	0 08 0	468 0 0	468 0 0

400 Yards of Flannel,	0 01 0	20 0 0
1200 C. Goats of Cotton,	9 00 0	10800 0 0
112 Long Cloths,	10 00 0 per Cl.	1120 0 0
42 Short Cloths,	8 00 0	336 0 0
829 <i>Spanish</i> Cloths,	15 00 0	12435 0 0
97 Double <i>Northern</i> Dozens,	5 00 0	485 0 0
69 Single <i>Northern</i> Dozens,	2 00 0	138 0 0
13 <i>Devon</i> Dozens,	2 00 0	26 0 0
173 Cloth Rashes,	5 00 0	865 0 0
6 Pennystones,	3 00 0	18 0 0
3585 Kerfies,	1 15 0	6273 0 3
960 lb <i>English</i> wrought Silk,	2 00 0	1920 0 0
		63466 0 0

This is the full of what was Exported, according to the Custom-House Books in the Port of *London*, from *Michaemas* 1668, to *Michaemas* 1669. And for all *England* we calculate one third part more. Amounts in all to

Since 1669, the Exports as we conceive are diminished, and not increas'd.

2500 Fodder of Lead, at	12 0 0 per Fod.	30000 0 0
6000 Hundred of Tin, at	4 0 0 per C.	24000 0 0
		84621 06 8
		100 Tuns

100 Tuns of Allom, at Calves Skin and Leather	24 0 0 per Ton.	2400 0 0	
Several Sorts of Skins, Glew, Lanthorn Leaves, Butter, Copperas, Old Shoes, Sea Coal, Tobacco Pipes, Gloves, Red Lead, Linfeed, Candles, Iron Ware, Haberdashery Ware, and other trivial Commodities, which may amount <i>per annum</i> to		10000 0 0	86400 00 0
		20000 0 0	171021 06 8
Balance gain'd by the <i>French</i> from us yearly, besides the Toys, Gloves, Laces, &c.			965128 17 4
			1136150 04 0
Quantities.	Commodities imported into England from France.	Amount of Particulars.	Total Amount of Imports.

Linen and Silk Manufactures.

	<i>l. s. d.</i>	<i>l. s. d.</i>
60000 Pieces of Lockram and Dowlas, at 6 00 0 per Pc.	360000 00 0	
17000 Hund. of Vitry and Noyals Canvas 6 00 0 per Hun.	102000 00 0	
5000 Hund. of <i>Normandy</i> Canvas, 7 00 0	35000 00 0	

2500 Pieces of Quintins,	1250 00 0
1500 Pieces of dyed Linen,	1500 00 0
7604 Yards of Diaper Tabling,	760 08 0
33896 Yards of Diaper Napkining,	1694 16 0
1376 Dozens of Buckrams,	3440 00 0
1200 Bolts of Poldavies,	900 00 0
2820 Pair of old Sheets,	705 00 0
105000 Pound of wrought Silk,	300000 00 0
	807250 04 0

Note, That this Year 1674, there hath been received at the Port of *Dover* only, as we are inform'd, 15000 *l.* for Custom of wrought Silk: So that considering what may be convey'd away privately, and that great Quantities are worth from 3 *l.* to 4 *l.* the Pound, we believe the wrought Silk may amount to much more in value than what is above.

11000 Tuns of <i>French</i> Wine one Year with another cost	12 10 0 per Tun.	137500 00 0
4000 Tuns of Brandy one Year with another, at	20 00 0	80000 00 0
160000 Reams of Paper,	at 0 05 0 per Ream	40000 00 0
		217500 00 0
		1500 Pcs

1500 Pcs of Pruens,	4 00	6000 00 0
400 Hundred of Feathers,	5 00 0 per Hund.	2000 00 0
5000 Hundred of Kidskins,	3 00 0	15000 00 0
3000 Weight of Salt,	2 00 0 per Weig.	6000 00 0
6000 Hundred of Rozin,	0 08 0 per Hund.	2400 00 0
Vinegar, Rape, Cyder, Wadd, Cork, Oakam, Soap, Turpentine, Capers, Olives, Brignoles, Parchment, Window-Glafs, Teafels, Corn-Fans, Basket-Rods, Box-Wood, and Cremor Tartar, which may amount per Annum at least to		4000 00 0
		<hr/> 111400 00 0
		<hr/> 1136150 04 0

Besides all manner of Toys for Women and Children Fans, Jessamin Gloves, Laces, Point Laces, rich embroider'd Garments, and rich embroidered Beds, and other Vestments, which are of an incredible Value.

By the Account above your Lordships may perceive, that the Linen and Silk Manufactures only, Imported from *France*, amount to upwards of Eight Hundred Thousand Pounds, and the Manufactures of Wool and Silk Exported from *England* thither, do not amount to Eighty Five Thousand Pounds. As also all other Commodities of the Product and Manufacture of *England* Exported into *France*,

do

do not amount to Ninety Thousand Pounds more. Whereas the Wines, Brandies, and other Commodities of the Product and Manufacture of *France* Imported into *England*, amount to upwards of Three Hundred and Twenty Thousand Pounds; besides an incredible Value of Toys, rich Apparel, Point-Lace, &c. So that it is apparent that the Exports of our Native Commodities and Manufactures to *France*, are less in Value by at least one Million of Pounds Sterling, than the Native Commodities and Manufactures of *France*, which we receive from thence. And if it please your Lordships to reflect thereupon, your Lordships will easily discern the great Prejudice the *English* Nation hath sustained, and the great Advantage the *French* have, and do daily make, by holding this Treaty in suspension; this Nation being upon the Matter excluded Trade thither, while in the meantime the *French* enjoy all and as great Advantages as they can reasonably expect by any Treaty.

<i>Patience Ward,</i>	<i>George Toriano,</i>	<i>John Dubois,</i>
<i>Thomas Papillon,</i>	<i>John Houblon,</i>	<i>Benj. Godfrey,</i>
<i>James Houblon,</i>	<i>John Hougbe,</i>	<i>Edm. Harrison,</i>
<i>William Bellamy,</i>	<i>John Merwin,</i>	<i>Benj. Delaune.</i>
<i>Michael Godfrey,</i>	<i>Peter Paravicine,</i>	

Our Legislators in 1678 prohibited the *French Trade* as a common Nufance.

My Account of the Exports and Imports to and from *France* in 1685-6, prove what a wretched Condition we should have been reduced to by such a Commerce.

And the Accounts of 1686-7 and 1687-8, will, I doubt not, sing the same Tune.

I shall also present my Readers with the Opinion of *Puffendorf*, *De Wit*, and *Fortry*, upon this Subject : and it would be endless to produce the concurring Testimonies of all the Authors that have wrote against this Commerce.

But at present I shall omit calling up that Cloud of Witneses, resolving rather to support *Dr. Davenant's* Assertion, That this Nation had perfectly recover'd their Losses and Shocks in 1680, and that our Wealth grew faster after that Year (or rather from the time of the Prohibition to 1685) than from 1660 to 1680, as aforesaid.

And in the first place, I shall produce a Pamphlet wrote by *Sir Josiah Child*, or at least by his Direction, and approved of by the Court of Committee for the *East-India Company* 1681, wherein, in Fol. 19. they state and answer an Objection as follows.

Object. Some Clothiers complain that the *East-India Company* hinders the Vent of Cloth.

Answer. In the Year 1674, or 1675, the Clothiers had the Confidence to tell the Parliament, the Company would spoil the Trade of Cloth, and bring the Price of Wool to nothing;

The East-India Trade advanced the Woollen Manufactures.

thing; but in fact, the Company hath since that time much augmented their Trade to *India*; Wool is advanced 50 per Cent. and such a Trade there is, and hath been for Woollen Manufactures, as *England* never saw in any former Age, &c.

Hereby it is evident, at first sight, what miserable Complaints were made at home for want of a Market for our Woollen Goods, whilst the *French Trade* was cherish'd, and what a happy Change was occasion'd by the Prohibition: A great Demand for Wool, and a current Consumption for the Woollen Manufactures.

The Clothiers had petitioned against the *East-India Company* as aforesaid; also against the *Levant Company*; and by frequent Applications, humbly implored the Assistance of the Legislature to support their tottering and declining Trade. In short, the Nation was uneasy, Rents fell in most Parts of the Kingdom, and great Complaints were made upon the visible Decay of Trade, and the great want of Money.

On the other hand, *France* had her Engineers at work; and if we may believe the Histories of those Times, she found great Advocates for her Trade, and for a long time corrupted otherwise a brave Nation.

But at last it was generally confes'd and acknowledged, that the *French Trade* had ruin'd our own; and our Legislators came heartily into the Prohibition in 1678, as aforesaid, notwithstanding the Court for some time oppos'd it.

The Parliament against the French Trade in 1678, tho' the Court was for it.

Murmurs

Murmurs and Complaints then ceased at once, Rents soon advanced; and Industry being encourag'd, new Manufactures were daily set up, and there was a full Employment for the Poor.

The Gentleman and the Farmer, the Merchant and the Manufacturer, soon experienc'd the mighty Benefit, and bless'd those Councils which had freed them from that intolerable Burden, under which for a long time they had groaned and staggered.

But to proceed to some further Proofs of this favourable Alteration in the Nation's Trade, by several London Price Courants, which I have now before me, I find,

Proofs from the London Price Courants against the French Trade.

That Colchester Bays were worth about Michaelmas 1676 but 17 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ per Ell. 1677 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 6 d. per Pc

And advanced after the Prohibition at Michaelmas 1679 to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 6 1680 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 6 1681 24 $\frac{1}{2}$

And I refer to the Books and Accounts of all our Merchants, who were then engag'd in Trade, whether in general the Value of all our Woollen Manufactures did not encrease in proportion from the Year 1678.

The Price of Spanish Wool, which in 1677 and in 1678, was from 20 d. to 21 per lib. wt.

Advanced in 1680 to 26 d. and 28 d. per lib.

Our principal Dying Wares, whose Consumption

sumption depends upon the Demand of our Manufactures for Exportation, rose also immediately upon this Prohibition.

Thus Cochineal, which was worth at Michaelmas.

1676 but 15 s.---d. a 15 s. 6 d. per lib. wt. 1677 14 3 14 6 1678 13 3 13 9

was advanced, after the same Prohibition, at Michaelmas

1679 to 23 s.---d. a 24 1680 23 6 24 1681 21 --- 21 6 1682 27 --- 28

Indico Lahore from 1676 to 1677 sold for 3 s. to 3 s. 8 d. per lib.

At Michaelmas

1680 05 07 per lib. 1681 04 4 4 6 1682 04 9

Logwood in 1677 and 1678, 13 s. to 14 s. 6 d. per Ct. wt.

In 1680 and 1681, 18 s. a 19 s. 6 d. Ct. wt.

And Crap Madder from 1676 to 1679, 46 s. a 64 s. per Ct. wt.

In 1681, 75 s. a 85 per Ct. wt.

So that it is most apparent, a French Trade with France is diametrically opposite to the Interest of this Nation, and tends only to subvert the

the very Constitution of our home Trade and Manufactures.

The Prohibition of French Trade repealed by James the Second's Parliament.

But notwithstanding our Trade was thus happily retrieved in 1678. and tho' the Advantages we enjoyed by this Prohibition were so very visible, in 1685, a new Parliament, in Complaisance to King James the Second, and to gratify his good Ally the French King, repealed this Prohibition.

However, such were the Apprehensions and Convictions which that House of Commons entertained of the pernicious Consequences thereof, that about the same time they appointed a Committee to consider of the Means to keep up the Price of Wool, &c.

They plainly saw that their foreign Trade, which had increased the Value of their Lands, and the Stock of the Nation as aforesaid, when this Prohibition should be repealed, must dwindle to its primitive State; and therefore, as the only Method they could think of, to preserve a poor Trade, resolved, That all Persons should wear the Woollen Manufactures six Months in the Year; and to prevent the Consumption of French Silks, High-crown'd Hats were to be again introduced into Fashion, &c.

The French imported four Millions upon us in three Years besides what they run.

But the French (ever vigilant to improve the Opportunities we gave them) immediately stock'd us with their Manufactures and Products, and in three Years time imported upon us to the Value of four Millions, besides what they brought in clandestinely, which amounted to an incredible Sum.

Thus stood our Commerce with that Nation,

on, when our late Glorious Deliverer King William rescued our Church, our Laws, Liberties and Trade from Ruin.

And since that happy Period, notwithstanding the unavoidable Pressures and Losses occasioned by our late necessary Wars, our foreign Trade is again prodigiously encreased, as appears by the State thereof in 1699 and 1703. and is still capable of a greater Improvement.

But renewed by King William.

Foreign Nations may indeed envy us this Prosperity; but without our own Consent we can never be deprived of it, as long as our Situation, our Product and Manufactures enable us to contend with them.

Upon the whole I appeal to all impartial Men living, whether our Traffick with France was formerly advantageous or detrimental to this Kingdom? and whether the late Bill of Commerce would have secured or ruined our present Trade?

And sure I am, upon the Authorities now produced, they must concur and unanimously agree in their Verdict against ever reviving so pernicious a Bill: for, as Dr. Davenant says, Many may be so servile, as to promote a foreign Interest to the prejudice of their own Country, and may weaken and undermine its Traffick, with design to give it to some other Nation; and when these wicked Spirits are at work, there needs no more than that four or five should privately give the word among their Friends, pretend the Government's Service, be very loud and warm, and Trade it self may presently be rendered a Party Business.

A

A Letter, shewing the Loss that will accrue to the Landed Interest by inforcing an Uniformity of Religion, and driving the People out of England.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

The Computation of our People at 7 Millions, and that they benefit the Nation 7 l. per Head justly'd.

THE Computations you mentioned of seven Millions of People in England, and that every one expends 7 l. per Ann. at a Medium, are Sir William Petty's. Such as consider no farther than our Villages, and that a Husband and his Wife, and three or four Children, who all together earn not above 20 l. per Ann. by their Labour, yet call for no Assistance from the Parish, may perhaps think the Computation of 7 l. per Head too high for the whole People. On the other hand, such as shall take their Estimate only from the Cities where the People are better lodged and fed and clothed than in the Country, will think that Computation much too low. But such as shall compare the City and the Country, will readily agree that 7 l. per Head is a just Calculation for the Expence of the whole People from the Prince to the Parish Poor. Your Inference from the aforesaid Computations is very right, that the whole annual Expence of the English Nation is Forty-nine or Fifty Millions.

“ If

“ If our whole consumption of foreign Goods, as you have asserted, does not exceed the value of Four Millions, (and this may be known from the Entries of imported and re-exported Goods) it is certain that at least Forty-five of the Forty-nine Millions must be yearly paid for the Lodging, Product, and Manufactures of this Kingdom; and that very near 6 l. 10 s. per Head are annually expended upon this account by our whole People at a medium. I wish, Sir, with all my heart you had adjusted or computed how much of this 6 l. 10 s. is annually paid to the Lands, and how much to the Labour of the English Nation. For there are Gentlemen of the Landed Interest so regardless of all others, that they could easily consent to the Banishment of many hundred thousands of our People, if it would bring no Detriment to themselves, if their Rents would not be abated by it, if it would prove no Interruption to their Pleasures. The whole Forty-five Millions expended by all our People, the whole 6 l. 10 s. by every one, then are paid for the Lodging, Product and Manufactures of England, as you have said; that is, the whole is paid to the Rents of our Lands, and to the Labour of our People. But how much to each is the Question.

45 Millions per an. paid by the People to Land and Labour.

VOL. I.

I

“ In

How much for Rent.

“ In the first place, you have valued the
 “ Lodging of every one at 10s. per Ann. I
 “ think you could not well have valued it at
 “ less; yet this for Seven Millions of People
 “ will amount to 3,500,000 l. per Ann.
 “ The next Expence of the People is our
 “ Corn, and the Question is, how great a
 “ part of the value of our Corn is paid to
 “ the Rents.

How much for Corn.

“ I have sometime known, that instead of
 “ Rent, every third Sheaf, after the payment
 “ of the Parson's Tythes, has been paid to
 “ the Landlord. And 'tis almost a receiv'd
 “ Opinion, that the Farmer or Occupier of
 “ Corn-Lands ought to make three Rents in
 “ a Year to enable himself to pay one. Ac-
 “ cording to this proportion, a third part of
 “ the value of our Corn is paid to the Land-
 “ lord.

How much for Meat, Milk, Butter and Cheese.

“ But much more than the third part of the
 “ value of Meat, Milk, Butter, and Cheese,
 “ is paid to the Rents, since Grazing and
 “ Dairy-Lands are manag'd with less Charge,
 “ and the Cattle feed themselves with little
 “ Labour of the People.

How much for woollen Manufactures.

“ Our Wool is sent to the Clothier, and
 “ returned in Manufacture of no more than
 “ double the value of the Wool; according
 “ to which proportion half the value of our
 “ Woollen Manufactures is paid to the Rents
 “ of the Kingdom. The Shepherds, Carri-
 “ ers, Dyers, Dressers, Taylors, and other
 “ Labourers Wages, ought to be added to the
 “ above-mention'd Value; but all these other
 “ Charges

“ Charges are not equal to one half of the
 “ whole value of the Woollen Manufacture.
 “ So that of the English Woollen Manufac-
 “ ture consumed by our own People, a third
 “ part of the Price is paid to the Landlord in
 “ his Rents.

“ As for all kinds of Fuel, they grow of
 “ themselves, the charge of cutting, digging,
 “ or carriage, is not to be esteemed at two
 “ thirds of the value of the whole consump-
 “ tion; so that at least one third part of the
 “ whole value is paid to the Rents.

“ The Fruits of Trees, whatever part it is
 “ of the Subsistence of the People, they grow
 “ with very little Labour, and almost wholly
 “ to the Profit of the Land-Owner.

“ Thus by an Enumeration of the several
 “ Necessaries and Conveniencies of Life, one
 “ would be induced to believe that one Third
 “ of their whole Value is paid in the Rents of
 “ the Lands, and not above two Thirds to
 “ the Labour or Manufacture of the People.

“ The rich Man is not able to carry a
 “ greater Burden of Cloths upon his Back,
 “ nor to consume a greater Quantity of Pro-
 “ visions than the Day-Labourer, (he has very
 “ seldom Health or Strength to do so much;)
 “ so that there is no Reason to believe that he
 “ pays any more for the mere Product of the
 “ Lands, or to the Rents upon this account.
 “ But then both the Diet and Apparel of the
 “ rich Man are procured or wrought with so
 “ much greater Cost and Labour, that 'tis rea-
 “ sonable to think he pays ten or eleven times

Ten times more Poor than Rich.

One Fourth of our Product paid for the Land, and three Fourths to Labour.

The folly of Landlords in pulling down Houses and Tenements.

“ as much to the Labour of the People as he does to the Product of the Lands.

“ There are in all probability ten times as many Poor as Rich, or ten that are clothed with the cheapest Apparel, and fed with the cheapest Diet, for every one that lives in a better manner. And if this Reckoning is just, and that all together, one with another, over and above 10 s. per Head for Lodging, pay 6 l. per Ann. for our Product and Manufactures, it will follow that of the 6 l. per Ann. about one fourth Part is paid to the Rents, and three Fourths to the Labour of the People.

“ So that by this Account the Lodging and Consumption of our own People pays about 40 s. per Ann. to our Rents at a Medium; or every Individual is to be esteemed as a Tenant of that Value to the Landed Interest.

“ I have often thought it a very strange and unaccountable Policy in many Lords, who have pulled down Houses and Tenements in their Manors, that they might not harbour Enemies to their Game. It look'd to me as if they drove away their Tenants to make room for the Hares and Foxes.

“ Or was it the Policy of these Gentlemen, to drive away their People, that they might be at the Charge of carrying their Corn and Provisions after them? I should have thought it much better to have saved this Charge, and to have sold their Corn and Provisions at their own doors.

“ It

Nation loses 40 s per Ann. by the loss of each Subject.

“ It was well however that the People, when they were driven out of one Place, were able to find Reception in another; it was well they were not driven out of the Kingdom, for then the Landed Interest had lost so many Tenants, so many that paid every one 40 s. per Annum to the Rents for his Lodging and Consumption.

“ Our People die every Day, but this Loss is still repaired by the succeeding Generation. The Landed Interest is insensible of any Loss, while as often as one goes off another succeeds in his room, and pays as much yearly Rent for his Lodging and Consumption.

“ But should a Million of our People be swept away at once by any such Judgment from Heaven as that of Plague, Sword, or Famine; should we lose at once a seventh Part of our whole People, how would such a Loss be repaired? Would the remaining six Parts provide us a new Generation as large as the whole seven to inhabit our Houses, and consume our Product and Manufactures? No certainly, if every Subject at a Medium pays 40 s per Annum of our Rents by his Lodging and Consumption, with this Million of People we should lose two Millions of our annual Rents.

“ The Case would be yet worse, if a Million of our People, by being made uneasy here, should be forced to retire into any Neighbour Country, and particularly to Holland, which is always open to Refugees.

The Mischief of Persecution to our Land and Rents.

I 3

“ We

“ We are not sure of being always at Peace
 “ with our next Neighbour; and if a War
 “ should break out between us, we should lose
 “ so much of our Strength and Riches, and that
 “ Nation would gain both, and might make
 “ use of both against us. With a Million of
 “ People we must lose two Millions of our
 “ annual Rents; and if such an Addition
 “ should be made to the Rents of *Holland*,
 “ what a Sum is this to be used against us?
 “ Since 'tis well known the *Dutch* have often
 “ applied their whole Rents to the Prosecuti-
 “ on of their Wars, and content themselves
 “ to live by their Commerce and Manufac-
 “ tures; and might therefore make use of
 “ these whole two Millions *per Annum*,
 “ which, with a Million of our Refugees,
 “ would be added to their Rents by Lodging,
 “ and Consumption of the Product of that
 “ Nation.

“ The Zeal of Gentlemen must be very
 “ great for the established Religion, if for
 “ the sake of preserving Uniformity through-
 “ out *England*, they would give up so much
 “ of their annual Rents, and give them up
 “ too to the United Provinces of the *Nether-*
 “ *lands*; for these, by the Nearness of their
 “ Situation, and the vast Liberties they give
 “ their Subjects, will have almost all the Peo-
 “ ple that shall be forc'd to fly from this King-
 “ dom.

“ In

“ In this whole Argument I have purposely
 “ confined my self to the Loss of Rents, be-
 “ cause Gentlemen are hardly to be convinced
 “ by any other Argument: and because, tho'
 “ with the Loss of People the Kingdom must
 “ lose the yearly Value of their Labour, yet
 “ this would not be so sensible either to our
 “ Gentlemen or our labouring People.

“ Not to the Gentlemen, since they have
 “ no other Advantage in keeping the Coun-
 “ try full of People, than that of keeping the
 “ People here to dwell in their Houses, and
 “ to consume the Product of their Lands, by
 “ which their whole Rents are paid; and I
 “ believe I have made them sensible, that the
 “ Rent of 40 *s. per Ann.* is paid the landed
 “ Interest by every Subject that resides in *Eng-*
 “ *land*; and you your self have shewn how
 “ very little of this would be paid by every one
 “ that should retire into any other Country.
 “ But, 2dly,

“ The Loss of the yearly Value of the Peo-
 “ ples Labour, with the People that shall re-
 “ tire out of *England*, would not be so soon
 “ felt by the labouring People that should stay
 “ behind; since the Labourers or Manufac-
 “ tures that shall retire, wrought as much for
 “ the Backs and Bellies of other People as o-
 “ thers did for them, and therefore received
 “ as much annual Wages as they paid: so
 “ that 'tis not likely that our Loss of any
 “ Num-

“ Numbers of People would make any sudden Fall of Wages ; our most sensible Loss would be to the landed Interest.

“ And yet by degrees our very labouring People would come in for their Share of Loss, in the Desertion of our Inhabitants, and the Decay of our Manufactures.

And to our Manufactures and Trades,

“ Our heterodox Party, or those that differ from the Establish'd Church, are generally those of the lowest Rank, Mechanicks, Artificers, and Manufacturers. And if any numbers of these should be driven out of *England* for their Difference in Religion, they would carry their Manufactures into other Countries, as the *Walloon*s that were obliged heretofore to fly from *Flanders*, introduc'd their woollen Manufactures into *England*.

Instances to prove it.

“ Now what must be the consequence ?
 “ Our Manufactures as they shall increase in other Countries, must decay in *England* ; even many of our People whose Conformity to the Church would allow them to stay here, will be obliged to follow their Manufactures into other Countries for a Livelihood. Thus it was that *Flanders* heretofore lost, and *England* gained the Woollen Manufactures ; not only those of the *Walloon*s came to settle here that were forced out of their own Country upon account of their Religion, but many others also came to follow

“ follow their Manufactures, and to procure a Subsistence for their Families. So that banishing People that differ from the Establish'd Church, may prove a means to banish many others that are very zealous for it. But with every one that shall depart the Kingdom upon any account whatsoever, the Landed Interest is sure to lose Forty Shillings *per Ann.* which is the Sum that every one pays for his Lodging and the mere Product of the Lands.

“ But how comes any such Thought into my Head, that any of our People are to be banished for dissenting from the Establish'd Church ?

“ I answer, The making People uneasy here upon account of their Religion, is forcing them out of the Kingdom. By this means so many *French* Refugees are come among us, and by the same Methods, before the Toleration, such numbers of our People were driven into *Holland*.

“ Our first care is, or ought to be, the saving our own Souls : the next to this is saving those of our Children: and every Man believes that this will be best done by the Religion which he thinks to be the best. And for this reason he will enjoy this Religion at home as long as he is able. And when it shall be denied to him at home, he will retire to any Country where it shall be allowed,

The Mischiefs of depriving Parents of the liberty to breed Children in their own Religion.

The British Merchant.

lowed, and esteem that as his native Country.

I have that Zeal, and I hope ever shall have for the Church of *England*, that if the Pretender should come among us with his *French* Religion, I shall retire into any Country where I shall not be disturbed for my Zeal for the Church of *England*.

But what if the Pretender would leave me to my liberty? what if he should only oblige me to send my Son to a Catholick Tutor to be instructed? I hope in this case I should send him into *Holland*, or any other Country, to prevent his being bred up in a Religion which I should think so dangerous to myself; a Religion by which I never could be saved tho' it were the right, because I believe it to be the wrong.

Why should not I believe that the People who dissent from the Church of *England*, have as much Zeal for their Religion as I can have for mine? and especially when their Sincerity is not to be suspected upon the account of any Advantages they can enjoy, since all the Advantages are with the Establish'd Religion. Why should I think that any Man who does not believe as the Church of *England*, can be saved in a Church which he does not think a true one? or that every Dissenter will not take as much care to educate his Child in his own Religion, as I will

The Trade of England in general.

will mine in the Church of *England*? or that he will not send his Child, or retire with him, into a foreign Country, as I would with mine, where the Father is not to be controuled in his manner of Education.

For my own part, I believe the Church of *England* would gain nothing by forced or false Converts; but I think the State must lose a great deal by enjoyning Uniformity of Religion. I think this the ready way to drive our Manufactures, with our People, into other Countries; and that with every Person that for his Conscience sake shall leave the Kingdom, the Landed Interest will lose 40 s. per Ann. and with every 100,000 People, 200,000 l. per Ann.

Yours.



Our.



Our Trade with France, and particularly on the Treaty of Commerce negotiated with that Nation, and proposed to be ratify'd by Parliament in 1713.

The Loss we must have had by ratifying the Treaty of Commerce with France.

I Shall make it appear, that if the 8th and 9th Articles of the Treaty of Commerce between France and Us had been render'd effectual by a Law, this very thing had been more ruinous to the British Nation, than if the City of London were to be laid in Ashes. This City has been once burnt to the Ground, but the People were still in being. They were, notwithstanding this Calamity, a constant Mart for the Product and Manufactures of the Country. But if such a Law as I have mention'd had pass'd, France would have gone on from that moment to exhaust the Treasures of the Kingdom. We should have presently lost our best Markets both at home and abroad, our Gentlemen must have felt a sudden and universal Decay of their Rents, and our common People must have either starv'd for want of Work, come to the Lands or the Parish for Subsistence, or have retir'd to foreign Parts for Bread.

There are great pains taken to have this Controversy about the French Trade and the Bill of Commerce thought a Party-Controversy;

The Controversy about the French Trade not a Party but a National Affair.

fy: but my Readers shall be convinc'd that this is not Party against Party, Tory against Whig, Protestant against Papist, Churchman against Dissenter; but Nation against Nation, the Trade of Britain against the Trade of France. The Questions upon this Bill are, Whether France, after all her ill Successes in the late War, be suffer'd, during the present Peace, under the colour of a Commerce, to exhaust our Treasure, beggar our Gentlemen, and starve our common People? And whether the Gentlemen of Britain, after all their glorious Victories, ought at last to be contented to become Hewers of Wood and Drawers of Water, to the Nation they have so often beaten? Whosoever sees that these are the Consequences of the Bill of Commerce, and is therefore against the Bill, let his Religion and Politicks be what they will, he is so far an honest Man.

I will venture to say, that by such a Law almost all our Trade had been lost. And it shall appear too that Britain has never had so flourishing a Trade, as since the Prohibitions of French Goods, and by means of those Prohibitions. By these our Commerce has been enlarg'd beyond what it ever was in former Ages, and they have been the cause of importing such Treasures into this Kingdom, as made England the most formidable Power in Europe.

If

'Tis more our advantage to have an Austrian than a French Prince on the Spanish Throne.

If Spain had remain'd with the House of Austria, she had not been able from her whole Dominions to furnish the West-Indies with necessary Manufactures. She would have given little Encouragement to those of France, both because of the Opposition France had given to her Succession, and because she had been her constant Rival. France had therefore been excluded from that Trade; Great Britain would have chiefly supplied the Spanish Indies, she would have had the greatest Share of the Spanish Treasures. It cannot be imagin'd, but a Prince of France upon the Spanish Throne, will shew the greatest Favour to his Native Country. So that we are to expect very little Gold or Silver from the Spanish Indies.

The Detriment of the Bill of Commerce to our Trade with Portugal.

Portugal hereafter must stand so much in awe of the Powers of France and Spain, if united, that France must needs be let in for a good Share of that Trade. So that the Mines of Brazile, which we almost engross'd before, are not likely now to flow in such Streams into this Kingdom. But if the Treaty of Commerce had been made effectual, and the Duties upon French Wines had been brought down by a Law to those of Portugal, contrary to a Treaty now subsisting with the latter, Portugal would have made Reprisals, by prohibiting our whole Woollen Manufactures. Whatsoever therefore shall be preserv'd of this Trade, we owe to the rejecting of such a Law.

The

And with Germany.

The case of Germany is not very different. We can hardly expect so good a Trade with that Nation when they have Peace with France, as we had before; both because many Commodities are brought from France since the Restoration of their Commerce with that Kingdom, and because many of their own Manufactures will be cultivated in a time of Peace. But what if the Law that was intended should have pass'd, and the Duty upon French Linens should have been reduc'd down to those of Germany? Should we then have bought so much Linen from Germany, when we could import it cheaper from a nearer Nation? And would Germany then have taken such Quantities of our Woollen Manufactures? We might with much more reason have expected, that the Avocatoria would have been published throughout the Empire, or a total Prohibition of our Woollen Manufactures. Whatsoever therefore we shall save of this Trade, we owe to the rejecting of this Law.

Our Trade never was so good before, as it has been since the Prohibition of French Goods; and it is not likely it can ever be so again. But whatsoever of it shall remain, we owe to the not passing of a Law, by which almost all of it would have been lost.

I shall next exhibit our Treaty with Portugal, and Arguments to prove the late Commerce with France would have been a Violation of it.

Quando-

“ Q Uandoquidem Fœdus, arctaq; Amici-
 “ tia, quæ intercedit inter Serenif-
 “ simam ac Potentissimam Principem, Do-
 “ minam Annam Magnæ Britannæ Regi-
 “ nam, & Serenissimum ac Potentissimum
 “ Petrum Lusitaniæ Regem, postulat ut utri-
 “ usq; Gentis Britannæ & Lusitaniæ Com-
 “ mercia, quam fieri possit, commodissimè
 “ promoveantur; & Sacra Regia Majestas
 “ Magnæ Britannæ Sacræ Regiæ Majestati
 “ Lusitaniæ significandum curavit per Excel-
 “ lentissimum Dominum Johannem Methuen
 “ Armigerum, Anglici Parlamenti Senato-
 “ rem, & in Lusitania Legatum Extraordi-
 “ narium, pergratum sive fore, si Lanæ Panni,
 “ cæteraq; Britannica Lanificia in Lusitani-
 “ tiam admitterentur, eorum interdictione
 “ sublata. Ut ea de re agi & transigi possit,
 “ Plenipotentias suas & Mandata dederunt,
 “ Sacra scilicet Majestas Magnæ Britannæ,
 “ supra memorato Excellentissimo Domino
 “ Johanni Methuen; Sacra vero Majestas
 “ Lusitaniæ, Excellentissimo Domino Em-
 “ manuelli Tellefio Silvio, Marchioni Algre-
 “ tensi, Comiti Villarmaiorio, in Sodalitio
 “ Christo Equitum, Commendatario Sancti
 “ Johannis de Alegrete, & Trapetorum de
 “ Soure, in Avitiensium vero Collegio Com-
 “ mendatario Sancti Johannis de Moura, &
 “ Sanctæ Mariæ de Albufeira, triumviro
 “ Fisci Moderatori, primæ Admissionis Cu-
 “ biculario, & Status Consiliario Sacræ Re-
 “ giæ Majestati Lusitaniæ: qui quidem vi
 “ Plenipotentiarum sibi respective concessa-
 “ rum,

W Hereas the League and strict Friendship
 which is between the most Serene and
 most Potent Princess *Anne*, Queen of *Great
 Britain*, and the most Serene and most Potent
Peter, King of *Portugal*, requires that the
 Commerce of both the *British* and the *Portugal*
 Nations should be promoted as much as possi-
 ble; and her Sacred Royal Majesty of *Great
 Britain* hath signified to his Sacred Royal Ma-
 jesty of *Portugal*, by the most Excellent *John
 Methuen* Esq; Member of the *English* Parlia-
 ment, and Ambassador Extraordinary in *Por-
 tugal*, that it would be very acceptable to her,
 if the *Woollen Cloths*, and the rest of the *Woollen
 Manufactures* of *Britain*, might be admitted into
Portugal, the *Prohibition* of them being taken off:
 That this Matter may be treated and transacted,
 they have given their full Powers and Com-
 mands; that is to say, her Sacred Majesty of
Great Britain to the abovesaid most Excellent
John Methuen, and his Sacred Majesty of *Por-
 tugal*, to the most Excellent Don *Emanuel
 Telles Silvius*, Marquis of *Alegrete*, Conde de
Villa Major, in the Society of the Knights of
 Christ, Commander of St. *John d' Alegrete*,
 and of *de Soure*, and also in the
 College of *de Soure* Commander of
 St. *John de Moura*, and of St. *Mary de Albu-
 veira*, one of the three Directors of the Treas-
 ury, and of the first Gentlemen of the Bed-
 chamber, and Counsellor of State to his Sacred
 Royal *Portuguese* Majesty. Who by virtue of
 the full Powers to them respectively granted,
 having maturely and diligently consider'd the
 matter,

“ rum, re mature diligenterq; deliberata de
“ illa in fequentes Articulos convenere.

A R T. I.

“ Sacra Regia Majestas Lusitaniæ spondet
“ suo, fuorumque Successorum Nomine, ad-
“ missum iri per omne tempus in Lusitaniam
“ Laneos Pannos, cæteraque Britannorum
“ Lanificia, non aliter quam fieri solebat, an-
“ tequam per pragmaticas sanctiones interdi-
“ cerentur: ea tamen sub conditione,

A R T. II.

“ Scilicet, ut Sacra Regia Majestas Mag-
“ næ Britanniae suo, fuorumq; Successorum
“ nomine, teneatur in omne tempus Vina ex
“ Lusitanicæ ditionis Vinetis collecta ita in
“ Britanniam admittere, ut nullo unquam
“ tempore, sive Pax sive Bellum fit inter
“ Britanniae & Galliae Regna, quidquam am-
“ plius pro hujusmodi Vinis Vectigalis aut
“ Portorii nomine, sive quocunque alio titu-
“ lo directe vel indirecte exigatur, quam quod
“ deducta tertia parte vectigalis aut Portorii
“ a pari quantitate sive Mensura Gallici Vini
“ exigetur, sive ea Vina per Dolia, sive per
“ Cados, aut quævis alia vasa apportabuntur
“ in Magnam Britanniam. Quod si quando
“ hæc Vectigalium Imminutio prout præfer-
“ tur facienda, quovis modo attentabitur, ip-
“ sique derogabitur, jus fasq; erit Sacrae Re-
“ giæ Majestati Lusitaniæ rursus Laneos Pan-
“ nos, cæteraq; Britannica Lanificia inter-
“ dicere.

A R T.

matter, have agreed upon the following Arti-
cles.

A R T. I.

His Sacred Royal Majesty of Portugal pro-
mises, both in his own Name, and that of his
Successors, to admit, for ever hereafter, into
Portugal, the *Woollen Cloths, and the rest of the*
Woollen Manufactures of the Britains, as was
accustom'd, till they were prohibited by the
Laws; nevertheless upon this Condition,

*Our Woollen
Manufactures to be
admitted in-
to Portugal.*

A R T. II.

That is to say, That her Sacred Royal Ma-
jesty of Great Britain shall, in her own Name,
and that of her Successors, be obliged for ever
hereafter, to admit the Wines of the Growth
of Portugal into Britain; so that at no time,
whether there shall be Peace or War between
the Kingdoms of Britain and France, any thing
more shall be demanded for these Wines by the
name of Custom or Duty, or by whatsoever o-
ther Title, directly or indirectly, whether
they shall be imported into Great Britain in
Pipes or Hogsheads, or other Casks, than what
shall be demanded from the like Quantity or
Measure of French Wine, deducting or abat-
ing a third part of the Custom or Duty. But
if at any time this Deduction or Abatement of
Customs, which is to be made as aforesaid, shall
in any manner be attempted and prejudic'd, it
shall be just and lawful for his Sacred Royal
Majesty of Portugal, again to prohibit the
woollen Cloths, and the rest of the *British*
woollen Manufactures.

*The Condi-
tions.*

A R T.

A R T. III.

“ Excellentissimi Domini Plenipotentiarum
 “ spondent, atque in se recipiunt alte memo-
 “ ratos Dominos suos hunc Tractatum rati-
 “ habituros, & intra duorum mensium spa-
 “ tium ratihabitationes commutandas.

“ In quorum omnium fidem & testimoni-
 “ um, ego Sacrae Regiae Majestatis Magnae
 “ Britanniae Plenipotentarius hunc Tracta-
 “ tum manus meae Subscriptione & Sigillo
 “ Insignium meorum munivi: Excellentissi-
 “ mus vero Dominus Plenipotentarius Sacrae
 “ Regiae Majestatis Lusitaniae, vitandi con-
 “ troversiae causa, quae est de loci prerogativa
 “ inter Coronas Britannicam & Lusitanni-
 “ cam, aliud ejusdem tenoris Instrumentum
 “ subscripsit, cum mutatis tantummodo quae
 “ ejus rei ergo commutanda erant. Dat. O-
 “ lyssipone, 27 mensis Decembris, 1703.

(L.S.) Johannes Methuen.

A R T. III.

The most Excellent Lords the Plenipoten-
 tiaries promise and take upon themselves, that
 their abovenamed Masters shall ratify this Trea-
 ty, and within the space of two Months the
 Ratifications shall be exchange'd.

For the Faith and Testimony of all which
 things, I the Plenipotentiary of her Sacred
 Royal Majesty of *Great Britain*, have confirm-
 ed this Treaty, by the Subscription of my Hand,
 and by the Seal of my Coat of Arms. And the
 most Excellent Lord the Plenipotentiary of his
 Sacred Royal Majesty of *Portugal*, for avoid-
 ing the Controversy about Precedence be-
 tween the two Crowns of *Britain* and *Portu-
 gal*, hath subscribed another Instrument of the
 same Tenor, changing only what ought to be
 changed for that reason. Given at *Lisbon* the
 27th of the Month of *December* 1703.

(L.S.) John Methuen.

What is obvious in this short Treaty, is
 That her Majesty made Application to the
 King of *Portugal*, to have our Woollen Ma-
 nufactures (that is, not only our Woollen Cloth,
 but all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures)
 admitted into *Portugal*, and that the Prohibi-
 tion of them might be taken off: That the
 King of *Portugal* promises this shall be done,
 as was accustom'd before the Prohibition, up-
 on condition that her Majesty should be obliged

*Remarks on
 this Treaty.*

to admit the Wines of *Portugal* into *Britain* for ever, with an abatement of one third part of the Duties at all times payable by those of *France*. That if at any time this abatement of Duties shall be prejudic'd, or in other words, if either by raising the Duties on the Wines of *Portugal*, or lessening those on *France*, the Duties upon the Wines of both Countries shall be brought nearer to an Equality; it shall be lawful for *Portugal* again to forbid not only our Woollen Cloths, but the rest of our Woollen Manufactures. And lastly, that the Plenipotentiaries both of *Britain* and *Portugal* severally sign'd this Treaty, and also undertook that it should be ratify'd by their Principals, and that the Ratifications of it should be exchange'd. All this is plain and obvious in the very words of this Treaty.

We are sure that from the time the Treaty was made, there has been no Prohibition of any of our Woollen Manufactures in *Portugal*, and they have paid nothing more than the old-acustom'd Duties; so that we are not to question its having been duly ratify'd, by which it is become the Act both of her Majesty and the King of *Portugal*.

What then are the Obligations of both Countries? And what may either of them expect, as the Consequences of not keeping this Treaty?

The Obligations on the King of *Portugal* are, That he shall admit our Woollen Manufactures into his Country, as was acustom'd before the Prohibition; that is, not only our Woollen Cloth, but all the rest of our Wool-

len

len Manufactures; upon our performing the Condition to be perform'd on our part.

If therefore we have perform'd our Condition, and the King of *Portugal*, notwithstanding this, had either prohibited or increas'd the old Duties upon the whole or any part of our Woollen Manufactures since that Treaty; every such Prohibition, every Increase of the old Duties had in this case been a violation of the Treaty on the part of *Portugal*.

And no doubt we should have exclaim'd against that Prince, in such a case, as perfidious, and one that had no regard to his Promises, or to the Faith and Honour of his Treaties. Perhaps too we should not have stopt here; we might justly have made Reprisals upon him, by prohibiting the Wines and all other Goods of that Country, if this had been for our Interest; and if this had not yet been sufficient to repair us, the Laws of Nature and Nations would even justify us to make War upon him, till our Satisfaction had been compleat.

Such are the Obligations of *Portugal*, and such might justly have been our Reprisals, if that Prince had not perform'd his Treaty. Let us now turn the Tables, and see whether there are any, and what are the Obligations to be perform'd on the part of *Britain*; what shall be said to be a Breach on our part; and what in justice we ought to expect as the Consequences of such a Breach.

Surely there is some Obligation on *Britain*. For did we make the first Application to the King of *Portugal* for this Treaty; and would that Prince bind himself, and leave us at perfect liberty?

erty?

erty? From the reason of the thing, one would conclude, that the Obligation must be mutual and reciprocal.

And so we ought to do, from the very words of this Treaty. The King of *Portugal* [*spondet*] promises or engages for himself and his Successors, in the first Article, to admit all our Woollen Manufactures into his Country, as was accustom'd before the Prohibition, upon Condition; upon what Condition? that the Queen of *Great Britain* [*teneatur*] shall be obliged in her own Name, and that of her Successors. The word is *Teneatur*, and every Scribe is able to inform us, that *teneri & firmiter obligari*, are the words that equally oblige, in every Bond, the one as well as the other. So that the King of *Portugal* promises or engages, upon condition that the Queen of *Britain* shall be oblig'd. Her Majesty's Ambassador, pursuant to his full Powers, has sign'd this Treaty, this same has been ratify'd; and shall it be said now that *Britain* is not oblig'd?

What then are the Obligations on the part of *Britain*, by virtue of this Treaty? We are obliged for ever to admit the Wines of *Portugal*, and at all times hereafter to abate one third part of the Duty which shall be payable for *French* Wines.

The next Question is, What shall be said to be a Breach of this Treaty on our part? or when we shall be said not to perform our Obligation? If the King of *Portugal* shall admit all our Woollen Manufactures, as he engages to do by the first Article, and we on the contrary should favour *France* as much as we do *Portugal*,

gal, or by raising the Duties on *Portugal*, or lessening those on *France*, should bring the Duties upon the Wines of both Countries any nearer to an Equality, than that of two third parts and the whole; this would not be to perform our Obligation; no, it would be a direct violation of that Treaty.

The Bill of Commerce, if it had pass'd into a Law, had favour'd *France* in every Branch of Trade as much as the Nation the most favour'd; and consequently had reduc'd the Duties upon the Wines of *France* to those upon the Wines of *Portugal*. This had been doing the direct contrary of what we are oblig'd to do by the second Article of the above-recited Treaty with *Portugal*, by which we are obliged to favour the Wines of that Nation more than those of *France*, it had been a direct violation of that Treaty.

The Treaty of Commerce would have been a violation of this Treaty.

What are the Consequences we ought in justice to expect upon the violation of a publick Treaty by a Law? Certainly, the very same which the King of *Portugal* might expect, if he had been guilty of the same Violation.

But lest we should be ignorant what that Prince may do, or we our selves suffer, the last words of the second Article may serve to inform us: the Sense of which is, That if at any time hereafter we should abate less upon the Wines of *Portugal* than a third part of the Customs we should take from the Wines of *France*, it shall be just and lawful for his Sacred Royal Majesty of *Portugal* again to prohibit the Woollen Cloths and the rest of the *British* Woollen

Woollen Manufactures ; not only the Woollen Cloths, but all the Woollen Manufactures of Britain.

The Advantage we have had by this Treaty.

Since our Treaty with *Portugal*, we have exported yearly to that Country prodigious Quantities of our Woollen Manufactures, vastly greater than we ever did before ; vastly greater than we ever did to *France*, as will be made appear in its Place. Many thousands of Families are entirely subsisted by working in the Woollen Manufacture for our Trade to *Portugal*. What Desolation would be made among those People, if our whole Woollen Manufactures should be prohibited in that Country ? And is any thing less to be expected, if we should pass a Law, by which that Treaty will be violated ?

After having dispatch'd my Argument against the *Bill of Commerce with France*, viz. *the Inconsistency of it with our Portugal Treaty* ; I must now say a few Words in answer to the false Glosses that are put upon it, and the Cavils raised against it by those that are for the *Bill*. It is urged from this Treaty by those who are for the *French Bill*, " That in the second Article, after the Proportion between the Customs of *Portuguese Wines* and the Customs of *French Wines* is settled, follow these Words : *But if this Abatement of Customs*, as is presum'd to be made, shall be after any manner prejudic'd or abolish'd, it shall be just and lawful for his Sacred Royal Majesty of *Portugal* again to forbid the Woollen Cloths.

" From hence may be noted also, That
" this

" this part of the Agreement was not so absolutely and unalterably laid down as an Essential of the Treaty between *England* and *Portugal*, without which the Peace of the two Nations could not subsist ; but provision was expressly made in the very Article, that if it should be abolish'd, yet the Peace should remain entire ; only the King of *Portugal* would then be at liberty, if he thought fit, to make himself amends upon *England*, by prohibiting the *English* Woollen Cloths.
" But to prohibit the whole Woollen Manufacture for this, would have been in substance, a general Prohibition of Commerce."

The Things remarkable in this Allegation, are,

1st, That the Readers are here made to believe, that tho' we should prejudice the Abatement to be made on the *Portugal Wines*, yet the King of *Portugal* by this Treaty would have the liberty to prohibit only our Woollen Cloths, but not the rest of our Woollen Manufactures.

Answers to the false Glosses on the Portugal Treaty.

2^{dly}, That it denies the Abatement of Customs upon *Portugal Wines*, to be a thing absolutely ascertain'd, but mentions it only as a thing that is presum'd to be done.

3^{dly}, And lastly, That it affirms that there is express Provision in the second Article of the Treaty, that tho' the Abatement of Customs upon the *Portugal Wines* should be abolish'd, yet the Peace between the two Nations should remain

remain entire. I shall consider every one of these in their Order.

I have produc'd a Copy of the Original Treaty entire, with the Translation of it into *English*; but to shew the Errors in the above-recited Passages, I shall not only refer my Readers to the Treaty itself, but I must also beg leave to repeat the last Clause of the second Article, with my own Translation of it, and to compare both with the Translation of it in the above-mention'd Quotation.

T R E A T Y.

“ Quod si quando hæc Vectigalium Immi-
 “ nutio, prout præfertur facienda, quovis mo-
 “ do attentabitur, ipsique derogabitur, jus
 “ fasq; erit Sacræ Regiæ Majestati Lusitanæ
 “ rursus Laneos Pannos, cæteraq; Britannica
 “ Lanificia interdicere.

My Translation.

But if at any time this Deduction or Abatement of Customs, which is to be made as is aforesaid, shall in any manner be attempted and prejudic'd, it shall be just and lawful for his Sacred Royal Majesty of *Portugal*, again to prohibit the *Woollen Cloths*, and the rest of the *British Woollen Manufactures*.

Their Translation.

But if this Abatement of Customs, as is presum'd to be made, shall be after any manner prejudic'd or abolish'd, it shall be just and lawful for his Sacred Royal Majesty of *Portugal* again to forbid the *Woollen Cloths*.

First,

First, it must be observ'd, that this Translation ended with *Woollen Cloths*, and suppress'd the *cætera Britannica Lanificia*, the rest of the *British Woollen Manufactures*. And for what Reason was this done?

'Twas acknowledg'd, that to prohibit the whole *Woollen Manufactures*, would have been in Substance a general Prohibition of Commerce: These are their own Words.

They knew, that if the Bill of Commerce should pass, by which the Duties on *French Wines* should be reduc'd to those on *Portugal*, *Portugal* would be at liberty to make herself amends on *England* by this general Prohibition.

They knew that a general Prohibition of our whole *Woollen Manufactures* in *Portugal*, would have a dreadful Sound in the Ears of *Englishmen*, and raise in them an universal abhorrence against a Bill, which if it had pass'd into a Law, had enabled *Portugal* to make herself amends on *England*, by prohibiting the whole *British Woollen Manufactures*.

The Readers therefore were by no means to know all the ill Consequences of this Bill, and that it would give *Portugal* a Liberty to prohibit all our *Woollen Manufactures*.

It must therefore be for this Reason, and can be for no other, that they have suppress'd the *Cætera Britannica Lanificia*, The rest of the *British Woollen Manufactures*, in their Translation of this Clause; that the ignorant Readers might believe, that by the passing of the Bill of Commerce *Portugal* would be at liberty

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to

to prohibit only our *Woollen Cloths*, and not the rest of our *Woollen Manufactures*.

Nothing certainly can be so wicked, as diminishing from a publick Treaty in this Instance; except the End for which it was done, *viz.* That the People might be more easily brought over to the Bill, by which the very best Trade we now enjoy, would be taken from us.

Their Intention in the second place, being to insinuate, that the said Abatement of Customs was not absolutely ascertain'd, they translate the Latin, *viz. Imminutio Vectigalium prout præfertur facienda*, wrong: for whereas those Words signify, the Abatement of Customs which is to be made as is aforesaid; they translate them, "But if this Abatement of Customs, *AS IS PRESUM'D* to be made, &c." Which is directly opposite to the plain meaning of the Treaty; whereby the Duty on *Portugal Wines* is fix'd and settled to be two Thirds only of the Duty on *French Wines*, in the strongest Terms imaginable, and not mention'd as a thing that is *presum'd* may be done at one time or another, or perhaps not at all.

Their last Point being to persuade the Readers, that the Breach of the Treaty of Commerce would have no ill Effect upon the Peace between the two Nations, *they venture to add to the Treaty*, as well as to diminish from it; and boldly affirm, *That Provision was expressly made in the very Article, that if the said Abatement of Customs should be abolish'd, yet the Peace should*

should remain intire: tho'tis most certain, that there is not the least Syllable in the whole Treaty to that purpose.

I must desire my Readers to observe, of how high a Nature the Evidence is, that they presume to corrupt; 'tis no less than a Sacred Treaty: for Treaties, formerly, were esteem'd Sacred, even by the very Heathens.

Princes have sometimes taken great Liberties with Treaties made by their Predecessors; but this was a Treaty made by her Majesty, very much for the Good of her People, and well receiv'd by several Parliaments.

In order to justify the Bill of Commerce with *France*, a List was publish'd of re-exported Goods, which was pretended to have been laid before the Parliament by the Commissioners of the Customs, without any particular Valuation of each distinct Species of Goods, but said in the whole to amount to 500,000 *l.* I therefore give this List, with my Remarks upon it, and the total Value of each quantity of Goods, by which it will appear how far short it falls of the above Sum.

See the List in the following Pages.

A LIST of Foreign Goods exported to France from Michaelmas 1686, to Michaelmas 1687. as said to be laid before the Parliament by the Commissioners of the Customs.

	Quantities.	Value of the Species of Goods on Board.	Value or Sum Total of Parcels.
			l. s. d.
Bees-Wax	8588 lb	at 4 l. per Ct.	306 10 0
Sealing-Wax	585 lb	3 s. per lb	87 15 0
Cochineal	4767 lb	18 s. per lb	4290 06 0
Gauls	297590 lb	3 l. 10 s. per Ct.	9299 10 0
Indico	35812 lb	5 s. per lb	8953 00 0
Other dying Stuffs	412980 lb	6 d. per lb	10324 13 0

How do they suppose their Readers should know how to compute such an Article as this of *Other dying Stuffs*? Cochineal, Gauls, and Indico he has mentioned already; so these must be Dying Woods, Copperas, Madders, Argol, and other cheap Sorts. However, that he may have no reason to complain, I have computed them at 6 d. per lb, tho beyond what they really could be worth at a Medium.

Teeth Ivory	13128 lb	at 9 l. 10 s. per Ct.	1113 11 0
Pepper	162192 lb	1 s. per lb	8109 12 0
Sugar	1,160515 lb	30 s. per Ct.	15542 12 6
Tobacco	496281 lb	3 d. $\frac{1}{2}$ per lb	7237 08 7
Ginger	121520 lb	35 s. per Ct.	2172 00 0
Spices and Grocery	136924 lb	1 s. per lb.	6846 04 0

This can hardly be presum'd to consist of Cloves, Nutmegs, Mace, and such Spices as we ourselves are forced to have from *Holland*, from whence the *French* could have them as cheap as we; and therefore it is not probable they would fetch them from thence at second hand. However supposing there might be some Spices, and also some Pimento, Dates, Almonds and Rice; the Value of them one with another can hardly

hardly come to 12 d. per lb, which nevertheless I allow them.

Drugs 36358 lb at 9 d. per lb 1363 08 6

This is also too general: But altho there be many more Drugs under 4 d. per lb than there are above 6 d. per lb, yet to please them I have valued them at 9 d. per lb.

Fine Ditto per Oz.	249 oz	at 30 s per oz.	373 10 0
Cotton Wool, Yarn	27450 lb	1 s. 2 d. per lb	1601 01 0
Goats, Camels Hair	43816 lb	3 s. 4 d. per lb	7302 16 0
Hides raw and tann'd per Tale	14694	20 s. per Hide	14694 00 0
Coffee and Tea	9599 lb		

Till they give me the Particulars, I shall compute the one half to be Coffee the other half Tea; and value the Coffee at 2 s. per lb, and the Tea at 15 s. per lb. 4079 11 6

Spanish Wool	163052 lb	at 2 s. per lb	16305 04 0
Skins and Furs per Piece	16873 Ps.	5 s. per Pce.	4218 05 0
Callicoes, Mullins	38476 Ps.	20 s. per Pce.	38476 00 0

Which at 10 Yards per Piece, as enter'd at the Custom-House, I value at 20 s. the 10 Yards, from a Long Cloth or Baft to a Mulmul or Dorea.

Indian wrought Silk	816 lb	at 40 s. per lb	1632 00 0
Raw Silk	1391 lb	20 s. per lb	1391 00 0
Pitch and Tar	43 Lafts	15 l. per Laft	645 00 0
Oil	72 Tun	35 l. per Tun	2520 00 0
			16884 18 1

Besides Tapestry, Hops, Scots-Hose, China and Japan Ware, Stickleck, Indian Pictures, Cabinets, and other East-India Goods in large Quantities; Canary Wine, Incle, Latin-Plates

tin-Plates, hard Soap, wrought Silks with Gold and Silver, Tortoise-shell, and abundance of Particulars, which they value at 20000 *l.* And because it is but reasonable to suppose they are as much out in their Estimation of these at 20000 *l.* as they are in their other Goods, which they lump at above 480000 *l.* whereas they amount only to 168884 *l.* 18 *s.* 1 *d.* and allowing that to be the Proportion of their over-rating these last Goods, I compute this last Article at

	7036 17 6
	175921 15 7
By which it appears they over-rated the re-exported Goods	324078 04 5
	500000 00 0

I am very sensible that many Commodities are rated higher in this List than they should be; but I had rather exceed twenty Shillings than under-rate one Penny, that the World may be satisfy'd I act fairly.

It is affirmed, that this Account of our re-exported Goods to *France* was laid before the Parliament by the Commissioners of the Customs. Whether this is true or no, I have not examin'd, I take it upon their word. But does this Account prove that our re-exported Goods to *France* amounted to Half a Million, or to one half of such a Sum?

They have given us nothing more than the several Species of Goods, and the quantity of every Species, without any valuation of Particulars; and from thence have asserted, that they amount to Half a Million. I have given as large a Valuation as was reasonable to every Species of Goods; and if I have not done fairly, I will be corrected by any competent Judge. Upon

Upon the whole Account it will appear, that the Five hundred thousand Pounds are dwindled into less than Two.

But whether mine or theirs were the truest Valuation, does it prove the thing which they alledged, viz. That the Value of our Exports to *France* has exceeded the Value of their Imports hither? I desire they will inform us what is the certain Sum in which our Exports have exceeded our Imports, or that they will give us the Particulars both of Exports and Imports in any one Year between *England* and *France*, with a proper Valuation of those Particulars, that we our selves may be Judges whether we have gain'd upon the Balance.

I have valu'd their List of re-exported Goods as high as I was able with any justice; and by a Valuation of all the Parcels, I have reduc'd the total Sum of 500,000 *l.* to less than 176,000 *l.* But to prevent the Reader being impos'd upon, if they should think fit to make any such Appeal as I have mention'd, I think myself obliged before-hand to justify the Valuation I have made of those Goods. The Reader then ought to be inform'd that Goods are re-exported unmanufactur'd, in the same condition they are brought in, and with re-allowance of Customs, which remain on the Goods bought and vend'd here. To instance in the Article of Tobacco, the Reader perhaps will be startled at so low a Price as Three Pence Half-Penny *per Lib.* But he must be inform'd, that re-exported Tobacco is a much worse sort than what is smok'd in *England*; that it is

The Valuation of foreign Goods exported to France, justify'd.

re-exported Leaf and Stalk as it was imported, without the Charge of cutting, &c. and that the heavy Load of Customs is drawn back upon the Re-exportation. If this shall be consider'd, Three Pence Half-Penny *per Lib.* at a medium will be thought a sufficient Price for Tobacco re-exported. And by the same Rule, my Valuation of all other Merchandizes, in their List of re-exported Goods, will be thought sufficient.

But what do they mean by the List of re-exported Goods to *France* in the Year 1687? Would they insinuate that we should be able to re-export as many Goods hereafter by the Treaty of Commerce, if the 8th and 9th Articles had been made effectual by a Law? Would they have us believe, that that List of re-exported Goods is to be the measure of what we may reasonably hope to re-export hereafter, upon our rendring that Treaty effectual? If that List is to be our measure, then I have shewn them at the foot of the Account, that the total Value of our re-exported Goods to *France* in that Year was not 500,000 *l.* as they assert; no, nor quite 176,000 *l.*

But can we hope hereafter to re-export any thing like this Value? And of which of the Goods in that List shall we be able to re-export the Quantities we did formerly?

To begin with *Spanish Wool*. Shall we be able to send any of that to *France*? Was the *French King* at all this Pains, at all this Cost and Expence, to fix his Grandson upon the *Spanish Throne*? Did he suffer the loss of so many Towns, the defeat of so many Armies upon

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upon this account; that at the last his Subjects should have no nearer way of coming at the *Spanish Wool*, than thro' the Kingdom of *Great Britain*? The very Supposition is ridiculous. *Spanish Wool* therefore must be deducted from the Goods which are hereafter to be re-exported to that Kingdom.

The Article of *Cochineal* is govern'd by the same Reason. It is imported first into *Spain* from the *Spanish Indies*, and it must be presum'd that the Subjects of the *French King* will have the favour to buy it as cheap as we from the Dominions of a Grandson of *France*; and perhaps a great deal cheaper directly from the *Spanish Indies*, the Fountain-head of that Commodity. And can it be imagin'd then that *France* will ever send for *Cochineal* to *Great Britain*? This Article must therefore also be deducted from the Goods which we are after to re-export to that Kingdom.

And here I cannot but take notice, That these two Articles of *Spanish Wool* and *Cochineal*, re-exported to *France* in 1687 are sufficient to demonstrate, that the Manufacture of *Spanish Cloth*, and the finest Dye of that Manufacture, are not so new things in that Kingdom as some would have them thought; and they have been every Year since improving. And as long as they shall be able to come at *Spanish Wool* and *Cochineal* at the best hand, nothing can hinder their arriving at the utmost perfection in that Manufacture. They will stand in no need of *Spanish Cloth* from *England*, and must certainly be able to furnish other Markets.

If

The British Merchant.

If any one should ask me, what Voucher I have for this: I answer, my Voucher is the Treaty of Peace, by which Spain and the Spanish Indies belong to a Grandson of France: And the Consequence is natural, that the Subjects of the latter can never want Spanish Wool and Cochineal from the Kingdom of Great Britain.

It cannot be deny'd that the French have a very great Trade to Turkey; and we have seen a Letter from Galata, shewing, That a French Man of War imported 170 Bales of Cloth to that place lately, besides other Goods: which is a demonstration that their Trade there is very great; especially if the value of their Cloth be consider'd, which is almost all of the finer sorts. And certainly if they shall want neither Spanish Wool nor Cochineal at the best hand, they must needs improve in that Trade. And can it be imagin'd then they can want any Goods of the Growth of Turkey from us? They will be able to import all the Goods of that Country directly from thence to Marseilles; and will they chuse then to import them round about by the way of Great Britain? Gauls, Cotton Wool and Yarn, Goats and Camels Hair, Coffee and Raw Silk, the French can import directly from Turkey, and cheaper than by the way of England; and therefore every one of these Articles in the List of re-exported Goods, must be deducted from our future Re-exportations.

Again, we are sure the French Plantations in Martinico, St Domingo, &c. in the West-Indies, have been much improv'd since the Year

The Trade with France.

Year 1687, and are sufficient to supply them with such things as they wanted before from ours. Can it be imagin'd then, that any of these Goods are likely to be exported hence to France, which they are now able to supply from their own Plantations? Particularly, they have Sugar as cheap from Martinico as we from any of our Plantations, and Indico so much better and cheaper than any that is imported from Jamaica, that we have not the least hopes of exporting either of those Commodities to that Kingdom. Therefore the Articles of Indico and Sugar must hereafter be deducted from the Re-exportations we shall make to France. All which shall be further demonstrated, when I come to speak of the several Branches of our Trade.

Let us then deduct the several Articles above mention'd, and their Values from the List of re-exported Goods, viz.

	l.	s.	d.
Spanish Wool valu'd at —	16,305	04	00
Cochineal — — — —	4,290	06	00
Gauls — — — —	9,299	10	00
Cotton Wool and Yarn	1,601	01	00
Goats and Camels Hair	7,302	16	00
Coffee — — — —	479	19	00
Raw-Silk — — — —	1,391	00	00
Sugar — — — —	15,542	12	06
Indico — — — —	8,953	00	00
	65,165	08	06

Deductions to be made from the said List.

The Total Value of re-exported Goods in 1687, as by our former, amounted to the Sum of

175,921 15 07 From

From which if we deduct
for the Reasons above-men-
tion'd _____ 65,165 08 06

The total Value of our
future Re-exportations will
not exceed _____ 110,756 07 01

So that the Year 1687, can be no Rule for what shall be done hereafter. We should not be able to export hereafter any of the above-mention'd things, which are in the List of re-exported Goods, and are valued by me at above 65,000*l.* tho by the Treaty of Commerce all Prohibitions were to be taken off.

Tho' there were no Inhibitions upon any of the above-mention'd Goods in *France*, yet we could not send any of them thither; since, for the Reasons I have given, the *French* will import them cheaper from other Countries.

But tho' we could make the greatest Profit by re-exporting foreign Goods to *France*, yet we should send thither but a very small part of these in the above-mention'd List, by reason of the severe Prohibitions upon those Goods, notwithstanding any thing in the late Treaty of Commerce.

For I shall shew, that there are such Prohibitions upon our re-exported Goods, that the List which they valu'd at 500,000*l.* and I have brought down to less than 176,000*l.* will be reduc'd to almost nothing.

To give an Instance of this: By an Edict made in *March* 1669, a Duty of 20*l. per Cent.* was impos'd on Goods imported from the *Levant*, which had been landed in any foreign

reign Country. By an Arrest of Council in *France*, dated in *August* 1685, the strict Execution of that Edict is enjoin'd. And these Edicts will be still in force notwithstanding the late Treaty.

I know it was said otherwise, but I shall fairly quote the Objections, and answer them. They produce two Clauses of the 9th Article of the late Treaty, with their own Observations on them, as follow.

“ 1. The Duties payable in *France* by the Subjects of *Great Britain*, for Goods imported and exported, shall be paid according to the Tenour of the Tariff of 1664, and shall not exceed.” How this could be perform'd, if the *French* should demand 20 *per Cent.* for *Turkey* Goods brought from *England*, is not easily comprehended; that 20 *per Cent.* being laid on, as the *Turkey* Company's Paper says, in the Year 1669, and enforc'd in the Year 1685.

2. The 9th Article adds; “ And all Prohibitions, Tariffs, Edicts, Declarations, Decrees, made in *France* since the said Tariff of 1664, contrary thereunto, in respect of the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, shall be repeal'd.” How then these People can say the Duty of 20 *per Cent.* and the Prohibition of *Levant* Goods being carried into *France* from *England* continues, is very hard to be understood.

To answer this, they object, That it is not said Goods and Merchandizes of the Subjects of *Great Britain*, but Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*: Which implies, say they, the Manu-

Manufactures of *Great Britain* only. But the Absurdity here is so gross, that it is strange the Wisdom of the *Turkey Company* should fall into it. For, (1.) If it had been meant of the Manufactures of *Great Britain* only, it would have been said, *the Growth and Produce*, not *the Goods and Merchandizes*. By Growth and Produce indeed, the Manufactures had been understood; but by Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, must be understood the Goods and Merchandizes which the Subjects of *Great Britain* trade in. But, (2.) It is out of question, that if the taking off the Prohibitions, &c. of the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, was meant only of the Manufactures, then was the whole *Levant Trade* prohibited still; which the Gentlemen do not pretend to.

In the Bill of Commerce is to be seen the following Clause, viz. "Provided always, and it is hereby declared by the Authority afore said, That that part of the 9th Article of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation above-recited, whereby it is agreed, that all Prohibitions, Tariffs, Edicts, Declarations or Decrees, made in *France* since the Tariff of the Year 1664. and contrary thereunto, in respect to the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, shall be repeal'd; is, and shall be intended to extend, not only to the Goods of the Growth, Production, and Manufacture of *Great Britain*, but also to all Goods and Merchandizes which the Subjects of *Great Britain* did or might import into, or export from *France*, at any time since the making of
" the

" the said Tariff of the 18th of *September*
" 1664."

The Inferences they would make from these Passages, are:

1. From these words, "The Duties payable in *France* by the Subjects of *Great Britain*, for Goods imported and exported, shall be paid according to the Tenour of the Tariff of 1664. and shall not exceed." That all Duties exceeding those of the Tariff of 1664. and laid on since that Tariff, whether upon the Growth or Manufacture of *Great Britain*, or of any other Country exported from *Great Britain*, are repeal'd; and consequently that the 20 per Cent. cannot be demanded for *Turkey Goods*, since that Duty exceeds those of the Tariff of 1664, and was laid on by an Edict of 1669, since that Tariff.

2. From these words, "And all Prohibitions, Tariffs, Edicts, Declarations or Decrees made in *France* since the Tariff of the Year 1664. and contrary thereunto, in respect to the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, shall be repeal'd;" their Inference is, That all Prohibitions and Edicts, contrary to that Tariff, are to be repeal'd, as well those made concerning the Growth and Manufactures of foreign Countries exported from *Great Britain*, as those concerning the Growth and Produce of *Great Britain*. And their Reason for it is, that if only the Prohibitions and Edicts concerning the Growth and Produce of *Great Britain* were intended to be repeal'd, and not those concerning foreign Goods exported from
Great

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Great Britain, the words would have been, the Growth and Produce, not the Goods and Merchandizes: since by Growth and Produce the Manufactures had been understood; but by Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain, must be understood the Goods and Merchandizes which the Subjects of Great Britain trade in. And this, say they, must needs be the Construction of Goods and Merchandizes, since otherwise the whole Levant Trade would be still prohibited, which is not pretended by the Turkey Merchants.

The third thing is the Clause cited from the Bill of Commerce (which by the way was an Amendment, and not brought in with the Bill:) I believe they would have us infer from hence, that all Edicts and Prohibitions, as well in respect to foreign Goods exported from Great Britain, as to the Growth and Produce of Great Britain, are to be repeal'd in France, because our Legislators would have this to be the Intention of the Treaty.

Now they and I shall not agree in any one of these Inferences.

I must confess, the first words they cited from the ninth Article, viz. "The Duties payable in France by the Subjects of Great Britain, for Goods imported and exported, shall be paid according to the Tenor of the Tariff of 1664. and shall not exceed;" would be sufficient of themselves to repeal all the Duties that have been impos'd since that Tariff. It had been well if the Article had ended here; if nothing had followed, to limit and restrain the general Sense of these Words, and

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and to shew that by Goods imported and exported, is meant only the Goods which are the Growth or Manufactures of Great Britain.

But the general Sense of that Clause is restrained by the Words which follow in the same Article, cited also by them, viz. "And all Prohibitions, Tariffs, Edicts, Declarations, or Decrees, made in France since the said Tariff of the Year 1664. and contrary thereunto, in respect to the Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain, shall be repeal'd." By which it is manifest, that the Prohibitions and Edicts which are to be repeal'd, are those which concern the Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain, and not such Prohibitions or Edicts as have been made concerning Goods, which are not esteem'd the Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain: and therefore if the Levant Goods exported from Great Britain, are not esteem'd the Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain, the Edicts concerning those Goods are not repealed by the last-mention'd Clause of the 9th Article.

They affirm, that by Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain, must be understood not only the Growth and Produce of Great Britain, but the Goods and Merchandizes which the Subjects of Great Britain trade in. By the same Rule, by French Goods and Merchandizes must be meant not only the Growth and Produce of France, but the Goods and Merchandizes which the Subjects of France trade in. But 'tis certain, the Legislators of England in the 4 & 5 of W. & M. cap. 5. were of another

ther opinion: In that Act a Duty is laid in these words, viz. " Upon French Goods and Merchandizes (except Wine, Brandy, Salt, and Vinegar) which shall be imported within the said time, 25 l. for every 100 l. value thereof, more than the same are charg'd with in the Book of Rates, &c." 'Tis plain here, that by French Goods and Merchandizes are meant only the Growth and Produce of France, and not foreign Goods which the Subjects of France trade in. And for the same reason, by the Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain, must be meant only the Growth and Produce of Great Britain, and not the foreign Goods exported by the British Subjects.

'Tis plain the House of Commons the Session of 1713. had the same Sense of this matter, else there had been no need of the above-mentioned Clause in the Bill of Commerce, to extend the Sense of Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain to all Goods and Merchandizes exported from Great Britain.

If by Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain are meant only the Growth and Produce of Great Britain, then by the last mention'd Clauses of the ninth Article are repeal'd only the Prohibitions and Edicts concerning the Growth and Produce of Great Britain, not those concerning the Growth and Produce of other Countries exported from Great Britain; and consequently no Prohibition or Edict concerning Levant Goods, East-India Goods, or any other foreign Goods exported from Great Britain, are repeal'd by that Clause: the Duties

ties and Prohibitions upon foreign Goods, remain still in their full force, notwithstanding those general words in the ninth Article, cited above.

But lest there should be any doubt of this, 'tis very remarkable, that all Prohibitions and high Duties in France upon foreign Goods exported from Great Britain, are confirm'd by the fifth Article; the last words of which are, " The Laws and Statutes of each Kingdom shall remain in full force, and shall be duly put in execution, whether they relate to Commerce or Navigation, or to any other Right; those Cases only being excepted, concerning which it is otherwise determin'd by these present Articles." Whence it follows, that all Laws and Statutes concerning which it is not otherwise determin'd, all Prohibitions and Edicts which are not repeal'd, are confirmed by this Treaty; and consequently the Edict imposing 20 per Cent. upon Levant Goods, tho' made since 1664. and all other Impositions upon foreign Goods exported from Great Britain, which are not repeal'd by any of the above-mentioned Words, are to remain in their full force, notwithstanding our late Treaty of Commerce.

The Treaty demands from us the Repeal of all our Prohibitions since 1664. upon all Goods coming from France; and why should it not grant us in return a Repeal of all their Prohibitions since 1664. upon all Goods and Merchandizes of whatsoever Country going from Great Britain? Why should the Prohibitions here be taken off from all Goods coming from

from *France*? And why should *France* repeal only her Prohibitions of the Goods of *Great Britain*, and not of all other Countries exported from *Great Britain*? The Distinction is very strange: We are to suffer all sorts of Goods, of all Countries whatsoever, to be imported upon us from *France*; *France* will suffer such Goods only to be imported hence, as are of our own Growth and Manufacture.

The Treaty at first was better projected on our part, it ran thus: "All Prohibitions, Tariffs, Edicts, Declarations or Decrees made in *France* since the said Tariff of the Year 1664, and contrary thereunto, shall be annul'd and set aside." *France* did not like it thus general, and therefore restrained it to the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*. The addition of these words has made it less general: therefore the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain* must mean the Growth and Manufactures of *Great Britain*, and not of any other Country exported from *Great Britain*.

This is the natural Construction of the words; and the *French King* is able to make as much of a Construction, as any Prince in *Christendom*; but here he had both the LETTER and the SPIRIT on his side.

Indeed the Bill of Commerce endeavour'd to cure this by an Amendment, *viz.* the Clause above-recited, declaring that the Repeal of Prohibitions in *France* shall extend as well to foreign Goods exported from *Great Britain*, as to those of our own Growth and Manufacture. This is just as if we could repeal any Laws in *France* as easily as any of our own. But can we

we oblige *France* to repeal any thing? Did she ever consent to this Amendment? No doubt we should have heard of it if she had.

Upon the whole matter, 'tis manifest that the Clause above-recited from the Bill of Commerce, shews the Sense of our Legislators, what should have been done, rather than their approbation of what has been done. If every thing had been well done on the part of *France*, there had been no need of any Amendment.

To conclude: The Bill of Commerce does not prove that it ever was the Intent of the Treaty that we should export any foreign Goods to *France*.

The Clause in the Treaty for repealing the Prohibitions and Edicts concerning the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, do not enable us to export thither any foreign Goods and Merchandizes; the Prohibitions and Edicts concerning these are still in being, and in full force, and are even confirm'd by this Treaty.

And therefore tho the Duties upon our own Manufactures are reduc'd by this Treaty to the Tariff of 1664, and are not to exceed; yet the Edicts concerning foreign Goods exported hence are still in force, and the Duties by these Edicts may and do exceed those of that Tariff.

But further, all the Laws and Statutes, whether of *France* or *Great Britain*, concerning which it is not otherwise determin'd by the Treaty of Commerce, are to remain in their full force by the fifth Article of that Treaty; or in other words, every Law or Statute concerning which the Treaty has not provided that it should be alter'd or repeal'd, is confirm'd.

The Prohibitions and Edicts of his most Christian Majesty, are the Laws and Statutes of his Kingdom.

By the ninth Article of the Treaty, the Prohibitions and Edicts of the French King made since the Tariff of 1664, and contrary to that Tariff, in respect to the Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain, are to be repeal'd. But neither that Article, nor any other, has provided for the Repeal of any Prohibition or Edict made either before or since that Tariff, in respect to the Goods and Merchandizes of other Countries exported from Great Britain. So that all these last-mentioned Edicts and Prohibitions are to remain in their full force, notwithstanding any thing in that Treaty.

Suppose then there is an Edict in France prohibiting the Importation and Use of East-India Manufactures in that Kingdom, are we permitted to carry any thither? Certainly no; for they are not the Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain, and there is no Provision in the Treaty for the Repeal of such a Prohibition.

Let those who promise themselves Mountains of Gold from France, by Exportation of East-India Manufactures, peruse the following Arret or Edict of his most Christian Majesty.

An

An Arret of the King's Council of State, prohibiting the wearing of Gowns and Garments made of stained Cloth, Silks, and India Stuffs, or trading in them, upon the Penalties therein mention'd. Extracted from the Registers of the Council of State.

THE King being inform'd, that in prejudice to the Arrets and Regulations heretofore made, to prohibit the using in the Kingdom the Stuffs and Cloth of the Indies, of China, and of the Levant, there are daily such great quantities of them introduc'd, that the Manufactures considerably suffer thereby; and his Majesty desiring entirely to put an end to an Evil so prejudicial to his Subjects, having heard the Report of the Sieur Desmarets, Counsellor in ordinary of the Royal Council, Comptroller-General of the Finances, His Majesty in Council hath ordain'd, and doth ordain, That the preceding Arrets and Regulations shall be executed according to their Form and Tenour; and conformably to them, has very expressly prohibited and forbid all Traders, Merchants, and other Persons of what quality or condition soever, to trade, sell, offer to sale, to hawk, vend, or buy, either by Wholesale or Retail, either by themselves or by any other Persons, any Indian, China, or Levant Stuffs, as well as those made wholly of Silk, or mix'd with Gold and Silver, and Bark of Trees (Herba) Wool, Thread or Cotton, and in general

All Indian, China, and Levant Stuffs prohibited.

“ all other sorts of Stuffs of the Growth and
 “ Manufacture of the said Countries, new or
 “ old, upon Forfeiture of the same, and three
 “ thousand Livres Penalty for every Offence,
 “ to be levied by Seizure of the Persons, and
 “ without delay. His Majesty further wills
 “ and ordains, that the said Merchants and
 “ Traders, who shall have offended against
 “ the said Prohibitions, shall remain incapable
 “ of trading for ever, and that their Names
 “ shall be register'd on Tables, which shall be
 “ hung up in the Court within the Consulary
 “ Jurisdiction of the Place, or the nearest to
 “ it, and in the Offices of their respective
 “ Companies and Commonalties; and that
 “ their Servants, Apprentices, and others,
 “ who shall have been concern'd in the Of-
 “ fence, shall be and remain incapable of be-
 “ ing admitted to any Freedoms.

II.

“ His Majesty also forbids, upon the like
 “ Penalties, the said Traders, Merchants, and
 “ all other Persons, to trade or traffick in, to
 “ sell or buy directly or indirectly, by Whole-
 “ sale or Retail, any Muslins, Cotton Cloth
 “ of the *Indies*, *China*, or the *Levant*, new or
 “ old, either white or painted, without or
 “ within the Kingdom; Except notwith-
 “ standing, white Cotton Cloth and Muslins,
 “ which shall be taken as Prize at Sea; the
 “ Sale and Use of which his Majesty permits
 “ in his Kingdom during the present War,
 “ according to the Arret of His
 “ Majesty ordains, That the Proprietors of
 “ the said white Cotton Cloth and Muslins,
 “ who

Exception.

“ who shall be willing to sell them in the
 “ Kingdom, shall be obliged, before they can
 “ take them out of the Warehouse, or other
 “ places in which they are deposited, to de-
 “ clare it to the Intendants and Commissaries
 “ in the respective Provinces, or their Depu-
 “ ties, to the end that the said Cotton Cloth
 “ and Muslins be mark'd on both ends of
 “ each piece, by the particular Marks to be
 “ appointed by the said respective Intendants
 “ and Commissaries; of which Stampings,
 “ Information shall be taken by the respective
 “ Intendants, and Commissaries sent by the
 “ Comptroller-General of the Finances. His
 “ Majesty's Will and Intentions are, That
 “ the Merchants and Traders, and other Per-
 “ sons in whose Possession any pieces of white
 “ Cotton Cloth and Muslins shall be found
 “ not mark'd with the said Marks, be con-
 “ demn'd to the Penalties mention'd in this
 “ present Arret.

III.

“ His Majesty likewise forbids the *East-Ind-*
 “ *dia* Company, and all other Companies, to
 “ import into the Kingdom, under any pre-
 “ tence whatsoever, even in order to re-ex-
 “ port again into Foreign Countries, to sell
 “ or vend there, any of the Stuffs and Cloth
 “ above-mention'd, upon Forfeiture of the
 “ same, and three thousand Livres penalty.”

None to be bought for Re-Exportation.

IV.

“ His Majesty also very expressly forbids the
 “ Farmers, Directors, Receivers, Officers,
 “ Comptrollers, Searchers, Brigadiers, Guards,
 “ and others employ'd in his Farms, to suffer
 “ any

None to be entered.

“ any of the said Cloth and Stuffs to pass thro
 “ their Offices of Entries, upon pain of the
 “ like Penalty of three thousand Livres, and
 “ the Penalties mention'd in his Declaration
 “ of the 20th of September 1701, against such
 “ as shall suffer any Merchandizes to enter
 “ into his Kingdom contrary to his Prohibiti-
 “ ons.

V.

None to be made into Garments.

“ His Majesty forbids further all Persons,
 “ of what Sex, Quality, or Condition soever,
 “ from the Day of the Publication of the pre-
 “ sent Arret, to wear, use, or cause to be
 “ made any Suit, Garments, or Household
 “ Furniture, of the said Stuffs and Cloth, or to
 “ have any of them in their Houses in the
 “ Piece not made up, upon Forfeiture there-
 “ of, and a thousand Livres penalty. His
 “ Majesty wills and ordains, That the Hus-
 “ bands and Fathers of Families shall be pecu-
 “ liarly answerable for the Penalties to which
 “ their Wives, and Children in their Power,
 “ shall be condemn'd.

VI.

No Workmen or Shopkeepers to have or sell any.

“ Moreover, his Majesty forbids all Pawn-
 “ brokers, Taylors for Men or Women, Up-
 “ holsterers, Embroiderers, and other Work-
 “ men, to use at home or in private Houses,
 “ or to keep in their Warehouses, Shops, or
 “ Chambers, any of the said Stuffs, and
 “ Cloths, or any Suit, Garments, or Furni-
 “ ture made thereof, new or old, upon For-
 “ feiture of the same, and three thousand Liv-
 “ res penalty, perpetual Interdiction to the
 “ said Workmen of all Arts and Trades, and
 “ Incapacity

“ Incapacity to their Servants, Journeymen,
 “ and Apprentices, and others who shall be
 “ concern'd in the said Frauds, to pretend to
 “ any Freedoms. Furthermore, his Majesty
 “ ordains, That the Names of the said Pawn-
 “ brokers, Taylors, and other Workmen,
 “ guilty of any of the said Offences, shall be
 “ register'd on a Table to be set up in the
 “ Offices of their Commonalties.

VII.

“ His Majesty likewise very expressly for-
 “ bids all his Subjects to paint, print, or cause
 “ to be painted or printed, upon any white
 “ Cloth, of Cotton, Hemp, Flax, or Stuffs
 “ made with Cotton, Thred, Silk, or Flo-
 “ retta, and generally all other sorts of Stuffs
 “ and Cloth, new or old, altho the same were
 “ of the Growth and Manufacture of the
 “ Kingdom; and to all Engravers and other
 “ Workmen, to make any Moulds or Instru-
 “ ments serving for the said Printings. His
 “ Majesty wills and ordains, That the said
 “ Moulds and Instruments shall be broke and
 “ burnt, the said Cloth and Stuffs confiscat'd;
 “ and that the said Makers, Engravers, and
 “ other Workmen, who shall have assisted in
 “ making the said Moulds, Instruments, Paint-
 “ ing and Impressions, shall suffer personal
 “ Imprisonment, and the like Penalty of three
 “ thousand Livres, and remain incapable of
 “ following any Trade, Art or Profession for
 “ ever.

No Stuffs or Linen to be printed or painted like them.

VIII.

“ His Majesty wills and intends, that the
 “ Prohibitions contain'd in the foregoing Ar-
 “ ticles,

Privileged Places not to be exempted from Search. " ticles, shall be put in execution, even in
 " priyileg'd Places. And to put a stop to the
 " Abuses which have been, and are actually
 " committed in the privileg'd Places of the
 " City, Suburbs, and Liberties of *Paris*, such
 " as the Rules of the Temple, of *St. John*
 " *de Lateran*, of the Abby of *St. Germain's*,
 " and other Places; his Majesty permits the
 " Lieutenant-General of the Police of the
 " said City of *Paris*, to make Search, or
 " cause Search to be made, by such Persons as
 " he shall appoint for that purpose; and gives
 " him Power to judge of the Offences there-
 " in committed, in such a manner, and in
 " the same Form, as those that shall be
 " committed in the other Parts of the said
 " City.

IX.

None to be exported to the French Colonies. " Likewise his Majesty forbids all Mer-
 " chants, Traders, and other Persons, of
 " what Quality and Condition soever, to
 " export to any of the *French Colonies*, any
 " of the said Cloth and Stuffs, and the Inha-
 " bitants of the said Colonies to traffick in
 " them, or to use any of them in their Cloth-
 " ing and Furniture, in the like manner,
 " and upon the same Penalties, as are before
 " mention'd for the Inhabitants of the King-
 " dom.

X.

Incouragement to Informers. " His Majesty, desiring to excite those
 " who shall know of any Offences commit-
 " ted against this present Arret, to give In-
 " formation thereof, ordains, that two Thirds
 " of the Fines shall belong to the Informers;
 " that

" that one Moiety only of the Stuffs and Cloth
 " seiz'd and condemn'd shall be burnt, and
 " the other Moiety shall be sold by the Au-
 " thority of the Lieutenant-General of the
 " Police at *Paris*, and by the Intendants and
 " Commissaries in the respective Provinces,
 " on condition to be exported to foreign Coun-
 " tries, and the Moneys arising by such Sales
 " to be paid to the Informers; to which end
 " the said Stuffs and Cloth shall be secur'd in
 " the Places at *Paris*, to be appointed by the
 " Lieutenant-General of the Police, and in
 " the Provinces by the Intendants and Com-
 " missaries respectively.

XI.

" And the Proprietors shall be oblig'd to
 " enter into Engagements to take Certificates
 " from the Officers of the last Custom-house,
 " who shall be by them nam'd, to justify the
 " Exportation of the said Cloth and Stuffs out
 " of the Kingdom; as also to bring a Certi-
 " ficate from the Consul of the *French Nation*
 " to prove that the same have been unloaded in
 " foreign Countries; and to produce both the
 " said Certificates at the Office of the Place
 " where the said Sale was made, within three
 " Months at furthest from the Day the said
 " Goods shall be taken out of the Warehouse,
 " upon a penalty, which shall not be less than
 " double the Value of the said Sale.

Proprietors to bring Certificates of their exporting what they buy.

XII.

" His Majesty ordains, That the Lieute-
 " nant-General of the Police at *Paris*, and
 " the Intendants and Commissaries of the re-
 " spective Provinces, shall take Cognizance of

Magistrates to execute this Edict.

The British Merchant.

“ the Contraventions to this present Arret,
 “ and Circumstances of the same, granting
 “ them to that purpose full Power, Jurisdic-
 “ tion and Cognizance, which his Majesty
 “ interdicts to all other Judges: and his Ma-
 “ jesty wills, that what shall be by them or-
 “ dain'd, be executed, notwithstanding any
 “ Opposition or Appeal whatsoever; which,
 “ if any shall intervene, his Majesty reserves
 “ to himself the Cognizance thereof.

XIII.

“ His Majesty ordains, that in case of Con-
 “ travention, Informations be brought within
 “ the City and Liberties of *Paris*, by the
 “ Lieutenant-General of the Police, and in
 “ the respective Provinces by the Intendants
 “ and Commissaries, or their Deputies; and
 “ that upon such Information, such Judg-
 “ ment shall be pass'd by the Commissaries
 “ as shall be meet.

XIV.

“ And if the Offenders do not appear up-
 “ on such Decrees, they shall be definitively
 “ condemned to the Penalties inflicted by the
 “ present Arret, without other Formality or
 “ Process whatsoever.

XV.

“ But in case of Appearance, the said
 “ Lieutenant of the Police, Intendants and
 “ Commissaries respectively, after having
 “ heard the Offenders, shall condemn them
 “ to the abovesaid Penalties, or change the
 “ Informations into Inquests, and permit the
 “ Parties, if thereunto required, to make
 “ proof of the contrary: that upon the Re-
 “ port

The Trade with France.

“ port of the Inquest, Justice be done in such
 “ manner as it ought to be.

XVI.

“ His Majesty however does not intend by
 “ this present Arret, to derogate from the
 “ Arrets of the 10th of *July*, 1703, and the
 “ 16th of *January*, 1706, for the City, Port
 “ and Territories of *Marseilles* only.

XVII.

“ His Majesty wills and requires, that this
 “ be published and affix'd twice a Year, by
 “ virtue of the Orders of the Lieutenant-Ge-
 “ neral of the Police at *Paris*, and the Inten-
 “ dants and Commissaries of the respective Pro-
 “ vinces of his Kingdom, Countries, Lands
 “ and Territories under his Obedience, whom
 “ his Majesty enjoins to see the execution of
 “ the said Arret, and to cause frequent Search
 “ to be made in the Shops and Warehouses of
 “ the Traders, Merchants and others, even
 “ of those who live in privileg'd Places. Done
 “ in the King's Council of State, held at
 “ *Marly*, the 27th of *August*, 1709.

Examined. Sign'd R A N C H I N.

“ *L E W I S*, by the Grace of God, King
 “ of *France* and *Navarre*, Dauphin of
 “ *Viennois*, Earl of *Valentinois* and *Diois*, For-
 “ *qualquer*, and Lands adjacent: To our Be-
 “ loved and Trusty Counsellor in our Coun-
 “ cils, and in our Council of State, the Sieur
 “ *D'Argenson* Lieutenant-General of our Po-
 “ lice of our good City of *Paris*; and to our
 “ Beloved and Trusty Counsellors in our
 “ Councils

“ Councils, Masters of the Requests in ordi-
 “ nary of our Palace, the Intendants and
 “ Commissaries respectively, for the executi-
 “ on of our Orders in the Provinces and Ge-
 “ neralities of our Kingdom, Greeting. We
 “ charge and enjoin you, and every one of
 “ you, to see to the execution of the Arret,
 “ the Extract of which is hereunto annex’d,
 “ under the Counter Seal of our Chancery,
 “ this Day given in our Council, for the
 “ Causes therein contain’d; commanding our
 “ first Usher or Serjeant, thereunto required,
 “ to signify the said Arret to the Persons there-
 “ in nam’d, and others to whom it shall ap-
 “ pertain, that none be ignorant of it. And
 “ furthermore, for the due execution of the
 “ said Arret, to make all the Commands,
 “ Summons and Prohibitions therein men-
 “ tion’d, upon the Penalties therein contain-
 “ ed, and all other needful Acts and Deeds,
 “ without any other Permission, notwithstand-
 “ ing *Clameur de Haro*, *Chartre Normande*,
 “ and Letters to the contrary. We will that
 “ the said Arret be read, publish’d and affix-
 “ ed twice a Year in all Places where need
 “ shall be; and that to the Copies thereof,
 “ and of these Presents, examin’d by one of
 “ our Beloved and Trusty Counsellors Secre-
 “ taries, regard be had as to the Originals.
 “ For such is our Pleasure. Given at *Marly*
 “ the 27th Day of *August* 1709, and of our
 “ Reign the 67th. By the King, *Dauphin*,
 “ Earl of *Provence*, in his Council.

Sign’d, R A N C H I N, and Seal’d.
 “ It

“ It is enjoined to *Mark Antoine Pasquier*,
 “ sworn Cryer in Ordinary of the City, Pro-
 “ vostship and Viscounty of *Paris*, to read,
 “ publish, and cause to be affix’d, by Sound
 “ of Trumpet and publick Outcry, the pre-
 “ sent Arret in all publick Places of the City
 “ and Suburbs of *Paris*, to the end that none
 “ may pretend Ignorance thereof. Done and
 “ given by Messire *Mark Rene de Voyer de*
 “ *Paulmy*, Knight, Marquis d’*Argenson*,
 “ Counsellor of State in Ordinary to the King
 “ in his Councils, Lieutenant-General of the
 “ Police of the City, Provostship and Vis-
 “ county of *Paris*, deputed Commissary by
 “ the King in this Behalf, the 8th Day of
 “ *March* 1713.

Sign’d, DE VOYER D’ARGENSON.

*The above Ordinance hath been read and pub-
 lish’d with loud and audible Voice, by Sound of
 Trumpet and publick Outcry, in all the usual ac-
 custom’d Places, by me Mark Antoine Pasquier,
 sworn Cryer in Ordinary to the King, in the Ci-
 ty, Provostship and Viscounty of Paris, dwelling
 in the Street Du Milieu del’Hotel des Ursins;
 attended by Lewis Ambezar, Nicholas Ambe-
 zar, and Claude Craponne, sworn Trumpeters,
 the 11th Day of March, 1713, to the end that
 none may pretend Ignorance thereof; and affix’d
 the said Day in the said Places.*

Sign’d, P A S Q U I E R.

Behold

Remarks on the Edict.

Behold here the Edict of his most Christian Majesty! Was ever any thing so severe? What! no East-India Manufactures to be bought or sold in his Kingdom or Colonies, or even to be imported, tho' in order to be re-exported? The Penalties too, and Incapacities are extraordinary, both upon the Buyers and the Sellers, upon the Taylors, Embroiderers, and other People that shall be found working up those Manufactures; even the poor Journeymen and Apprentices, who only obey the Commands of their Masters, are incapacitated for ever. Yet, as if this Punishment were not sufficient, their Names are to be register'd in Tables, and affix'd in the Courts of Justice, and their Infamy must be recorded.

What great Care too has his Majesty taken, that his Edict shall be observ'd! that it shall be publish'd and affix'd twice every Year! The Publication whence this very Translation was taken, was made about the Time of the signing of our late Treaty.

And what Search is to be made every where after Offenders, even privileg'd Places not exempted! How prodigious is the Reward which is given to the Informers? We have all the Reason in the World to believe, that the very Names of East-India Manufactures will be forgotten in that Kingdom.

'Tis never like to be repealed in our favour.

Are any of our People now so fond as to believe, that such an Edict as this shall ever be repeal'd in favour of Great Britain? Will his most Christian Majesty grant us the Liberty of importing those Manufactures, which he has refus'd to his own Subjects? And to what end

end should they be imported, when they are never to be us'd either in his Kingdom or Colonies?

We now see the Reason why the Clause for repealing his Arrets and Prohibitions was restrained to those only which concern the Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain; it is because his most Christian Majesty resolves, that the Manufactures of the East-Indies, China, or the Levant, shall not be imported at all into any part of his Dominions.

My Argument tends to this: If East-India Manufactures are to be struck out of the List of re-exported Goods; if we shall carry none of them into France, the Valuation of that List at 500,000 l. which they would have us believe to be the Measure of what we shall re-export by this Treaty, and which I have reduc'd to very little more than a fifth part of that Sum; will, by striking off East-India Manufactures, be brought down to a very Trifle.

It is insisted on, That the Trade between England and France not only MAY BE, but always HAS BEEN, a beneficial Trade to this Nation.

They laid it down as a Fundamental, and they explain their meaning thus:

- “ That notwithstanding the several Tariffs
- “ and additional Customs and Prohibitions laid
- “ on our Goods by the French, it has always
- “ been carry'd on to the Gain and Advantage
- “ of England.
- “ That take a Medium of any three Years
- “ for above forty Years past, and calculate
- “ the Exports and Imports to and from France;
- “ and

“ and it shall appear the Ballance of Trade
“ was always on the *English* Side, to the Loss
“ and Disadvantage of the *French*.”

Now would not any Man have believ'd, from this confident Assertion, that they were very sure of the Ground upon which they stood? Would any Man believe that the several Tariffs or Prohibitions of *France* had hinder'd our Exports to that Kingdom? Or that the Imports of any one Year had exceeded our Exports? Or if in any one Year they could be said to exceed, would not every Man naturally conclude, that upon a Calculation of that and any two other Years, the Ballance was on the *English* side? Or that *France* was to pay us more for our Exports, than we were to pay in *France* for the Goods and Merchandizes of that Country? Would not every one of their Readers have expected to see a particular Account both of Exports and Imports, with a Valuation of all the Parcels; and at the foot of the Account a Ballance in Money to be received from *France*, for the Overplus of Goods exported thither? But nothing like this was ever produced, nor indeed could be, as appears by the Preamble of the Act for prohibiting the *French* Trade in the 30th Year of King *Charles* the Second, in these Words: “ Forasmuch

Preamble to the Act of Charles II. against the French Trade.

“ as it hath been by long Experience found
“ that the importing of *French* Wines, Brandy, Linen, Silks, Salt, and Paper, and other Commodities of the Growth, Product, or Manufactures of the Territories and Dominions of the *French* King, hath much exhausted the Treasure of this Nation, lessen-
“ ed

“ ed the Value of the native Commodities
“ and Manufacture thereof, and caus'd great
“ Detriment to this Kingdom in general: Be
“ it enacted, &c.

The Advocates for the *French* Trade gave indeed an Account of Goods exported from *England* into *France* for the Year 1687. without any Valuation of the Particulars; so that they might swell the total Value, at the foot of the Account, to as great a Sum as they thought fit. Few of their Readers had sufficient Skill to contradict them: But let the Sum Total be either 1000 *l.* or 500,000 *l.* what is this to the purpose, if they have given us no Account at all of our Imports from that Country? How shall we be able to judge whether we were Gainers or Losers by that Trade? Or to which of the two Countries a Ballance was to be paid in Money? Is it possible for any Man to know whether our Imports or Exports have exceeded, by an Account only of those Goods which have been exported from this Kingdom?

Suppose any private Gentleman, who is not very exact in keeping his own Accounts (which very often happens to be the Case) should require his Steward to inform him, whether his Income or Expences have exceeded: And the Steward should tell him, that his clear Rents, besides Taxes and Reprises, amounted to 5000 *l.* per Ann. would he be satisfy'd with such an Answer? Would he think it any more than half an Answer to his Question? Could he be informed by this of the State of his Expences? Or whether his Income or Expences had exceeded?

ceeded? Would he not immediately conclude, that such a Fellow as this had a mind to be dipping into his Estate, and to take advantage of his Negligence?

I therefore will give such Accounts my self as shall demonstrate, beyond all possibility of Contradiction,

That the Trade between England and France, before our high Duties and Prohibitions upon French Goods, has been always detrimental to this Nation.

And I challenge any Man to produce an Account of any one Year before that time, by which the Fact shall appear otherwise.

In the next place I will have regard to these Writers Maxim, "That Cheapness and Dearness of any Commodity, not absolutely necessary to Life, increases or decreases the Consumption of it." And yet if the Duties upon French Goods here, shall be no more than by the eighth and ninth Articles of the late Treaty of Commerce, and the Duties and Prohibitions upon our Goods in France are to continue according to the Terms of that Treaty, I shall make it very probable,

That we shall export a great deal less, and import a great deal more than we ever did before; and that consequently the French Trade must be more detrimental than ever to this Nation.

And since they propos'd a Rule for trying the Value of the French Trade, viz. the Exports and Imports between both Countries, I will be contented to join Issue with them, and try this Trade by their own Rule.

And

And tho' I believe a worse Year cannot be produc'd for my purpose than that of 1685. when the above-mention Prohibition of King Charles the Second was repeal'd by King James the Second; I shall present my Readers with the very Account of all the Exports and Imports of that Year, which was laid before the House of Commons in 1713, with a Valuation of all the Particulars. It will be easily seen, at the foot of that Account, how much was gain'd or lost by that Trade.

This will deserve the Consideration of every Englishman, who has any Love for his native Country. From hence every one will be able to make a true Judgment, not only how much Money was gain'd or lost to England by that Trade, but also what Consequences it must have produc'd to the Lands and Manufactures of this Kingdom.

But before I give the Account of Exports and Imports between France and England, I must answer some Objections. "Suppose, say they, we sold 400,000 l. a Year to France in English Manufactures, and took back from France 800,000 l. value in the Produce and Manufacture of that Kingdom, yet may we be gainers by this Trade." The Reasons they give for it are,

Objections in behalf of the French Bilk of Commerce.

1. "That the making and vending of 400,000 l. in Manufactures, is the Employ and Subsistence of a prodigious Multitude of Poor; whereas the Import of the Foreign Goods being a superfluous Expence, goes out of the Hands of but a few,
2. "That it were better to abate 100,000 l.

“ 000 *l.* a Year in the Publick Balance, than
 “ not export 400,000 *l.* a Year in Manu-
 “ factures.” But how is it they would prove
 that we may export 400,000 *l.* in Manu-
 factures, and import double that Value, and
 yet be gainers by that Trade? They say,

1. That we gain either 5 *per Cent.* or 10
per Cent. or 15 *per Cent.* upon the Sale of our
 Goods in *France*, over and above the 400,-
 000 *l.* paid for the Goods in *England*.

2. In the next place they suppose, that the
 Freight of such a Value of Goods exported
 cannot be less than 50,000 *l.* which must be
 also paid by *France* to this Nation. But be-
 cause the Gain they suppose may be made up-
 on the Sale, and the Freight to be paid for our
 Shipping, are not sufficient, with the 400,-
 000 *l.* of Exports, to balance the Imports of
 the Value of 800,000 *l.* this third Reason for
 their Assertion is certainly the most mysteri-
 ous that ever was: and that I may not wrong
 them, I give it in their very Words.

3. “ If you allow, say they, 10 *per Cent.*
 “ gain’d by what we send to *France*, then
 “ this 50,000 *l.* paid on the Freight of our
 “ Ships, is equal to 500,000 *l.* exported in
 “ Goods: If 10 *per Cent.* is too much, and
 “ you think we gain but 5 *per Cent.* then it
 “ is equal to a Million exported:” And so
 the Account gains either way. And they say
 farther,

4. “ That they have heard the *French*
 “ Trade employs a thousand Sail of our Ships,
 “ which they do not think improbable; how-
 “ ever,

“ ever, they suppose that half the Number
 “ have been employ’d in that Trade.”

Now against this extraordinary Way of Rea-
 soning, I must insist upon it, that the Account
 of Exports and Imports of Goods between both
 Nations, is a certain and infallible Way of
 trying whether the *French* Trade has been ad-
 vantageous to this Kingdom.

I believe they are very right, that the mak-
 ing and vending 400,000 *l.* in Manufactures is
 the Employ and Subsistence of a prodigious Multi-
 tude of Poor. I have not known any where in
 the Country, that a Husband, his Wife, and
 three or four Children, have ask’d any Relief
 from the Parish, if the whole Labour of such
 a Family could procure 20 *l. per ann.* So that
 4 *l. per Head* is the common annual Subsistence
 of working People in the Country, and conse-
 quently the making and vending such a quanti-
 ty of Manufactures, to the Value of 400,000 *l.*
 is the Employ and Subsistence of a hundred
 thousand People.

And yet this Employment and Subsistence
 of so many Poor may be purchas’d a great deal
 too dear, if double the Numbers shall by this
 means be depriv’d of their Employment and
 Subsistence.

For what can these People mean, when
 they say, that the Import of Foreign Goods being
 a superfluous Expence, goes out of the Hands of
 but a few? I suppose they mean, the Money
 that is carry’d out to purchase these Superflui-
 ties. It is very true, the Money goes out of
 the Hands of but very few; but the Superflui-
 ties introduced for it, cannot chuse but deprive
 Mul-

Answers.

titudes here of their Employment and Subsistence.

I would ask them (the Nature of the French Trade consider'd, and that it consists in Manufactures) what Goods they think can be purchas'd for this Money, that shall not interfere with any of our own Manufactures? That shall not hinder our own People from making the like or the very same? It will follow then, that we cannot introduce the Value of 800,000 l. in Foreign Manufactures, without putting as many of our own to a Stand, and depriving as many People of their Employments as can be subsisted for so great a Sum. If they say we buy Wines, we pay other Nations for them with our Manufactures; so that 'tis the same thing as if they were of our making.

It is true, we have the Employment of as many People, as can be subsisted, by making and vending the Value of 400,000 l. in Manufactures for the French Trade, according to this Supposition, as a Recompence for giving up the Employment and Subsistence of as many as can be maintain'd by twice as great a Value. But what kind of Equivalent is this? To subsist a hundred thousand, we shall starve double the Number.

I have that Charity for the poor People, that I would, as they say, abate 100,000 l. in the Publick Balance, rather than not export 400,000 l. a Year in Manufactures. But how shall this be done? How is it possible for us by Trade to abate this or any other Part of the Publick Balance, without starving greater Numbers

Numbers than shall be employ'd in exporting those Manufactures? I deny that any such thing is possible.

But they put a Case, That we may export 400,000 l. and import 800,000 l. (they must mean both in Manufactures) and yet be Gainers by the Trade.

They think it very certain, that we shall gain either 5, or 10, or 15 per Cent. upon the Sale of our Goods in France. But where is that Merchant that depends upon 10 per Cent. in an Average upon the Sale of Goods to Leghorn? And then can such Profit be expected from so near a Country as France? or from a Voyage that can be performed in a third Part of the time?

But let the Advance upon the Sale of our Goods in France be as much beyond the 400,000 l. (either 5, or 10, or 15 per Cent.) as they please to make it, will not the Sale of French Goods here be at least as much per Cent. beyond their suppos'd Value of 800,000 l.? It is notorious, that all the French Silks and most of their Linens were sold here by Commission (I have heard this from the very Gentlemen who were their Factors) so that the Property was never out of the French Merchant, till after the Sale of them in England: and by consequence whatsoever was advanc'd upon the French Goods here, beyond the Value of them clear on board in France, was still adding to the Balance which was due to that Kingdom, in their own way of accounting: And if our Imports were as great again as our Exports, the Advance to France upon

upon 800,000*l.* was as much again as the Advance to *England* upon 400,000*l.* They had better take the Account both of Exports and Imports clear on board from both Countries, than pretend to any Advance upon the Sale of our Goods in *France*. The Balance against *England* would be so much the greater, by a greater Advance upon their Goods than ours.

The Charge of Freight consider'd.

Another thing they imagine is, that 50,000*l.* more ought to be added to our Goods upon account of Freight; and shall nothing be added to the *French* Goods upon the same Account? Had we nothing to pay to *France* for the Freight of their Ships? However, to gratify these Men, I will suppose for once, that the whole Trade between *England* and *France* was carried on in *English* Bottoms: Yet, why 50,000*l.* Increase upon our 400,000*l.* Freight? The Freight for Goods imported from the Plantations, *Turky*, and the *East-Indies*, is already reckon'd in the Value of them at the time of their Re-Exportation; so that all former Freight is part of that Value which makes up the 400,000*l.* and can therefore add no Increase beyond that Sum. The Freight therefore can be nothing else than the Payment of the Carriage from *England* into *France*; and can the Carriage of 400,000*l.* value in Goods, such as we usually sent to *France*, amount to 50,000*l.*?

What can be the Freight to *France*? And what quantity of Tonnage must be necessary for the Carriage of such a Value of our Goods? So many of our Ships have heretofore gone with

with empty Holds for the Back-carriage of Wines and other heavy Goods, that 20*s.* per Ton will be thought very great Freight for so short a Voyage as to any Part of *France* in the Ocean. And certainly 150,000*l.* value of *East-India* and *Turky* Goods will lie in 200 Tons of Shipping, and 800 Tons of Shipping must needs be sufficient for 200,000*l.* value of our Woollen Manufactures. A Million of Pounds weight of Sugar or Tobacco are not above 500 Tons, and 5000 Tons of Shipping are sufficient for about 40,000*l.* value in Corn. Then of what Goods would these Men have the 400,000*l.* to consist, to make the Freight or Carriage to *France* amount to 50,000*l.* or to any more than 6500*l.*? Can it be imagin'd, that 6500 Tons of Shipping are not sufficient for the Carriage of all the above-mention'd 400,000*l.* in Goods?

And will not this Sum be abundantly recompensed by the Advance to *France* upon the Sale of 800,000*l.* value of Goods in *England*, when there can be an Advance to the latter only upon the Sale of half that Value? I am obliged to them for this Argument.

But if 40,000*l.* could be gain'd to us over and above the Value of 400,000*l.* upon the Sale of these Goods in *France*; and if also 50,000*l.* were to be paid to us for Freight; would this make the Account even? Would there not be still against us 310,000*l.* upon the Balance?

To make good this Difference, they have recourse to the most extraordinary Argument

Whether Freight be all clear Profit.

The British Merchant.

I ever read. They suppose, that what is gain'd by Freight is all Profit, and that 10, or perhaps 5 *per Cent.* is the Profit we receive for Goods sold to *France*: "If you allow, say they, 10 *per Cent.* gain'd by what we send to *France*, then this 50,000 *l.* paid on the Freight of our Ships is equal to 500,000 *l.* exported in Goods: If 10 *per Cent.* is too much, and you think we gain but 5 *per Cent.* then it is equal to a Million."

What they mean seems to be this, That Freight is all Profit; and that 5 or 10 *per Cent.* being gain'd to the Nation by exporting Manufactures, this Freight is equal to the Gain upon 500,000 *l.* or a Million.

Now I ask them, Will this 50,000 *l.* (whether given us, or, as they wittily express it, *paid for Freight, all neat Money without any Equivalent*) prevent our losing 310,000 *l.* upon the Balance? The having it with or without an Equivalent, makes nothing to their Purpose. If 50,000 *l.* should be paid to *England* either *gratis* or for Freight, will it make the Poor amends for depriving them of Employment and Subsistence of more than six times as great a Value?

But how comes Money paid for Freight to be all clear Profit? Does the Builder or the Owner grow so much richer than the Merchant or the Manufacturer? Is not Shipping as much a Manufacture as Woollen, Silk, Linen, &c. And should not all be equally promoted, in proportion to the Employment they give the People? And the more Manufactures shall be made in *England*, will

The Trade with France.

will there not be so much more Encouragement for our Shipping? And if the Introduction of 800,000 *l.* value in *French* Manufactures, should so interfere with our own, that we should make ourselves the Value of 400,000 *l.* less than we did before; should we not have less Employment for our Shipping? I conclude therefore, that these Advocates for the *French* Trade understand nothing of the Subjects upon which they are employ'd to write.

They would suggest, that the *French* Trade has employ'd 1000 Sail of Shipping, or at least the one half: 500 or 1000 Sail: Bless us! what a Trade is this?

Number of Ships employ'd in the French Trade.

They, for a good Reason I know, would not willingly have it thought that we ever imported so much as 16000 Tuns of Wine and Brandy; and I should be glad they would shew, that we ever imported in any one Year above 10,000 Tuns of all other Goods. Then 6500 Tuns, at four Voyages in a Year, will be sufficient both to carry our Exports to *France*, and perform all the Back-carriage. 6500 Tuns at 80 Tuns to a Ship, make about 80 Ships in the whole; but then they are such as hardly deserve the name of Ships. Is this their 500 or 1000 Sail of Shipping?

Upon the whole matter, I think, an exact Account of Exports and Imports is the only infallible way to shew whether we have gain'd or lost by our Trade with *France*. It is undeniable, that the *French* advance more upon the Sale of 800,000 *l.* value in Goods sold here, than we can upon the Sale of half that

value of our Goods in *France*; that we gain very little by the Freight of Goods thither; and that notwithstanding our Gain in this way, the Ballance against us is still the same, or greater. And since neither our Advance upon the Sale of Goods in *France*, nor the Freight we are to receive from thence, is capable of making any Alteration in this Ballance; I must conclude, that the Advantages or Disadvantages of that Trade must be try'd by an Account of Exports and Imports between both Kingdoms.

I must next consider the several Cautions prescrib'd to me by these People, and also instruct my Readers how they ought to judge of the *French* Trade by the help of such an Account.

As confident as they were at their first setting out, of proving the Trade advantageous to us by the Exports and Imports between both Countries, they seem to have laid aside all thoughts of that Argument, and to be afraid of nothing so much as of the Accounts which were laid before the last Parliament by the Commissioners of the Customs, and which I have promis'd to publish, with a Valuation of the Particulars.

They ply me therefore with several Cautions concerning the first Account which is to come abroad, the Substance of all of them is as follows:

‘ That it may be such an Account, as the
‘ Commissioners of the Customs will own to
‘ be true.

‘ That it may take in not only the Exports
‘ of

‘ of *London*, but of all the Out-Ports; and
‘ not only of *English* Goods, but of all fo-
‘ reign Goods re-exported.

“ That to the Valuation of all these Goods,
“ at the time of their Exportation, 10 *per*
“ *Cent.* may be added for the Profit of their
“ Sale in *France*.

“ That to this may be added the Freight
“ for exporting those Goods from hence to
“ *France*; and not only this, but also the
“ Freight for the Importation of such of them
“ as were foreign, and not of our own Growth
“ and Manufacture.”

Thus much concerning our Exports: then for the Imports from that Kingdom, I am desired,

“ That the Quantities of them may by no
“ means exceed those of the Custom-house Ac-
“ counts, neither for *London* nor the Out-
“ Ports.

“ That the Valuation of them may not ex-
“ ceed the Rates given in *France*, and such
“ as are to be seen in the Books of the Cu-
“ stom-house.

“ That the Employment of our own Ship-
“ ping in bringing home these Goods may be
“ justly estimated; which tho' paid by our
“ selves, *they say*, is infinitely our Advantage.

“ And lastly, That a reasonable Allow-
“ ance may be made for the Medium of Corn
“ exported, when a dear Year happens;
“ which they think is one in seven, or at least
“ one in ten.”

I am for making all reasonable Allowances to these Writers: I shall therefore grant them

every thing they desire, or give them a Reason why I refuse it.

And first, as I have promis'd to begin with the Account of Exports and Imports from *Michaelmas* 1685 to *Michaelmas* 1686. I shall give the Readers that very Account of both, which was laid before the last Parliament by the Commissioners of the Customs, and which they must therefore *own to be a true one*. They themselves upon the sight of it, shall be convinc'd that I have not diminish'd the Exports of any kind of Goods, or increas'd the Quantities of any Goods imported, either for the Port of *London*, or any of the Out-Ports of this Kingdom.

And for the Valuation of all these Goods at that time, I believe I shall be thought, in the Opinion of every skilful Merchant, not to undervalue our own Exports: Let my Adversaries give a truer Valuation if they can.

Whether 10 per Cent. be a reasonable Profit between France and England.

But why is it that they will not be contented with the Value of our Goods clear on board? Why must 10 per Cent. be advanc'd upon the Value here, by the Sale of them in *France*? There will be the same Justice in advancing 10 per Cent. beyond the Value of *French* Goods clear on board, upon the Sale of them in *England*. This will very much aggravate the Account, to the disadvantage of the *French* Trade. However, if they will insist upon it, it shall be done.

They will object here, that we bought the *French* Goods clear on board in *France*, brought them home in our own Shipping, and could therefore have no Price to pay to *France* for these

these Goods beyond their first Value: That, on the other hand, we sold no Goods to *France* clear on board in *England*, nor before their Arrival in that Kingdom; so that the Risque of the Sea was to be paid for by *France* to this Nation, as well as the Value of the Goods in *England*.

Both these Facts I must deny: vast Quantities of *French* Goods were sold in *England* by Commission, so that the Property of these Goods was never out of the *French* Merchants before the Sale of them in this Kingdom, as observ'd already; and therefore we were oblig'd to pay to *France* not only the Value of the Goods in that Country, but the Adventure of them into *England*. This is known to have been the Case of all their wrought Silks, and great part of their Linens; they were sold in *England* by Commission, and the *French* Nation was paid not only for the Value of them there, but for the Adventure of them hither. On the other hand, I must deny that all the *English* Goods were sold in *France* by Commission, and they will never be able to prove it. But be this as it will, a much greater Value of *French* Goods was sold in *England* by Commission, than of *English* Goods in *France*; so that if any thing is to be advanc'd upon the Sale beyond the Value clear on board, for the Adventure of the Sea, as much in proportion ought to be advanc'd beyond the Value of the Goods of the one Nation as well as the other. And if this Rule ought in justice to be observ'd, these Men must be very well contented with the Value of our Goods clear on board in *England*,

land, without any Allowance to be made for the Risque or Adventure of the Sea.

But why 10 per Cent. Profit upon the Sale of either *English* or *French* Goods? Are the Countries at so great a distance? Is the Voyage so very dangerous? Is not the Risque of the Sea to be recompens'd with less Profit? What Merchant is there in *England*, who would not think 2 or 3 per Cent. sufficient Profit for a Voyage from one of these Countries to the other? However, if they will demand 10 per Cent. Profit in the one Case, in justice I ought to insist upon it in the other.

Whether Freight should be added to the Value of the Goods.

I come, in the next place, to the Freight, which they desire may be also added to the Value of the *English* Goods exported into *France*. For my own part I think nothing more reasonable, than that *France* should pay the Carriage of all Goods which she consumes; and if the Carriage must be perform'd in *English* Bottoms, the Money must be paid to *England*. If this has been the Case formerly, we have little reason to imagine it will be so hereafter; they are so much of late improved in Shipping, that they will certainly be Carriers for themselves, if that shall be accounted any thing.

But indeed with respect to the Goods exported to that Country, it ought to be accounted very little. Every Master here was ready, as is very well known, to take on board in *England* the Goods of every *English* Merchant gratis, for the sake of Freight for the Back-carriage; which seldom exceeded 20 s. per Tun, from every Part of *France* in the Ocean. Yet to allow them 5 or 10 s. per Tun for the Freight

Freight of all our Exports into *France*, it will amount to a very inconsiderable Sum, and such as hardly deserves the mention. But I will be sure not to forget their Caution at the foot of our Exports to that Kingdom.

The last Demand in behalf of our exported Goods, is, that the Freight for the Importation of such of them as were foreign, shall be added to the value of them at the time of their Exportation. In the Valuation of our Goods clear on board outwards, the Freight for the Importation of such as were brought hither from our Plantations, *Turkey* or the *East-Indies*, is always reckon'd as part of their Value at their Exportation. That which they want is, that the Freight for them into *England* should be reckon'd twice over. I commend them for this Conceit, and I persuade my self they will never lose any thing for want of asking.

As for the Quantity and Valuation of all the Goods imported, they will find by the Account it self, that I do not exceed the Quantities return'd to the last Parliament by the Commissioners of the Customs; and as to their Values, I shall take the best Advice I am able: and I will allow them, or any other Person in the World, to correct every one of my Mistakes; and as I shall have occasion to produce other Accounts hereafter, I will allow every reasonable Correction.

They proceed in the next place, to the vast Article of Shipping employ'd for the Importation of Goods from *France*, which tho paid
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by our selves, they think the Value of this Advantage ought to be estimated at the foot of the Account, and reckon'd as part of our Profit by the *French Trade*. And a great many comparative and superlative Words are made use of, to harangue their Readers into a Belief of this Advantage.

For my own part, I shall not dispute at present, whether the Nation is a Gainer by employing her own Ships in the *French Trade*, and paying nothing to *France* for the Importation of Goods from that Country. I shall take it for granted, if they please, that the thing is Fact, and that the Employment of our own Shipping, even to import Goods for ourselves, is our Advantage.

Yet what shall be accounted the Extent of this Advantage? It can certainly be no greater than the Freight we are to pay for the Goods we import into this Kingdom.

What Shipping is sufficient for Export and Import from France in the Ocean.

And what is the Value of all this Freight? 30000 Tuns of Shipping are certainly sufficient in one single Voyage to carry all the Goods that ever were exported to *France*, or imported thence in any one Year. If they think this not sufficient, I desire they will inform their Readers what Goods were ever imported from that Kingdom, that requir'd a greater Quantity of Shipping. The Freight, as I have said before, cannot exceed 20 s. per Tun, to and from any Part of *France* on the Ocean; so that the whole Value of this Advantage cannot exceed 30,000 l. per annum.

Value of it per ann.

But

But are we able to import such Quantities of Wines, and other Goods, from *France*, without lessening in proportion the Importation of the like Goods from *Portugal*, *Italy*, and other Countries? And are not our own Ships also employ'd in these Trades as well as that of *France*? And what is the Freight to *Italy*, *Portugal*, &c? 4 l. per Tun out and home at a Medium; and consequently for 30,000 Tons, 120,000 l. per ann. So that for the employing our own Shipping in the *French Trade*, to the Value of 30,000 l. per ann. we are to lay by our Shipping in the *Portugal* and *Italian Trades*, of the Value of 120,000 l. per ann. Certainly they will no more insist upon the great Advantage of employing our own Shipping in the Importation of Goods from *France*: instead of increasing the Employment of our Shipping, they must needs be sensible that it tends to the Destruction of our Navigation.

The Value of that to Italy, Portugal, &c. per ann.

Lastly, for their dear Year of Corn, I shall make them no Allowance: Let them produce at any time their dear Year, with the whole Exports and Imports of that Year, and it shall be allow'd. But they are very much mistaken, if they think our Exportation of Corn for this Year 1713 can be any Rule for the time to come. We had, by the Superiority of our Troops in the late War, forc'd almost all the Hands of the *French King's* Subjects from the Plough into his Armies, and made a Dearth in his Dominions: at other times *France* is able to supply herself with Corn, and even

even other Countries when they want it ; and she would very seldom buy from us, without the Bounty we give the Buyers. And whenever they are almost starving for want of Bread, they will buy from every Country, whether Enemies or Friends, without a Treaty of Commerce ; as appears by what they did this very Year, tho the late Treaty was not made effectual by a Law.

Thus I think I have consider'd every one of their Cautions ; I have resolv'd to take every one of them that can be thought reasonable, and I have given Reasons for rejecting all the rest : And this is what I had to say to this Matter. I must now give a few short Instructions how to judge of the *French* Trade by the Account which I have promis'd.

1. Every one will be able to see, if we have imported more Goods than we have exported, to the Value of 800,000 *l.* that we had so much Money to pay to that Kingdom.

2. If there are not above 16 Millions of current Silver in this Kingdom, every Farmer who has Corn to sell at Market, every Gentleman who has Rent to receive from his Tenant, will be sensible of the Inconvenience, if a 20th Part of all our current Money should be yearly exported by our Trade to *France*, and not repaid by that with any other Country ; and if it should be repaid from any other Country, it would be no Thanks at all to *France*.

3. Every one will perceive that this Balance must be paid for Wines or Manufactures, and that

that an equal Value of both must be hinder'd from being made at home, or from being imported from other Foreign Countries.

4. We purchase Wines and Manufactures from other Countries, with Manufactures of our own making ; so that 'tis the same thing as if we made them all ourselves. Whence it follows, that if Wines or Manufactures, equal to such a Balance as I have mention'd, should be imported from *France*, it must prevent the making in *England* Manufactures of like Value.

5. And Lastly, If of every Manufacture at a Medium, four fifth Parts of the Price are given to the Labour bestow'd upon it, and one fifth to the Rents, for the Wool, Leather, or other Product of the Lands ; and if the Manufactures, imported from *France* equal to the Balance of 800,000 *l.* as above-mention'd, prevent the making of others of like Value in *England*, every one will perceive, that the Landed Interest must lose 160,000 *l.* *per ann.* of their Rents, and as many People must be depriv'd of their Employments, as are subsisted for 640,000 *l.* *per ann.* who must therefore come to the Lands for a Maintenance.

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An ACCOUNT of the Imports and Exports to and from England and France, from Michaelmas 1685, to Michaelmas 1686. Which was laid before the Parliament in 1713, by the Commissioners of the Customs; with a just Valuation of all the Parcels, shewing the Loss that England sustain'd by our Trade with France that Year.

An ACCOUNT of Goods imported into the Port of London from France, from Michaelmas 1685, to Michaelmas 1686.

	<i>l. s. d.</i>	<i>l. s. d.</i>
A Nchovies	at 0 15 0 per Barrel	70 10 0
Ditto	0 7 6 per Barrel	132 15 0
Annotto	0 2 6 per lib.	262 10 0
Bugles Great	0 4 0 per lib.	248 4 0
Small	0 6 8 per lib.	33 6 8
Lace	0 8 0 per lib.	66 8 0
Books unbound	1 0 0 per Ct.	229 0 0
Brandy	20 0 0 per Tun	31377 1 3
Basket Rods	0 6 8 per Bundle	307 0 0
Bracelets or Necklaces of Glafs	1 4 0 per Groce	44 8 0

Bouteel Raines	Pieces	368	0 10 0 per Piece	184 0 0	0 4 6
Buckrams	Pieces	842	2 10 0 per 12 Pieces	175 8 7	0 0 0
Cheese	Ct. weight	47½	1 5 0 per Ct.	59 7 0	0 0 0
Cork	Ct. weight	5104½	0 16 8 per Ct.	4253 15 0	0 0 0
Capers	lib.	86474	0 0 6 per lib.	2161 17 0	0 0 0
Dornix with Caddas	Pieces	932½	1 10 0 per Piece	1398 15 0	0 0 0
Ditto with Silk	Pieces	19	2 0 0 per Piece	38 0 0	0 0 0
Fleams to let Blood	Pieces	3876	0 0 2 per Piece	32 6 0	0 0 0
Flaxundres'd	Ct. weight	1124	1 0 0 per Ct.	112 5 0	0 0 0
Feathers for Beds	Ct. weight	761¼	6 0 0 per Ct.	4570 10 0	0 0 0
Martins Skins	Timber	346	10 6 0 per Timber	38 15 0	0 0 0
Fans for Corn	Pieces	360	0 6 8 per Piece	120 0 0	0 0 0
Fans for Women	Dozens	162	2 0 0 per Dozen	324 0 0	0 0 0
Glafs for Windows	Cafes	1487	1 10 0 per Cafe	2230 10 0	0 0 0
Glafs-Pipes great	Ct.	92¼	7 10 0 per Ct.	691 17 6	0 0 0
Rafins Solis	Ct.	81¼	1 5 0 per Ct.	102 3 9	0 0 0
Looking-Glaffes	Dozen	2	45 0 0 per Dozen	90 0 0	0 0 0
Glafs Sights for Ditto	Dozen	6	30 0 0 per Dozen	180 0 0	0 0 0
Goods unrated	Value.			13558 4 6	6 6 6
Gauls	Ct.	100¼	3 10 0 per Ct.	350 17 6	0 0 0
Almonds Sweet	Ct.	309¼	4 10 0 per Ct.	1391 12 6	0 0 0
Annifeeds	Ct.	18½	2 0 0 per Ct.	37 0 0	0 0 0
Pepper	lib.	350	0 0 9 per lib.	19 17 6	0 0 0
Prunes	Ct.	17256¼	0 15 0 per Ct.	12942 11 3	0 0 0

Iron	160	Ct.	12	0	0	per Tun.	96	0	0	8
Incle unwrought	932	lib.	0	2	6	per lib.	116	10	6	0
British Linen	200	Single Ells	6	13	4	per hund. Ells	13	6	0	0
Canvas Vitry	6145 ¹ / ₄	hundred	5	0	0	per hund. of	30726	5	0	0
Canvas Norman, narrow	1370 ⁶ / ₆	hundred	6	0	0	120 Ells per hundred	8221	0	0	0
Ditto Broad	1	hundred	2	0	0	per Piece	15	0	0	0
Cambricks	2631 ¹ / ₂	Pieces	0	1	4	per Yard	5263	0	8	0
Diaper Napkining	41057	Yards	0	4	0	per Yard	2737	2	8	0
Ditto Tabling	7437	Yards	0	1	4	per Yard	1487	8	0	0
Damask Napkining	384	Yards	0	4	0	per Yard	25	16	0	0
Ditto Tabling	143	Yards	0	4	0	per Yard	28	12	0	0
Dowlas	57 ¹ / ₄	Pieces	5	0	0	per Piece	288	15	0	0
Germany Broad	3	hundred	10	0	0	per hundred	7	10	0	0
Ditto Narrow	14	hundred	4	0	0	per hundred	56	0	0	0
Linen	15183	Ells	0	1	8	per Ell	1265	5	0	0
Lockrams	20035	Pieces	5	0	0	per Piece	100175	0	0	0
Gentins	2021	Pieces	1	10	0	per Piece	3031	10	0	0
Lutesfrings Catlings	124	Small Groce	0	2	8	per Groce	16	10	8	0
Minikings	29 ¹ / ₂	Small Groce	1	6	8	per Groce	39	6	8	0
Ordinary Oil	18	Tuns	30	0	0	per Tun	540	0	0	0
Sallet Oil	1	Tun 206 Gallons	63	0	0	per Tun	118	0	0	0
Train Oil	2	Tuns	17	0	0	per Tun	34	0	0	0
Olives	113	Hogheads	8	0	0	per Hoghead	904	0	0	0

Blue Paper	20	Reams	0	10	0	per Ream	10	0	0	0
Ditto Cap	20	Reams	0	7	6	per Ream	7	10	0	0
Ditto Copy	77336	Reams	0	5	0	per Ream	19334	0	0	0
Ditto Demy	1670	Reams	0	15	0	per Ream	1252	10	0	0
Ditto Royal and Larger Paper	1659	Reams	2	0	0	per Ream	3318	0	0	0
Plaster of Paris	32	Mounts	2	0	0	per Mount	64	0	0	0
Plate Silver White	1423	Ounces	0	6	0	per Ounce	426	18	0	0
Ditto Gilt	1367	Ounces	0	7	6	per Ounce	512	12	6	0
Quails	915	Dozen	0	4	0	per Dozen	183	0	0	0
Rofen	7048 ¹ / ₄	Ct. weight	0	6	8	per Ct.	2349	8	4	0
Rape of Grapes	5	Tuns	3	5	0	per Tun	16	5	0	0
Thrown Silk	1628	lib.	1	0	0	per lib.	1628	0	0	0
Wrought Silk	5906 ¹ / ₂	lib.	2	10	0	per lib.	14766	5	0	0
Raw Silk	51	lib.	0	15	0	per lib.	38	5	0	0
Salt	892	Weys	2	0	0	per Wey	1784	0	0	0
Saffron	280	lib.	1	10	0	per lib.	420	0	0	0
Steel	42	Ct. weight	1	10	0	per Ct.	63	0	0	0
Succads	9047	lib.	0	3	0	per lib.	1357	1	0	0
Soap	3279	Ct. weight	2	10	0	per Ct.	8190	0	0	0
Seaholly Roots	31 ¹ / ₂	Ct. weight	1	0	0	per Ct.	31	10	0	0
Cyder	7	Tuns 168 Gallons	8	0	0	per Tun	61	6	8	0
Caen Stones	70	Tuns	0	15	0	per Tun	52	10	0	0
Thared Sisters	178 ¹ / ₂	lib.	0	15	0	per lib.	133	17	0	6

	Dozen <i>lib.</i>	Dozen <i>lib.</i>	Dozen <i>lib.</i>	1 4 0 per Dozen <i>lib.</i>		
Ditto Whited Brown	539 $\frac{1}{2}$			1	6474	12
Ditto Piecing	44 $\frac{1}{2}$			1	53	16
Ditto Brudges	203473			1	20347	6
Ticks for Beds	30	Pieces		1	45	0
Tapestry with Caddas	1188	Ells		0	475	4
Ditto with Silk	162	Ells		0	108	0
Steel-Wire	3500	<i>lib.</i>		0	525	0
Wine-Lees	127	Tuns		4	508	0
Sheeps Wool	9	Bags		10	90	0
Lambs Wool	2	Bags		10	20	0
Spanish Wool	2	Bags		20	40	0
Walnuts	493 $\frac{1}{2}$	Barrells		0	164	10
Wine	12700	Tons		17	300	0
Yarn Worsted	200	Pounds		0	30	0
Yarn Mohair	282	<i>lib.</i>		0	42	6
Yarn Raw-Linen	676	<i>lib.</i>		0	33	16
Skins Kid drefs'd	600			3	21	0
Kid in the Hair	560124			3	16803	14
Seal	4000			0	333	6
Buck drefs'd	34			0	8	10
Calf	5570			1	464	3
Hufs	9534			0	238	7
Sheep and Lamb Skins	15680			1	196	0
Mill-Stones	400			10	4000	0

	Ct.	D R U G S.	at	per Ct.
Hemp Rough	608		0	0
Coraline Fragments	302	<i>lib.</i>	3	4 per <i>lib.</i>
Myrrh	173	<i>lib.</i>	0	3
Tamarinds	490	<i>lib.</i>	0	10 per <i>lib.</i>
Turbith	35	<i>lib.</i>	0	5
Oil of Turpentine	9000	<i>lib.</i>	0	6 per <i>lib.</i>
Hermociles	340	<i>lib.</i>	0	2
Bdellium	1149	<i>lib.</i>	0	2
Alkermes Syrup	684	<i>lib.</i>	0	6
Ciceres	1740	<i>lib.</i>	0	8
Cantharides	684	<i>lib.</i>	0	5
Garden Seeds	4266	<i>lib.</i>	0	8
Oil of Spike	460	<i>lib.</i>	0	1
Fennel Seeds	3000	<i>lib.</i>	0	6
Prunelloes	24888	<i>lib.</i>	0	1
Verdigreafe	11125	<i>lib.</i>	0	8
Laudanum	725	<i>lib.</i>	0	1
Fennugreek	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ct.	15	0 per Ct.
Orange-Flower Water	268	Gallons	5	0 per Gallon
Rofe Leaves	400	<i>lib.</i>	0	1
Cortex Caperum	230	<i>lib.</i>	0	1
Antimonium Crudum	203 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ct.	0	0 per Ct.
Benjamin	69	<i>lib.</i>	5	0 per <i>lib.</i>

Cummin-Seeds	14	Ct.	1 13 4	per Ct.	23 6 8
Almonds Bitter	61	Ct.	2 0 0	per Ct.	122 0 0
Lentiles	1550	lib.	0 0 3	per lib.	19 7 6
Sal Armoniack	184	lib.	0 1 8	per lib.	15 6 8
Turpentine Common	2023	Ct.	0 10 0	per Ct.	1011 10 1

Total of the Imports into the Port of London, 569126 0 0

Besides several other Drugs, Pomegranates, Apples, Cherries, dry'd Plums and Pears, Onions, Rice, Beans, Oranges and Lemons, Lawns, *Mulcovia* and *Polania* Linen, Sugar, Honey, Hops, Teazles, Budge and Goat Skins, Gloves, Jett, Oaker, Oakham, Hoops, Bricks, Orchard, Twine, Quills, Rackets, Rings of Wire, Canes, Rofa Solis, Wash Balls, Glafs. Vials, Inkhorns, Ink for Printers, Burrs for Mill-Stones, Table-Books and Passboards, for Books, Tinder Boxes, Rubbing and Comb-Brushes, Cafes for Needles, Beaver-Wool, Freeze, knit Waistcoats, Stuffs and Cloth of Woollen, Spruce Canvas, and Canvas tufted with Thred.

An ACCOUNT of Goods imported from France into all the Out Ports of England, from Michaelmas 1685 to Michaelmas 1686, (except Deal, Dartmouth, Whitby and Milford, for Michaelmas Quarter 1686.)

A Llom Anchovies	24	Ct.	at 0 12 0	per Ct.	14 8 0
	42	Barrels	0 7 6	per Barrel	15 15 0

Almonds	35½	Ct.	4 10 0	per Ct.	159 15 0
Burrs for Mill Stones	2300	Tun	2 10 0	per hundred	57 10 0
Brandy	599¼	Ct.	20 0 0	per Tun	11995 0 0
Cheefe	800	Dozen	1 5 0	per Ct.	1000 0 0
Corn Fans	10	Ct.	0 6 8	per Piece	40 0 0
Cork	357¼	Ct.	0 16 8	per Ct.	298 2 6
Cordage	16½	Ct.	1 5 0	per Dozen	20 18 9
Calve-Skins in the Hair	31922	Ct.	1 0 0	per Dozen	2660 3 4
Figs	121	Ct.	0 16 0	per Ct.	96 16 0
Feathers	360¼	Ct.	6 0 0	per Ct.	2161 10 0
Drinking-Glaffes	3600	Ct.	0 15 0	per hundred	27 0 0
Goods ad Valorem	260	Ct.	1 5 0	per Ct.	7023 15 8
Muscovado Sugar	11	Ct. 1 q. 15 lib.	0 12 0	per Pound	325 0 0
Mace	191	Tun	30 0 0	per Tun	765 0 0
Honey	670	Ct.	1 0 0	per Ct.	5730 0 0
Hemp rough	147	Tun, 7 Ct.	12 0 0	per Tun	670 0 0
Iron	28731	Bolts	3 0 0	per hundred	1768 4 0
Kid-Skins	2038	lib.	1 0 0	per Bolt	861 18 7
Poldavys	4506	Ells	0 1 0	per lib.	2038 0 0
Linen Yarn	389	Pieces	0 4 0	per Ell	225 6 0
Linen Holland	37245	Pieces	5 0 0	per Piece	77 16 0
Lockrams	30	Pieces	0 10 0	per Piece	186225 0 0
Lawns <i>Silesia</i>	6502	Ells	6 13 4	per hundred	15 0 0
British Cloth					433 9 4

Buckrams	151	Pieces	2	10	0	per doz.	Pieces	31	9	2
Flanders Linen	160	Ells	0	4	0	per Ell		32	0	0
Diaper Napkinning	4500	Yards	0	1	4	per Yard		300	0	0
Dowls	11541	Pieces	5	0	0	per Piece		57705	0	0
Genting	299	Pieces	1	10	0	per Piece		448	10	0
Molosses	859 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ct.	0	13	4	per Ct.		573	0	0
Match	5250	Ct.	1	0	0	per Ct.		5250	0	0
Oakhum	1374	Ct.	0	10	0	per Ct.		687	0	0
Prunes	29748 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ct.	0	15	0	per Ct.		22311	11	3
Oil	7	Tuns, 2 Hogheads	30	0	0	per Tun		225	0	0
Paper	11617	Reams	5	0	0	per Ream		2904	5	0
Rosin	4992	Ct.	0	6	8	per Ct.		1664	0	0
Salt	15821	Weyes	2	0	0	per Wey		31642	0	0
Soap	2530 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ct.	2	10	0	per Ct.		6326	17	6
Silk Wrought	115591	lib.	2	10	0	per lib.		288977	10	0
N. B. Great Part of the Wrought Silks were worth from 3 l. to 4 l. per lib.										
Tallow	728 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ct.	1	0	0	per Ct.		728	5	0
Tow	80	Ct.	0	10	0	per Ct.		40	0	0
Thred Bruges	22	Dozen	1	0	0	per Dozen		22	0	0
Tregar	306	Pieces	5	0	0	per Piece		1530	0	0
Verdigrease	327	lib.	0	1	8	per lib.		27	5	0

Wine
Walnuts

3888 $\frac{1}{2}$ Tuns
3328 Barrels

17 10 0 per Tun
0 6 8 per Barrel

68053 2 6
1109 6 8

Total of the Imports into the Out-Ports, 715293 10 3

Besides Apples, Chestnuts, Lemons, Olives, Barley, Mustard Seed, Onions, Pease, Quails, Wheat, Catings, Earlings, Outnall Thred, Ticking, Copperas, Gun-powder, Twine, Flax, Hops, Succads, Vinegar, Wine-Lees, Laths, Plaster of Paris, empty Casks, Parchment, Seal-Skins.

An ACCOUNT of Goods exported to France, from the Port of London, from Michaelmas 1685, to Michaelmas 1686.

LONG Cloths
Short Cloths
Spanish Cloths
Kerseys
Double Dozens
Single Dozens
Cloth Rashes
Perpetts and Serges

424
164
4190
3298
152
1289
2
7672

Piecs
Pieces
Pieces
Pieces

l. s. d.
10 0 0 per Cloth
8 0 0 per Cloth
15 0 0 per Cloth
1 15 0 per Piece
5 0 0 per Piece
2 10 0 per Piece
5 0 0 per Piece
2 0 0 per Piece

l. s. d.
4240 0 0
1312 0 0
62850 0 0
5771 10 0
760 0 0
3222 10 0
10 0 0
15344 0 0

Stuffs and Says	738	Pieces	2 0 0 per Piece	1476 0 0
Woollen Cloth in Remnants	1657	lib.	valued at	300 0 0
Flannels	28230	Yards	1 0 per Yard	1411 10 0
Freezes	21737	Yards	3 0 per Yard	3260 11 0
Single Bays	1153	Pieces	2 10 0 per Piece	2882 10 0
Double Bays	712	Pieces	4 0 0 per Piece	2848 0 0
Minikin Bays	58	Pieces	6 0 0 per Piece	348 0 0
Pennifones freized	18 2 43	Pieces	3 0 0 per Piece	129 0 0
Pennifones unfreiz'd	25 3	Yards	0 0 6 per Yard	20 15 0
Wadmolealiaz Wadding	830	Goads	9 0 0 per 100 Goads	8161 13 0
Cottons and Plains	90685	lib.	0 10 0 per lib.	219 10 0
Camblets Hair & Worft.	439	Dozen	2 10 0 per Dozen	55 0 0
Hats, Caffors and Felts	22	Ends	1 0 0 per Piece	124 0 0
Fufians	124	Dozen	2 0 0 per Dozen	4278 0 0
Mens Worfted Hofe	2139	Dozen	0 8 0 per Dozen	188 16 0
Childrens Worfted Hofe	472	Dozen	0 15 0 per Dozen	3273 7 6
Mens Woollen Hofe	4364 1/2	Dozen	0 4 0 per Dozen	226 0 0
Childrens Woollen Hofe	1130	Dozen	1 0 0 per Garment	141 0 0
Garments	141	Dozen	0 3 0 per Dozen	1 4 0
Woollen Caps	8	lib.	0 15 0 per lib.	5260 10 0
Silk wrought, and Stuffs mix'd with Silk	7014	Groce	0 2 6 per Groce	9 12 6
Buttons, Hair	77			

Stuffs and Says	738	Pieces	2 0 0 per Piece	1476 0 0
Glas and Earthen Ware	9248	Pieces	0 0 2 per Piece	77 1 4
Haberdathery Ware	9 1/2	Ct.	10 0 0 per Ct.	95 0 0
Tann'd Leather	7646 1/4	Ct.	3 0 0 per Ct.	22938 15 0
Leather wrought	619	lib.	0 1 6 per lib.	46 8 6
Old Shoes	1075	Dozen	0 10 0 per Dozen	537 10 0
Saddles	3	Pair	1 0 0 per Saddle	3 0 0
Coach-Harnes	1	Groce	0 1 0 per Groce	5 0 0
Tobacco Pipes	226	Pair	5 0 0 per Pair	11 6 0
Virginals	3	Dozen	0 12 0 per Dozen	15 0 0
Plain Leather Gloves	86	Pair	0 2 0 per Pair	51 12 0
Duck Leather Gloves	6	Dozen	1 0 0 per Dozen	0 12 0
Bellows	12	Ct.	1 0 0 per Ct.	12 0 0
Books printed and Maps	49 4 1/4	Firkins	1 0 0 per Firkin	49 5 0
Butter	934 1/2	Ct.	1 5 0 per Ct.	934 10 0
Glue	1313 1/2	Ct.	2 15 0 per Ct.	1266 17 6
Gunpowder	502	Ct.	1 0 0 per Ct.	1380 10 0
Starch	18 1/2	Ct.	1 4 0 per Ct.	18 10 0
Allum	295	Barrel	1 10 0 per Barrel	354 0 0
Beef	3 1/2	Tun	4 0 0 per Tun	4 13 9
Beer	10	Ct.	1 5 0 per Ct.	40 0 0
Cheefe	8 1/4	Quarters	1 4 0 per Quarter	10 6 3
Hoops	800			2 0 0
Pictures	3			6 0 0
Wheat	701			841 4 0

Rye	673	Quarters	0 16 0	per Quarter	538	8 0
Oats	35	Quarters	0 10 0	per Quarter	17	10 0
Oatmeal	48	Bushels	0 3 0	per Bushel	7	4 0
Herrings	1324	Barrels	0 15 0	per Barrel	993	0 0
Salmon	49	Barrels	4 0 0	per Barrel	196	0 0
Bees-Wax	184	Ct.	6 0 0	per Ct.	109	10 0
Coals	20	Chaldron	1 0 0	per Chaldron	20	0 0
Coney-Wool	1900	lib.	0 7 0	per lib.	665	0 0
Tin	2417	Ct.	3 10 0	per Ct.	8459	10 0
Pewter	81	Ct.	0 1 0	per lib.	453	12 0
Lead	2797	Fodder	12 0 0	per Fodder	33564	0 0
Lead Shot	1258	Ct.	0 14 0	per Ct.	880	12 0
Wrought Bras & Copper	28 1/2	Ct.	8 0 0	per Ct.	228	0 0
Iron Ordnance	31	Ct.	0 12 0	per Ct.	18	12 0
Iron wrought and Clock Work	400 1/4	Ct.	2 0 0	per Ct.	800	10 0
Lanthorn Leaves	336900		0 10 0	per hundred	1684	10 0
Rams-horns	750		5 0 0			0 0
Stags-horns	100		0 6 8	per Mill	10	2 8
Ox-bones	30400		2 0 0	per Quarter	429	0 0
Linfeeds	214 1/2	Quarters	3 0 0	per Ct.	6	0 0
Sugar refined	2	Ct.	0 5 0	per lib.	7	10 0
Sealing-Wax	30	lib.	10 0 0	each	110	0 0
Horses	11					

Unrated Goods	80508		0 3 0	per dozen	7148	16 0
Skins, Hare	103930		2 10 0	per 120 Skins	1006	7 0
Stags and grey Coney	50		0 6 0	per dozen	2165	4 2 6
Cats	141 1/2	dozen	0 4 0	per dozen	42	9 0
Dogs	20		0 0 5	per Piece	4	0 0
Bucks	225		0 0 5	per Piece	4	13 9
Sheep dres'd	23694	lib.	1 10 0	per Ct.	317	6 6
Pot-Ashes	19 1/4	lib.	4 10 0	per Ct.	86	12 6
Almonds	42	lib.	1 0 0	per lib.	42	0 0
Amber-Beads	183	Tuns, 16 Ct.	0 10 0	per Ct.	1838	0 0
Braziletta Wood	360	Ct.	1 5 0	per Ct.	450	0 0
Barrilla	1135	Ct.	4 0 0	per Ct.	4540	0 0
Bees-Wax	541	Ct.	1 5 0	per Ct.	676	5 0
Brunstone	1	Piece	0 1 2	per Ell	2	0 0
Checks	290	Ells	1 10 0	per Ct.	16	18 4
Canvas	565 1/2	Ct.	0 5 0	per Gallon	848	5 0
Curants	122	Gallons	0 5 0	per Hide	30	10 0
Canary	9685	lib.	0 5 0	per lib.	2421	5 0
Cow-Hides	4200	lib.	0 4 6	per lib.	945	0 0
Cinnamon	8810	lib.	0 18 0	per lib.	7929	0 0
Cochuneal	900	Yards	0 1 4	per Yard	60	0 0
Diaper	204	Ct.	0 0 0	c per	1836	0 0
Elephants Teeth						

Figs	48	Ct.	0 16 0	per Ct.	38	8	0
Guinea Grains	50	lib.	0 0 8	per lib.	1	13	4
Germany Linen broad	10	hundred Ells	0 0 0	per hundred	104	13	4
Ditto narrow	34	hundred Ells	4 0 0	per hundred	136	13	4
Gloves	11	Dozen	0 12 0	per dozen	6	12	0
Hemp	22	Ct.	1 0 0	per Ct.	22	0	0
Horn Plates	6300	Dozen	0 13 0	per hundred	40	19	0
Hofe	533	Ct.	1 0 0	per dozen	533	10	0
Honey	19	Ct.	30 0 0	per Tun	29	5	0
Hops	32	Ct.	1 10 0	per Ct.	49	2	6
Indico rich	2610	lib.	0 5 0	per lib.	652	10	0
Iron	1	Tun	0 13 4	per lib.	12	0	0
Inkle wrought	1250	lib.	5 0 0	per Piece	833	6	8
Lockrams	3	Pieces	0 5 0	per hundred	15	0	0
Lemons	150000	Bushels	2 0 0	per Quarter	375	0	0
Linfeed	150	Pieces	0 10 0	per Piece	37	10	0
Lawns Silefia	4	Ells	0 1 8	per Ell	14	18	4
Linen	179	Tuns	12 0 0	per Tun	318	0	0
Logwood	26	Tuns	30 0 0	per Tun	13852	10	0
Oil ordinary	461	Ells	0 0 8	per Ell	123	6	8
Ozenbrigs	3700	Lafts	15 0 0	per Laft	225	0	0
Pitch	15	lib.	0 1 0	per lib.	1	5	0
Prunelloes	25	Ct.	1 5 0	per Ct.	635	18	9
Raifins Solis	508	Ct.					

Ditto Malaga	37	10	0	0	0	0
Soap hard	65	0	0	0	0	0
Italian wrought Silk	452	10	0	0	0	0
Silk wrought with Gold	67	5	0	0	0	0
and Silver	2	0	0	0	0	0
Silk Stockings stitc'd	26	4	0	0	0	0
with Gold	29	9	0	0	0	0
Safflower	527	10	0	0	0	0
Shomach	120	0	0	0	0	0
Salmon	120	0	0	0	0	0
Steel	566	0	0	0	0	0
Skins, Beaver	60	0	0	0	0	0
Ditto Coney	123	4	0	0	0	0
Ditto Otter	55	16	0	0	0	0
Tallow Irish	8	15	0	0	0	0
Tortoise-shell	8247	12	0	0	0	0
Twine	261	12	0	0	0	0
Spanish Wool	14	12	0	0	0	0
Wheat	122	10	0	0	0	0
Ginger	7614	7	0	0	0	0
Indico Plant	257	12	0	0	0	0
Sugar brown						
Sugar white						

		T U R K Y		G O O D S.		1921		16		7	
Tobacco	131783	lib.									
Anniteeds	24	Ct.									
Coffee	274	Ct.									
Cotton	12517	lib.									
Cotton-Yarn	113401	lib.									
Carpets	12										
Fustick	360	Ct.									
Gauls	2454	Ct.									
Goats Hair	32787	and 9040	lib.								
Rice	32	Ct.									
Spunges	4944	lib.									
Cordevant Skins	275	whereof compute									
Silk Raw	11732	lib.									
Ardafs.	7822	lib.									
Sherbaffee and Belandine	3910	lib.									
E A S T - I N D I A G O O D S.											
Atlafes	19	Pieces									
Boxes japan'd	12										
Canes	10000										
Chints	25	Pieces									
Chucklees	1506	Pieces									
China Ware	60	Pcs & 3Tubs									

		1921		16		7	
Cabinets	2						
Cups japan'd	15						
Crevats with Gold and Silver	7						
Cuttanees with Gold	43	Pieces					
Callicoes	134646	Pieces					
Dressing-Boxes	2						
Neckcloths	1537	Pieces					
Ditto fingle	8055	Pieces					
Nillaes	4510	Pieces					
Needle-Cafe	1						
Pepper	524589	lib.					
Pepper Duft	4500	lib.					
Palempores	8	Pieces					
Romalls	4543	¼ Pieces					
Ditto Cotton	3174	Pieces					
Ditto with Silk	10½	Pieces					
Red Earth	5½	Tun					
Silk wrought India	2413½	lib.					
Salempores	40	Pieces					
Trunks Lacquer'd	15						
Tea-Tables japan'd	41						
Tea	561	lib.					
Guinea Stuffs	56	Pieces					

	Pieces	Pieces				
Ginghams	375	0 12 0			0 225	0 0 0
Jam Warrs	10	0 10 0			5 0 0	0 0 0
Wood red	40	1 10 0			60 0 0	0 0 0
Olibanum	56	5 0 0			280 0 0	0 0 0
Aloes Epatica	3907	2 0 0			390 14 0	0 0 0
Seed Pearl	6500	3 4 0			1083 6 0	0 0 0
Castoreo	22	10 0 0			11 0 0	0 0 0
Sanguis Draconis	50	3 4 0			8 6 8	0 0 0
Mirabulanes	8224	1 0 0			411 4 8	0 0 0
China Roots	3600	6 8 0			1200 0 0	0 0 0
Balfam Natural	3 ½	10 0 0			1 15 0	0 0 0
Tamarinds	1179	0 10 0			49 2 6	0 0 0
Worm-Seeds	388	3 4 0			64 13 4	0 0 0
Senna	2409	2 6 0			301 2 6	0 0 0
Scammony	30	1 0 0			30 0 0	0 0 0
Asfa Foetida	488	1 2 0			28 9 4	0 0 0
Manna	2748	2 6 0			343 10 0	0 0 0
Liquorish Juice	3	1 0 0			0 0 3	0 0 0
Long Pepper	1204	1 0 0			60 4 0	0 0 0
Rhubarb	292	1 0 0			292 0 0	0 0 0
Jefuits Bark or Cafcarilla	63	0 10 0			31 10 0	0 0 0
Caffia Fiftula	500	0 1 6			42 0 0	0 0 0
Caffia Ligna	336	0 1 8			28 0 0	0 0 0

Sticklack	56	lib.	0 1 0		2 16 0	0 0 0
Aloes Cicotrina	920	lib.	0 5 0		230 0 0	0 0 0
Roman Vitriol	165	lib.	0 1 0		8 5 0	0 0 0
Opium	10	lib.	0 10 0		5 0 0	0 0 0
Gum Elemini	35	lib.	0 0 10		1 9 2	0 0 0
Angelica	40	lib.	0 1 0		2 0 0	0 0 0
Cortex	404	lib.	0 1 0		20 4 0	0 0 0
Nux Vomica	797	lib.	0 0 8		26 11 4	0 0 0
Gum Dragants	670	lib.	0 1 0		33 10 0	0 0 0
Storax Calamata	427	lib.	0 5 0		106 15 0	0 0 0
Coculus India	700	lib.	0 2 0		70 0 0	0 0 0
Galbanum	300	lib.	0 1 6		22 10 0	0 0 0
Cardamoms	6	lib.	0 3 0		0 18 0	0 0 0
Sal Armoniac	250	lib.	0 1 8		20 16 8	0 0 0
Oil de Bay	400	lib.	2 0 0		7 2 10	0 0 0
Musk	192	Oun.	2 0 0		384 0 0	0 0 0
Musk Cods	38 ½	doz.	2 0 0		77 0 0	0 0 0

Total of the Exports from the Port of London, 409,563 6 4

Besides 3 India Hammocks, 14 Dozen of Snuff-Boxes, 3 Toylets, 20 Pieces of Mundels, 2 Barbary Aprons, 70 lib. Alliforia, 240 lib. Quinta, 415 lib. Cambogium, 200 lib. Red Orice, 7 Maunds of Glovers Clippings, 100 weight of Oaker, and 4 Trunks of Wearing Apparel.

An ACCOUNT of Goods Exported to France from all the Out-Ports of England, (except Deal, Dartmouth, Whitby and Milford, for Michaelmas Quarter 1686.) from Michaelmas 1685. to Michaelmas 1686.

	l. s. d.		l. s. d.
B Ays	1858	Pieces	2 10 0 per Piece
Cottons	123555	Goads	9 0 0 per h. Goads
Dorset Dozens	2747	Yards	1 5 0 per Piece
Flannel	1077	Yards	0 1 0 per Yard
Frieze	110	Pieces	0 3 0 per Yard
Cloth Rashes	209	lib.	5 0 0 per Piece
Coverlets	1456	Pieces	0 1 0 per lib.
Kerseys	1631	Ells	1 15 0 per Piece
Serges	81557	lib.	0 1 10 per Ell
Stuffs Woollen	40800	lib.	0 2 0 per lib.
Ditto Worsted	386	lib.	0 2 6 per lib.
Perpets	79723	lib.	0 2 6 per lib.
Woollen Cloth	1793	lib.	0 10 0 Each
Waistcoats knit	25	Dozen	1 10 3 per Dozen
Hose Worsted	959	Dozen	2 10 0 per Dozen
Hats, Felts	6	Dozen	72 10
Ditto Castors	23		

Gloves Leather	27	Dozen	0 12 0 per Dozen	16 4 0
Haberdashery Ware	1	C. 7 lib.	10 0 0 per Ct.	10 12 0
Leather	880 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ct.	3 0 0 per Ct.	2641 10 0
Linen	13767	Ells	0 1 8 per Ell	1147 5 0
Silk wrought	218	lib.	2 10 0 per lib.	545 0 0
Malt	250	Quarters	0 14 0 per Quarter	175 0 0
Wheat	9668	Quarters	1 4 0 per Quarter	11601 12 0
Oats	277	Quarters	0 10 0 per Quarter	138 10 0
Barley	368	Quarters	0 14 0 per Quarter	257 12 0
Reafe	102	Quarters	1 0 0 per Quarter	102 0 0
Rye	758	Quarters	0 16 0 per Quarter	606 8 0
Allum	2652	Ct.	1 4 0 per Ct.	3182 8 0
Copperas	40	Ct.	0 5 0 per Ct.	10 0 0
Glue	50	Ct.	1 5 0 per Ct.	62 10 0
Gunpowder	1500	Ct.	2 15 0 per Ct.	4125 0 0
Butter	2012	Barrels	1 0 0 per Barrel	2012 0 0
Beer	26	Tun & 2Hds	4 0 0 per Tun	106 0 0
Bread	15280	lib.	0 7 0 per Ct.	47 15 0
Ox Bones	17000	Dozen	0 6 8 per m.	5 13 4
Candles	4	Chaldron	0 3 6 per Dozen	0 14 0
Coals (<i>a Newcastle</i>)	557	Ct.	0 10 0 per Chaldron	278 10 0
Cheefe	18	hundred	0 5 0 per Ct.	22 10 0
Clapholt	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	hundred	0 15 0 per hundred	7 17 0
Deals	900	hundred	4 0 0 per hundred	3600 0 0

Flax undress	22 1/4	lib.	1	0 0 per Ct.	22	5 0 0
Window Glafs	100	Chests	1	10 0 per Chest	150	0 0 9
Glafs Bottles	15750		6	5 0 per m.	98	8 0 0
Figs	195	Ct.	0	16 0 per Ct.	156	0 0 0
Grindstones	3	Chaldron	0	13 0 per Chaldron	1	19 0 0
Staves Hogheads	360		14	0 0 per m.	72	4 9 0
Ditto Pipe	4800					
Herrings white	922	Barrels	0	15 0 per Barrel	8680	10 0 0
Ditto Red	10652	Barrels	10	0 0 per Tun	3080	0 0 2
Filchards	308	Tuns	0	5 0 per m.	71	16 2 0
Hilling Stones	287236		8	0 0 per Ct.	556	0 0 0
Copper	16	Ct.	12	0 0 per Tun	8	4 0 0
Brafs	53 1/2	Ct.	0	10 0 per Ct.	12	10 0 0
Iron	13 3/4	Ct.	12	0 0 per Fodder	1562	9 2 6
Old Iron	25	Tun 19 Ct.	1	15 0 per Ct.	846	2 0 0
Lead	126	Ct.	1	10 0 per Ct.	9	0 0 0
Nails	483 1/2	Ct.	3	10 0 per Ct.	2072	0 0 0
Steel	6	Ct.	0	1 0 per lib.	29	8 0 0
Tin	592	Ct.	1	1 0 per Ct.	16	0 3 0
Pewter	54	Ct.	10	0 0 per Horfe	650	0 0 0
Hops	144	Ct.	0	5 0 per Hide	170	15 0 0
Horfes	65					
Cow Hides	683					

Linfeed Oil	40	Tuns 2 Ct.	20	0 0 per Tun	802	0 0 0
Pitch	80	Barrels	15	0 0 per Laft	100	0 0 0
Tar	80	Lafts	15	0 0 per Laft	1200	0 0 0
Calf Skins	1397 3/4	C. and 7 lib.	0	0 9 per lib.	5870	11 0 0
Beaver Skins	5	lib.	0	3 0 per Skin	0	15 0 0
Tobacco	59769		0	0 3 1/2 per lib.	871	12 7 0
Bees Wax	158 1/2	Ct.	4	0 0 per Ct.	635	0 0 0
Tobacco Pipes	366	Groce	0	1 0 per Groce	18	6 0 0
Wool Cards	4	Dozen	0	10 0 per Dozen	2	0 0 0
Goods ad Valorem					638	11 0 0

Total of the Exports from the Out-Ports 105,665 7 8

Besides Coin, Foreign 6400 Pieces, 2 Pieces of Blanketing, 400 Yards of Rugs, 6 Fitches of Bacon, 150 Codfish, 1 Hoghead of Vinegar, and 7 1/2 Chaldron of Lime.

By

The British Merchant.

By this Account our Imports for the aforementioned Year are, viz.

	l.	s.	d.
Into the Port of London	569126	00	0
Into the Out-Ports (except Deal, Dartmouth, Whitby, and Milford for Michaelmas Quarter	715293	10	3

Total Imports 1284419 10 3

On the other side, our Exports for the same Year are, viz.

	l.	s.	d.
From the Port of London	409563	6	04
From the Out-Parts (except Michaelmas Quarter) at the Places above-mention'd	105665	7	11

Total Exports 515228 14 3

So our IMPORTS exceeded our EXPORTS 769190 16 0

Or in other words, this Nation lost by the French Trade that Year, even by such Goods as were entred at the Custom-House, 769190 16 0

This were Loss sufficient, if annually repeated, to ruin this Kingdom in a very few Years: and yet I believe I shall make appear hereafter, that from that time to the Act for prohibiting our French Commerce in the Reign of King William and Queen Mary, our Loss was rather increased than diminished.

But

The Trade with France.

But can it be imagined that this was all our Loss? Our Exports could not be greater than they appear in the Accounts from the Custom-house: But they themselves will not deny, that besides the Goods which are entred in those Accounts, great Quantities are every day clandestinely imported. The Gentlemen who live upon the Coast, will very readily give their Assent to this. I shall therefore suppose for the present, and I believe I shall make it probable in the progress of this Argument, that there are generally imported in this clandestine manner, Wines, Silks, and other Goods and Merchandizes of France, equal in Value to a third part of all those that are enter'd at the Custom-house; and then the Account will stand thus:

	l.	s.	d.
Goods enter'd at the Custom-house as above	1284419	10	3
Goods clandestinely imported	428139	16	9
The Total Imports	1712559	07	0
Deduct the Exports as above-mention'd,	515228	14	3

Thus we may very well suppose the French overbalanc'd us in the Trade of that Year, in the Sum of 1197330 12 9

I never had any thing less in my thoughts, than to charge my self with the Defence of the Scheme, which has been so often mention'd by them. But how much soever those worthy Gen-

Gentlemen (who, tho' known to be of different Parties in other matters, yet agreed there ought to be no Party in Trade, and therefore subscribed their Names to the SCHEME) might be mistaken in some Particulars, it is highly probable they were not much mistaken in the Conclusion, and that the Balance even in 1669 against *England* was almost a Million Sterling.

Now in what manner ought we to reason from our past Trade to that which is to come? I see no reason to believe that our Imports will be less, and I believe I shall hereafter offer many probable Arguments that they will be greater.

But this is not likely to be the Case of our exported Goods, if the late Treaty of Commerce should be made effectual by a Law. Our Exports cannot be greater: For my own part, I believe our whole Woollen Manufactures are as good as prohibited in *France*, by the Cheapness and Perfection of their own. But not to insist upon this Argument; we are very sure we can send no Goods to *France*, which are prohibited by any Edict in that Country, and and for the Repeal of which there is no Provision in that Treaty: And this is the Case of all Foreign Goods, or Goods wrought with Foreign Materials, by the Edict of 1701.

Our *Spanish* Cloth therefore, our Drugs of Foreign Growth, our *East-India*, *Turky*, and other Foreign Goods (not to mention those of our own Plantations) are all in this Condition. These very Goods, in the above-mention'd Account of our Exports, amount to 245046 *l.* 19 *s.* 4 *d.* We

Our Wool-
len Manu-
factures as
good as pro-
hibited in
France, and
our foreign
Goods the
like.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
We ought therefore to deduct				
from the Exports, <i>viz.</i>	515228	14	3	<i>Deductions to be made from our Exports;</i>
From the abovemention'd Foreign Goods, the Sum of	245046	19	4	

And then our future Exports are not likely to exceed the Value of	270181	14	11
Our Imports hereafter are likely to be as great as ever, <i>viz.</i>	1712559	7	0
Our future Exports are not likely to exceed	270181	14	11

So that the future Balance against <i>England</i> will in probability amount to the Sum of	1442377	12	1	<i>The Balance we must have paid to <i>France</i>, had the Com- merce Bill passed.</i>
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And what has *England* done, that she must pay such a Tribute as this to the *French* Nation? But it were better for us to pay so much actual Tribute to that People, than pay so great a Balance for their Manufactures. The Disturbance that must be made, by such a Commerce, in the Shipping and Manufactures of our own Country, and among the Landed and the Trading Interest, must needs be very lamentable.

For tho' we could still send as many of our other Goods to *France* as we did before, yet the Value of all these would not exceed 270,181 *l.* 14 *s.* 11 *d.* On the other hand, I shall ren-

render it probable, that our Imports from that Country will be as great as ever. And then our Trade with that Nation will hereafter stand thus :

	l.	s.	d.
Our Imports	1712559	7	0
Our Exports no more than	270181	14	11
<hr/>			
And consequently the annual Balance against us will be	1442377	12	1

I think myself oblig'd to make good every one of these Propositions.

To defend the first, viz. that our Loss by the very Custom-House Account in the Year 1685, was 769,190 l. 16 s. I have nothing else to do, but to defend my Valuation of the Particulars. It will be time enough to do this, when my Adversary shall think fit to impeach any of my Valuations.

But first I ought to acknowledge, that my Valuation of the Particulars differs something from that which I gave before in some Instances. For this, I own myself oblig'd to them, who insult me upon Callicoes, and call upon my Readers to judge of the Modesty of my Valuation, by my having estimated 38476 Pieces at Ten Shillings per Piece.

Objection to my Valuation of Callicoes.

“ Were such Men, say they, to be convinc'd by Demonstration, it might be prov'd that of that Quantity of Callicoes, many thousand Pieces were Betellees or fine Muslins, and the like, besides Chints, Carpets, &c. which ought rather to have been rated
“ from

“ from 3 l. to 6 l. per Piece, than at 10 s.
 “ and that even the Long-Cloths, which make
 “ near 10000 Pieces, were not then bought
 “ under 26 to 30 s. per Piece ; and that few,
 “ if any, of the Callicoes ordinarily exported
 “ to France, were of the low coarse sorts.
 “ This, say they, is noted only to shew the
 “ Integrity of the Treatment which is to be
 “ expected from these Mens rating of things.”

This is a most extraordinary Passage, and almost every Word in it is false.

I am charg'd with valuing Callicoes at only Ten Shillings per Piece ; I must confess I was at first astonish'd at this Charge.

As soon as I bethought myself, I took up my Paper, where I read in plain legible English Characters :

“ Callicoes and Muslins, 38476 Pieces, at
 “ Twenty Shilling per Piece, 38476 l.

I could scarce at first believe my own Eyes : I read it over and over at least ten times, and every time I read Twenty Shillings per Piece. And that which demonstrates I meant Twenty Shillings per Piece, is, that the Number of Pounds is just equal to the Number of Pieces.

Answer.

And yet, if I had valu'd Callicoes at Ten Shillings per Piece, I should not be induc'd, by any thing which they have offer'd, to alter my Opinion.

On the contrary, I am really oblig'd to them for the above-mention'd Passage, it has render'd me so much the more careful in my Valuation of all the Particulars in my last Account ;
it

it has made me search out for the best Evidence of every Valuation; and instead of raising the Price of Callicoes above 20 s. per Piece, as they would have had me done, I have brought them down to Ten, which is the very Crime of which I am accus'd.

Ten Shillings a piece a just Valuation for Callicoes.

To justify this Alteration, I have caus'd the Sales of East-India Goods for the Year, 1685, to be search'd, and I find that 10 s. per Piece is a sufficient Price for all the Callicoes at a Medium. My first Valuation at 20 s. per Piece, was made by the Opinion of some Merchants and Officers of the Customs; but the Company's Sales are a Demonstration. I might therefore very well at first have valu'd these Goods as they falsly charge me to have done; but I insist now upon 10 s. per Piece as a sufficient Price, till I shall be better inform'd, which I never expect to be from these Persons Writings.

They have thought fit to give us a fine Discourse upon Betellees and Muslins, and say, that they ought rather to be rated from 3 l. to 6 l. per Piece, than at 10 s. It is possible, that the finest Betellee or Muslin, the very finest sorts of them, may have been sold at that Price; but such a thing is to be consider'd as a Curiosity, and there are very few of this Price at a Publick Sale: The common Price, at a Medium for whole Pieces, was 24 s. for the ordinary sorts, and 32 s. for the finest. But Betellees and fine Muslins are seldom half the Callicoes at a Publick Sale.

But here they impose a Fallacy upon the Readers; they are made to believe, that whole Betellees and Muslins are estimated as single Pieces

Pieces, when according to the Custom-House Account, both at Importation and Exportation, there are two Pieces in every one; which reduces the Price of the finest sorts, at a Medium, to 16 s. for every Piece of ten Yards, and of those not so fine to 12 s.

Their Fraud is yet greater in the Valuation of the Long-Cloth, which they say are from 26 to 30 s. but in that Year they were not above 25 s. at a Medium. But then, it ought to be observ'd, that every Long-Cloth is almost four Pieces of Callicoe; and the Price of 25 s. for the Whole, is very little more than 6 s. for every Piece.

Fraud in the Valuation of Long-Cloth.

They affirm, that the Long-Cloths exported in that Year make 10000 of the Pieces. If they design the Readers should understand, that 10000 whole Long-Cloths were exported in the Year 1687, as only 10000 Pieces, they are guilty of an abominable Prevarication; since 10000 Long-Cloths were equal to all the 38476 Pieces of Callicoes exported in that Year. But if they would have us understand, that every such Cloth contains almost four Pieces, according to the Custom-House Account, and that only 10,000 of these Pieces of ten Yards to a Piece were exported, they have themselves reduc'd the Long-Cloths, according to their own Valuation, to a great deal less than 10 s. for every Piece.

And upon the whole matter, I am very well assur'd, by the Sales of the Company in 1685, that 10 s. per Piece is a sufficient Valuation for every Piece of Callico exported in that Year; which is the very Reason of reducing my

my former Price of 20 s. to the one half, upon the Callicoes exported, by this last Account.

The Callicoes, in my Account, amount to 34646 Pieces; and the Difference between valuing them at 20 s. and 10 s. per Piece, is 67323 l. I thought I ought not to strike off so great a Sum from the Value of our Exports, without giving a Reason for my so doing. But since, by the Company's Sales, I was not able to make them rise higher than 10 s. per Piece, I thought it my duty to make that my Valuation. And whensoever they shall think it worth while to impeach any of my other Prices, I shall either defend my self, or yield that I was in the wrong.

These Men at first setting out assured us that the French Trade has been always beneficial to this Nation: They promis'd then to make good this Proposition, by a Calculation of the Exports and Imports between both Countries; but never did it.

They were not at all afraid of the Tariffs and Prohibitions in France; but had the Confidence to tell us, that notwithstanding all their Prohibitions and additional Customs upon our Goods, we still traded with them to advantage.

An Account of the Exports and Imports of one Year has been produc'd against this Assertion, an Account which was laid before the last Parliament from the Custom-house, and which they have not been able to deny. Upon a just Valuation of all the Particulars in that Account, it appears we paid a Balance to France of 769000 l.

They

They would fain persuade us, upon this to address the Parliament to make the Articles effectual provisionally, to be void again if the Trade does not prove to our Advantage. By this, as I have shewn, we shall lose the Benefit of our Treaty with Portugal, we shall lose that advantageous Trade for ever. What Provision, in any of our Acts of Parliament, will be able to restore us to that Trade, when it shall be once lost? Or what Amends will they make us, for the Loss of so advantageous a Commerce as we now enjoy with that Nation?

No: I shall give my Consent for trying the French Trade no otherwise than by their own Rule. "One way, say they, to judge of what may be imported for time to come, is to examine what has been imported for time past." Let them produce an exact Account of what has been imported thence in past Years, and then I will tell them what we are to expect for Years to come. But I despair of any such Account from them.

But now let us observe what use they would make of this Rule.

In the Account produced by me, the French Wines imported from Michaelmas 1685, to Michaelmas 1686. into London and the Out-Ports, were 16648 Tuns: They now would have us try our future Importations by our past; and they affirm that from 1674, to 1690, inclusive, the Medium of every Year's Wines imported into London, did not exceed 5532 ¹/₆: and allowing those imported into the Out-Ports to be equal to a fourth or fifth Part of those of London, we are to believe that our whole Quantity

16648 Tuns of Wine imported from France.

This quantity objected to, and affirmed to be but 6916 Tuns.

The Fraud in their Calculation.

Quantity of Wines imported into England, did not exceed 6916 Tuns per annum.

Behold here the Fraud of these Men! This is a Period of sixteen Years, seven of these sixteen Years the French Trade was prohibited, that is, from 79 to 85 inclusive; so that little or nothing was imported in those Years; and the Years of Prohibition can be no Rule for the Years to come, when there shall be no such Prohibition. The Year 1690 was a Year of War with France, when we had little or no Wine from that Country; and nothing could be more fraudulent than to argue from such Years to those of Peace, when there shall be an open Trade between both Countries. Then certainly they ought to have brought to this Account only the Medium of those Years, when our Trade was open, and the Goods of France not prohibited in England. But I shall do it for them.

First then, for the Years 75, 76, 78, 79, by Accounts laid before the House of Commons, the whole Quantity of French Wine imported into London, amounted to 34141 Tuns; and allowing a fourth Part of that Quantity for the Out-ports (tho' it ought to be more) viz. 11380 Tuns, the whole Quantity then imported into England was 45521 Tuns; which is, for the four Years in an Average, 11380 Tuns per Annum.

Again, for the Years 86, 87, 88, 89, the French Wines imported into London were 53605 Tuns, and in the Out-Ports, by the same proportion, 17868; in the whole, for England

England only, 71473 Tuns: which at a Medium was 17868 Tuns for every one of those Years.

But now, to go from the Quantity to the Price.

The Maxims of Trade set the Price of 25 l. at a Medium upon all Wines that shall hereafter be imported. The Prices of Wine considered.

In the Account from Michaelmas 1685, to Michaelmas 1686, I set the Price of 17 l. 10 s. upon every Tun of Wine at a Medium imported in that Year.

The old Scheme for the Year 1668, makes the Price at that time to be 12 l. 10 s. at a Medium.

They cite Dr. Davenant for the Prices of Wine in 1668, and by his Authority make it 8 or 9 l. per Tun at a Medium; and this they would have to be the Standard of the Price for ever. But they might as well have cited the Price of Wine in the Reign of King Richard II. when the French Wines were sold in England at 13 s. and 4 d. per Tun, and the very best for 20 s. and offer that as a Standard for the present Age.

I make no doubt but the Merchants, who drew the Scheme in 1674, knew very well the Price of Wines in 1668; and as for my Account, so many experienc'd Gentlemen were concern'd in it, that it can admit of no Dispute; the Wines, as appear by the Invoices of that Year from Bourdeaux, costing 75 Crowns per-Tun in an Average, which at 56 d. per Crown, as the Exchange then was, is 17 l. 10 s.

And for the future Price of 25 l. per Tun, if one way to judge of what may be in time to come, is to examine what hath been in times past, that Computation appears very modest; for Graves Wines cost in 1712 from 600 to 1500 Livres, and in 1713 from 450 to 850 Livres; which being in an Average 650 Livres, at 38d. per Crown of three Livres each, make 34 l. 6s.

And by all the Letters from Bourdeaux, Clarets are not likely to be cheaper the next Year, and probably no time hereafter: for Clarets were heretofore the beloved Wine of Great Britain only; they are now in great Reputation in Holland, Germany, Sweden and Denmark, and even in the Czar's Dominions: and it will easily be believ'd, that so many new Markets must very much advance the Price.

The Account of Exports and Imports justify'd.

My Adversaries were very angry with the Account of Exports and Imports I published, and promised their Readers that they would take that S C H E M E to pieces, and hang it in the Sun a drying, when it shall shrink like a Red-Herring, to a Size no bigger than the true Substance of it.

But have they ever done this? No, let us examine then what they can do.

As to Linen.

Will they be able to reduce the Article of Linen? Will they reduce either the Quantities, or the Price? The Quantities are the very same which were laid before the last Parliament by the Officers of the Customs; and I am very well assured, they will never be able to object against the Prices. And I must observe

serve to them, that the very Articles of Linen imported hither from France, between Michaelmas 1685, and Michaelmas 1686, even by the Custom-House Accounts, besides the clandestine Importations, amount to 398611 l. 14 s. 10 d.

Will they object then against the wrought Silk? The Quantity, in the above-mention'd Account of imported Goods, is 121497 1/2 lib. weight: So that that Quantity at least was fairly imported, and inter'd in the Books of the Custom-House. But they object against the Price of 50 s. per lib. and would reduce it to 28 s. If French Silk was purchas'd in that Country for 28 s. per lib. what prodigious Quantities of those Silks must have been clandestinely imported? If they can be bought in France so very cheap as 28 s. per lib. how many Looms are likely to be left in Canterbury or Spittle-Fields? This must needs be very fine News for all our Weavers. But such as have been conversant in the Silk Trade, know very well, that 50 s. per Pound was the Price then clear on Board in that Country at a Medium; and then the 121497 1/2 lib. in that Account, amounted to 303743 l. 10 s.

As to Silk.

The Wines in that Account are 16648 3/4 Tuns, and at 17 l. 10 s. per Tun, amount 291353 l. 2 s. 6 d. And is this Sum too, to shrink like a Red Herring in the Sun? They object against the Quantity, as being imported in the Year immediately following the Interruption of the French Trade; and so no Rule for other Years. But I must inform them, that the Importation of the following Years was still great-

As to Wine.

er ; and therefore nothing is to be objected against the Quantity of that Year. And as for the Price of 17 l. 10 s. per Tun, I am able to justify it by the Invoices of the Merchants at that time : so that the Value of Wines imported then is still 291353 l. 2 s. 6 d.

They have not yet objected against the Quantity or the Price of Brandy in that Year : that Article therefore remains still, as in the above-mention'd Account, 43372 l. 1 s. 3 d.

The same must be said of Paper, which is, notwithstanding any thing said by them, 26,825 l. 5 s.

The above-mention'd Articles amount to 1063905 l. 13 s. 7 d. And I am well assured that the above-mention'd Articles, and all the rest of the Goods imported between Michaelmas 1685, and Michaelmas 1686, and enter'd at the Custom-House, will still appear to be about the Value of 1284419 l. 10 s. 3 d.

And then will they allow nothing to be added to this Account for clandestine Importations ? But I have no need to insist at present upon them. By the Account of Goods fairly imported and exported, and enter'd at the Custom-House, it appears, that

	l.	s.	d.
Our Imports were	1284419	10	3
Our Exports no more than	515228	14	3
So that our Loss was	769190	16	0

And was this to be accounted no Loss at all ? Do they mean that it will be no Rule for our future Loss by the French Trade, if the Bill of Commerce should pass into a Law ?

First,

First, for our Imports, are we likely to import less Linen than we did before, when the Duties shall be equal to those of German Linens, as by the late Treaty of Commerce ? Shall we import less wrought Silk than we did before, when the Duties shall be no higher than on the wrought Silks of Italy, and much less than on those from other Countries ? Especially if, as they say, the French sell their wrought Silk for 28 s. per Pound, and the same Manufacture cannot be made at any thing like the Price in England. It is true, the Duties upon French Wines are higher than they were formerly, and so they are upon all other Wines ; but then either our Luxury or our Substance is so much increas'd, that near as much of all sorts of Wines appears to be imported of late Years, and enter'd at the Custom-House, notwithstanding these Duties, as was in former Years. And are we less fond of Clarets now than heretofore ? And ought we not then to expect as great a Quantity of them, if the Duties upon them shall be reduc'd as low as those upon Portugal Wines, and much lower than on the Wines from other Countries ? So that I must take it for granted, if the Treaty of Commerce shall be made effectual, that our Imports from France will be near as great as ever.

And then for our Exports, can we hope they will be as great as formerly ? Has France been practising in the Woollen Manufactures for so many Years, that they should stand in need of the same Quantities from England ? Has she been selling Woollen Manufactures

to Italy and Turkey, for twenty Years last past, of her own, and even to under-sell us at those Markets, that she must now be furnish'd hence with those very Manufactures? Has she yet arriv'd at no Perfection in all this time? And is not Labour far cheaper there than in Great Britain? They may as well argue, that we are now in danger of buying Cloth from the Flemings, because we did in the time of the Dukes of Burgundy, before we had any Looms of our own.

But let it be suppos'd, that we were still able to export our Woollen Manufactures into France, which however I deny; can we still export as much of all other Goods? I will desire them only to read over the French King's Edict of 1701, and to consider it in the following Words.

Ordonne pareillement sa Majesté que les Negocians Anglois, soit qu'ils viennent sur des Vaisseaux d'Angleterre, ou sur des Vaisseaux d'autres Nations à eux appartenans; & les Vaisseaux Anglois, soit qu'ils appartiennent ou soient commandez par des Anglois, ou qu'ils appartiennent à des Negocians d'autres Nations, ou soient commandez par d'autres estrangiers, ne pourront apporter dans le Royaume d'autres Marchandizes que celles du cru, & celles fabriquées avec des matieres du cru d'Angleterre, autres que celles dont l'entrée est cy-dessus prohibée: & si les dits Vaisseaux se trouvent chargez d'autres Marchandizes, ils ne pourront en faire aucun dechargement dans les Ports du Royaume, à peine de confiscation de la Marchandize & du Vaisseau, & de trois mille Livres

Livres d'amende contre le Marchant qui les recevrait dans le Royaume.

In English.

“ His Majesty likewise orders, that the English not to bring to France in their own or other Ships any Merchandize, but English Product.
 “ *lish* Traders, whether they come upon Ships
 “ belonging to *England*, or upon Ships of o-
 “ ther Nations to them belonging; and *En-*
 “ *glish* Ships, whether they belong to, or are
 “ commanded by *English*, or whether they
 “ belong to Traders of other Nations, or
 “ commanded by Foreigners, shall not bring
 “ into the Kingdom other Merchandize, than
 “ such as are of the Growth, or manufactured
 “ with the Materials of the Growth of *En-*
 “ *gland*; over and above those of which the *En-*
 “ *trance* is herein before prohibited. And if
 “ the said Ships shall be loaden with other
 “ Merchandize, they shall not be permitted
 “ to make any Discharge thereof in the Ports
 “ of this Kingdom, upon pain of forfeiting
 “ Ship and Goods, and three thousand Livres
 “ penalty upon the Importer.”

This is an absolute Prohibition of all Foreign Goods exported from *England*, or of Goods made up of, or mix'd with Foreign Materials. These, as by the abovemention'd Account, from *Michaelmas* 1685 to *Michaelmas* 1686, amounted to 269089*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* This Edict is not provided to be repeal'd by the ninth Article of the Treaty of Commerce, which provides only for the Repeal of all Prohibitions, &c. IN RESPECT TO THE GOODS AND MERCHANTIZES OF

Great Britain; but not of those imported into Great Britain from Foreign Countries, or made or mix'd with the Materials of Foreign Countries. And if neither Foreign Goods nor Wool-len Manufactures can be exported hence hereafter into France, we must abate of the Value of our former Exports above 300,000 *l.* and then our Imports being as above, almost 1,300,000 *l.* our Exports very little more than 200,000 *l.* we shall lose above a Million Sterling by our future Trade with France.

These Men insulted the *Guardian* for stating the Quantity of Goods to be hereafter annually imported from France, as follows, viz.

- 18,000 Tuns of Wine,
- 4000 Tuns of Brandy,
- The Value of 700,000 *l.* in Linen,
- The Value of 500,000 *l.* in wrought Silk,
- And the Value of 30,000 *l.* in Paper.

Britain able
to consume,
and France
to supply us
with 18000
Tuns of
Wine annu-
ally.

- “ This, say they, is to suppose we shall
- “ import more Goods than it is possible for
- “ this Nation to consume, or indeed for those
- “ Parts of France, with which we traded, to
- “ produce for Exportation.”

First then, by the Account I publish'd, it appears, that the Wine imported into England only, from Michaelmas 1685 to Michaelmas 1686, amounted to 16,648 $\frac{1}{2}$ Tuns. How little does this want of 18,000? And will it be suppos'd that none at all was imported into Scotland? or not enough to make up the whole Quantity of 18,000 Tuns for the whole united Kingdom of Great Britain.

They say, we pick out the first Year after the Interruption of the French Trade, as most for

for our Purpose. But to convince my Readers of the Folly of the Assertion, I shall subjoin the following Account of the Imports of Wine into England from France, which was laid before the House of Commons in 1713.

	Tuns.		Gal.	
From Mich. 1686 to Mich. 1687,	15,518	97		
— — — 1687 — — — 1688,	14,214	171		
— — — 1688 — — — 1689,	11,109	92		

40,842 108

To which must be added the Imports into all the Out-Ports, which is computed to be one Third of the Imports of the Port of London

13,614 36

54,456 144

So that in a Medium of these three Years, the annual Import is 18,152 Tuns, 48 Gallons; which is beyond the Calculation they cavil at, and this only for England.

But I must desire my Reader to take notice, that the Imports above-mention'd of the Year 1689, are but the Imports from Michaelmas 1688, to the Declaration of War in 1689. After which, there could hardly be any more imported that Year; which otherwise would undoubtedly have amounted to as much as any of the former Years.

We are further to observe, that in the Accounts above-mention'd there is no notice taken of the Importation of French Wines to Scotland; which is generally thought to be 3 or 4000 Tuns per ann. And will they now affirm, against so plain a Matter of Fact, That

Scotlan
takes 3 or
4000 Tun c
French Wine
per ann.

all Great Britain cannot consume 18000 Tuns of French Wine? or that the Parts of France with which we usually traded, are not able to produce so great a Quantity for Exportation? France has annually produc'd heretofore above 18000 Tuns for this Kingdom, and this Kingdom has annually consum'd so great a Quantity of that Wine: and what then becomes of their Assertion, That France cannot produce, nor Great Britain consume 18000 Tuns of Wine?

England spends annually above 3000 Tuns of Malt Spirits.

The next Article is that of Brandy: 'tis suppos'd we may import hereafter 3000 Tuns; and cannot France produce, or Great Britain consume such a Quantity? It is certain, England only consumes a much greater Quantity of Malt-Spirits, and 'tis ridiculous to say, that this is a great Quantity for France to produce.

600000 Value of Linen to 7 Millions of People but 1 s and 8d halfpenny per Head.

The Lina hereafter to be imported, the Guardian suppos'd to be 600000 l. per ann. By the Account I published, it appears, the Value of 398611 l. 14 s. 10 d. was fairly imported in one Year; this is two Thirds of the whole Quantity suppos'd hereafter to be imported into this Kingdom. It is generally believ'd there are seven Millions of People in Great Britain, and will the Value of 600000 l. in Linen (not above 1 s. and 8d 1/2 for every Head in England, for Shirts, Sheets, and all sorts of Linen) be thought extravagant?

French Linen most used formerly in England.

'Tis also notorious, that little other than French Linen was us'd in England; whence 'tis natural to infer that very great Quantities were clandestinely run upon the Coast. As for France not being able to produce so much Linen for Exportation, it is so absurd, that I shall not vouchsafe it any other Answer. Is

Is the Value of 30000 l. in Paper too much for Great Britain to consume, or France to make for Exportation? By the very Account which I have published from the Parliament, it appears that the Paper fairly imported into England only, from that Country, in one Year, was of the Value of 26825 l. 5 s.

30000 l. annually of their Paper imported.

And, Lastly, for wrought Silk, is 500000 l. a Sum so very extravagant? It will hardly be thought sufficient to buy Hoods for the whole Female Sex in the United Kingdoms of Great Britain, allowing nothing at all for Scarfs, Gowns and Petticoats. By the above-mention'd Account, the Value entred in one Year at the Port of London, and the Out-Ports, amounted to 303743 l. 10 s. and shall nothing at all be allowed for clandestine Importations? Shall it be said too that no French Silks were ever worn in Scotland? The Value of 500000 l. in wrought Silk is a very inconsiderable Quantity for the annual Consumption of Great Britain: And 'tis but a Trifle for so great a People as the French Nation to make for Exportation. 'Tis notorious that wrought Silk is at least the second greatest Manufacture of that Country: Will they then pretend that 500000 l. Value of wrought Silk, is too great a Quantity for France to make, or Great Britain to consume?

And 500,000 l. of their Silks

If the Guardian's Account of our future Imports were true, they pretend that our Customs upon French Goods must be as follow:

For

	l.
For 18,000 Tuns of French Wine, at 27 l. per Tun	486000
For 4000 Tuns of Brandy at 51 l. per Tun	204000
For 700,000 l. Value of Linen at 15 l. per Ct.	105000
For 125,000 Pounds weight of Lustrings and Alamodes, at 1 l. 14 s. per lib.	212500
For 125,000 Pounds weight of other Silk, at 10 s. 6 d. per lib.	65625
And for all other Goods the Customs would be	100000
In all	1,173,125

So great an Addition to the public Revenue, they say, will be sufficient to support the publick Affairs for the future, without loading the Land, and without any more grievous Malt-Taxes; nay, and will enable the Crown without any new Act of Parliament, to lessen the Publick Debts, and pay off all the redeemable Funds in a shorter time than could be otherwise expected, to the great Ease of the Nation.

I will shew them that nothing can be more ridiculous and absurd than what is here suggested. But first I must desire my Readers to observe the Unfairness of these People: To swell the Customs upon our future Imports from France, as they have done, they make the Guardian suppose that 4000 Tuns of Brandy shall hereafter be imported, when at the Foot of his Account the Guardian has supposed no more than 3000 Tuns. In like manner, they had added 100000 l. to the Guardian's Article of Linen, by computing 700000 l. instead of 600000 l. They

They also suppose that the Value of 500000 l. in wrought Silk must amount to 250000 Pounds weight, whereas 200000 Pounds weight will amount to that Value. They then suggest that one half of the Weight must consist of Lustrings and Alamodes, which pay 1 l. 14 s. per Pound Custom: which never was supposed by the Guardian, since very little of those sorts are now in use in Great Britain. So that the 200000 Pounds weight hereafter to be imported, will pay no more than 10 s. and 6 d. per Pound. And lastly, they add 100000 l. for the Customs upon all other Goods; whereas the above-mentioned Articles being deducted, all that ever have been imported from France in one Year, are not by the late Treaty of Commerce to pay above one half of the last-mentioned Sum. If all these things shall be considered, a prodigious Abatement must be made of their Sum of 1173125 l.

But now do these Persons believe that the Customs upon the Goods imported from France will be a clear Addition to the publick Revenue? Do they not imagine that the Imports from other Countries, and the Customs upon them, will abate as those of France shall increase? To convince them of this Mistake, I shall present them with an Extract of an Account of the Wines, which was laid before the last Parliament from the Custom-house; and shall take the four Years during the Prohibition of the French Trade, and the four following Years after that Prohibition was repeal'd. It is

As

An ACCOUNT of Goods imported into the Port of London only, viz.

Yrs.	Fr. Wines.		Port. Wines		Spa. Wines.		Rhen. Wines	
	Tuns.	Gal.	Tuns.	Gal.	Tuns.	Gal.	Tuns.	Gal.
1682	—	—	13862	201	5448	193	1743	138
1683	—	65	16772	7	5601	116	1260	192
1684	—	—	1611	108	11285	180	1302	163
1685	—	—	12185	140	4430	100	1457	174
1686	12760	237	289	59	4193	222	812	101
1687	15518	97	327	26	3562	238	923	91
1688	14218	171	540	205	3251	220	884	191
1689	11109	92	579	220	4650	115	536	177

1. By this Account it appears there were imported of French Wines into London only, during the four Years after the Prohibition was taken off 13,401 Tuns, 193 Gallons per ann. at a Medium.

2. That more Portugal Wines, at a Medium, were annually imported during that Prohibition than afterwards, by 10,670 Tuns, 216 3/4 Gallons, per ann.

3. That more Spanish Wines, at a Medium, were imported before than after, by 2776 Tuns, 189 1/4 Gallons per Ann.

4. That more Rhenish Wines were also imported, at a Medium, before than after, by 645 Tuns, 24 Gallons, per Ann.

So that 'tis manifest, the Importation of Wines from other Countries decreas'd almost in the very same Proportion as that from France increas'd; and consequently, we lost of our Customs upon the Wines of other Countries,

as

as much, or more, than we gain'd by those of France. And will they now pretend, that what has been can never be again? Or, that we shall still consume as many of the Wines of other Countries as we did before, notwithstanding the Importation of greater Quantities to France?

But why so great a Sum to be paid for Customs? Does the Guardian any where pretend, that all our Imports shall be enter'd at the Custom-house? That none at all shall be run?

The Encouragement for running French Goods.

Will not the Gain of above 200 per Cent. by saving the Duties of Brandy, Cent. per Cent. by those of Wine, above 20 per Cent. by those of wrought Silk, and 15 per Cent. by those of Linen and all other Goods, be a sufficient Encouragement for their clandestine Importation? Can this be prevented by a negligent Guard upon so large a Coast as that of Great Britain? Or is every one so honest here, as not to defraud the Government for so great a Profit?

But lastly, let it be suppos'd that the Revenue would be increas'd by passing the Bill of Commerce, either 200,000 l. or a Million, or any greater Sum (for the greater, still the worse for Great Britain) ought this to be any Temptation, either to our Landed Gentlemen, or our Trading People, to pass that Bill? They must pay very dear for this Increase of the Publick Revenue, if they should.

For example, we purchase Wines and other Commodities from France for Money; but from Portugal and Italy, in exchange for our Manufactures: and if we should cease to purchase Wines and Raw Silks, &c. from these latter,

French Trade ruinous to our Manufactures and Lands, tho' it should increase the Customs.

latter, will not they give over buying our Manufactures? What Havock must this make among our labouring People? And must not our Gentlemen too lose those Markets for the Product of their Lands? Again, we purchase great Part of our Linen from *Hamburgh, Germany, and Holland*, for which we pay them in Manufactures; the rest we make ourselves: and if the Value of 600000 *l.* in Linen should be imported from *France*, must not so many of our People be depriv'd of their Employments in the Linen, Woollen, and other Manufactures, as are subsisted either by what is made at home, or are employ'd in such Manufactures as are sent to *Germany, &c.* to purchase the Linen we fetch from thence? And what then can they do, but throw themselves upon the Lands for a Maintenance? The same thing must be said of wrought Silk: If we shall import the Value of 500000 *l.* from *France*, there will be an end of manufacturing as great a Value here in *England*; and what then shall become of our *Weavers* here, who are subsisted by their Labour to the Value of the Money which must be paid to *France*, to maintain the Labourers in that Kingdom? The like is also true of Paper, and many other Manufactures, and even of Brandy, in prejudice of our Spirits, which are drawn from Malt, Cyder, &c.

But the Mischief is yet greater to the Land-
ed than the Trading Interest. The poor Labourers indeed will lose their Employments, yet still they must be subsisted, and subsisted from the Rents: The Gentlemen must be forced

ced to abate of their Rents, by the Loss of many of their former Markets for their Wool, Flax, and other Products of their Lands. And not only this, but they must also be burden'd with the Maintenance of such a Number of new Poor, as shall cost their Lands vastly more than 'tis possible for the Crown to gain by any Increase of Customs.

'Twas objected against my Account, that I had pick'd out a Year immediately after a Prohibition of the *French* Commerce, and when there had been a long want of *French* Goods in this Nation. And this was likely to increase the Imports of that Year beyond those of any other. They instance particularly in the Wines, as if we were more than ordinarily greedy of them, so soon after a long Prohibition.

*Objections
against my
Account answered.*

But I must refer my Reader to the Table of Imported Wines above, where he will see that much greater Quantities of *French* Wines were imported the two following Years into the Port of *London*.

We were so far from picking out a Year for our Purpose, that we have taken the only whole Year of the Exports and Imports between the two Nations, which was laid before the Parliament of 1713. Indeed the two following Years were order'd into the House of Commons, but were never brought in by the Officers of the Customs. They were made ready, as I have heard for the House; but by whose Interest they were kept out, whether by those who were for the Bill or against it, the Reader will be able to judge. But I believe every one will imagine, that the Gentlemen who were for

for promoting that Bill, had sufficient Power to bring those Years before the Parliament, if they would have made any thing for their Purpose. As for the Merchants without doors, they were so far from picking out a Year for their Purpose, that they had only *Hobson's* Choice, and no other.

Their Fraud about Brass, Copper, and Clock-work.

As a Specimen of their Sincerity, these Men desired their Readers to observe the Inconsistencies in our Account, and began thus :

- “ Wrought Brass and Copper, valu'd at
- “ 8 l. per Ct.
- “ Clock-Work, at 40 s. per Ct.

By this their Readers were instructed to believe, that we have valu'd wrought Brass and Copper, and perhaps the meanest Sorts of them, at 8 l. per C. 17 d. per Pound ; and Clock-work, the finest Sort, of wrought Brass, at 40 s. per Cent. not much above 4 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ per Pound.

But after all, what if this Clock-work should be Iron, and not Brass? Clock-work not for the Parlour, but the Kitchen or the Bellfrey? The Clock-work of the *Blacksmith*, and not of the *Watchmaker*? If this should be the Fact, every one of my Readers will acknowledge, that 40 s. per Cent. is a sufficient Valuation. Behold then the Candour and Ingenuity of these Men!

These two Articles, as return'd by the *Custom-House*, and as valu'd by the Merchants, stand thus:

Wrought

	l.	s.	d.
Wrought Brass and Copper	} 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ct. — 8 l. per Ct. —	228	0 0
Iron wrought and Clock-work		} 400 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ct. — 2 l. per Ct. —	800

Now I ask them, what can be the Clock-work that is join'd with wrought Iron? But they very artificially funk wrought Iron, that the Clock-work might be thought Brass. What Adversaries have I to deal with?

I was charg'd with Ignorance and Stupidity, upon my Table of Wines imported into the Port of *London*, which I produc'd, and my Conclusions from it, that during the *French* Trade we imported annually about 14,000 Tuns of Wine extraordinary from *Spain*, *Portugal*, and the *Rhine*; and that immediately upon the taking off that Prohibition, we imported about 13,400 Tuns of *French* Wines per ann. and ceas'd importing that extraordinary Quantity of 14,000 Tuns per ann. from those other Countries. 'Twas said, that the extraordinary Quantities of Wines, which appear by the *Custom-House* Account to be imported from *Spain* and *Portugal* during the Years of the *French* Prohibition, were indeed *French* Wines, but enter'd as the Wines of *Spain* and *Portugal*, paying *Spanish* Duties; that this was done by the Direction of the Court, and by the Connivance of the Officers of the Customs, because during the Prohibition they could not be enter'd directly from *France*. From hence 'twas inferr'd, that both myself

Wines imported from Spain, &c. affirm'd to be French.

myself and the Merchants who assist me, are the most stupid and ignorant People in the World, for but imagining that those extraordinary Quantities of Wines, which were then enter'd as from *Spain* and *Portugal*, were any other than *French* Wines.

But I do assure them, that I was not so stupidly ignorant as they imagine. When this very Table came first into my hands, I had a violent Suspicion that this was the Fact: But *Custom-House* Accounts with them have been so sacred till this last Paper of theirs, that I had not the Confidence to contradict them; tho' I believe it very possible for *Spain* and *Portugal*, at any time, to spare us more than those extraordinary Quantities of Wine in any one Year, without any Injury to themselves. But that which I meant by publishing this Table, was either to gain an Acknowledgment from them, that those extraordinary Quantities of Wine were really imported from *Spain* and *Portugal*, or their Confession, that the very *Custom-House* Accounts were false. They have very frankly made this last Confession, and they shall presently see what Use I intend to make of it.

First, they assert, That from 1674 exclusive, to 1690 inclusive, the Quantity of Wines imported from France, one Year with another, in the Port of London, was 5532 Tuns $\frac{1}{2}$ a Year. This they did, because no more appears in the *Custom-House* Accounts for the whole time; when one half was a time of Prohibition, wherein no Entries were made at all from France. But if 13 or 14000 Tuns of Wine
were

were really imported, tho' not enter'd from France in the Port of London, then the whole Quantity annually imported into the Port of London, was not 5532 Tuns $\frac{1}{2}$, as they nicely calculate, but 12 or 13000 Tuns per ann.

They acknowledge they had this Table of imported Wines by them, (and indeed they must have had it when they wrote their Paper.) They accuse me and my Assistants of the greatest Ignorance and Stupidity, for imagining that the extraordinary Quantities of Wine enter'd from *Spain* and *Portugal*, during the *French* Prohibition, were any other than *French* Wines; so that 'tis clear, they could not be so grossly ignorant or stupid. It remains then, that they maliciously impos'd upon their Readers so small a Quantity as 5532 Tuns and $\frac{1}{2}$, for the whole annual Importation into the Port of London, when they knew that 13 or 14000 Tuns were annually imported. What will they be able to say to this, but that I have laid a Bait before them, and they have been so great Fools as to swallow it?

But this is not the worst Consequence that attends this Confession. "To what purpose, say they, do these Men beat the Bush, and dance in a Circle? The *Custom-House* is a Record of these things. Let them join issue with us, and take a just, fair, attested Account." I have produced here a *Custom-House* Account of the Wines imported into London, an Account which they themselves acknowledge to be a true one; and now they tell me, and I believe very truly, and indeed I was always of this Opinion ever since it first
came

The Court conniv'd at false Entries of French Wine for others.

came into my hands, That the French Wines, during the Prohibition, were enter'd as Spanish and Portugal Wines, by Direction of the Court, and Connivance of the Officers of the Customs. So that it seems the Officers have conniv'd at false Entries, directly contrary to an Act of Parliament, and the Court then directed their so doing. What a mortal Stab have they given to the Records they pretended so much to value? Do they not here instruct us never to expect a true Account from the Custom-House, when it shall be the Interest of a Court to give a false one? It was no doubt the Inclination of the Court heretofore to falsify the Old SCHEME, by falsifying the Accounts of the Custom-House; and can we believe they did not do it?

Price of 17 l. 10 s. per Tun of French Wine justifi'd.

Since we are upon the Article of Wines, and they have begun to undervalue the Goods imported from France in our Account, and to over-value our Exports; I think it not improper to justify the Price we have given of Wines.

The Inspector-General's Words, say they, are these: "In stating the Balance between two Countries, the prime Cost only in the said respective Countries should be calculated. Now 'tis notorious, the prime Cost of Wine was about 8 l. per Tun; in which Valuation I appeal to all the old experienced Merchants who formerly dealt to France."

Well then, with them, and their Inspector-General, I appeal to the old experienced Merchants. One of them has been so kind, as to transcribe

transcribe from his Books, at my Request, an Account of the Wines he imported from France in 1686, which is the very Year I have publish'd. The Account of his whole Quantity of Wines, one with another, amounts to 17 l. 8 s. per Tun, at a Medium; and I must observe to him, that in his whole Quantity there are none of the Wines of St. Laurence, Champagne, or Burgundy, and no more more than five Tuns of Hermitage, in 107 Tuns of Wine: and yet they all amount to, at a Medium, the Price last above-mention'd, far different from the Value of these Men and the Inspector-General. So that I must take 17 l. 10 s. per Tun to have been the current Price of that Year, till they shall produce the Invoices of Merchants to the contrary: for as for them and their Inspector-General, they are no manner of Authority.

There is no doubt, but a British Parliament will consult the Invoices of the old experienced Merchants, before they will pass a Law, by which this Nation will have almost 300000 l. per ann. to pay to France for the single Article of Wines.

I shall consider another of their Observations upon this Subject; which is, that no Wines could be run in the above-mention'd Year: Was it possible, say they, that any Wine could be run, when it paid but 35 s. per Hoghead? By which, their Readers are made to believe that 35 s. per Hoghead, or 7 l. per Tun, was the whole Duty between Michaelmas 1685 and Michaelmas 1686.

But

The British Merchant.

Duty on French Wine in 1685, 13 l. 1 s. 2 d. per Tun.

But what if the Duty at that time upon French Wines was 70 per Cent. of the whole Value, had not this been sufficient Encouragement for the Smuggler? Could any fair Trader hope to make so much?

Behold here then the Duties, as they stood from the 24th of June 1685,

	l.	s.	d.
Till the 23d of June 1685	6	8	1
On the 24th of June, more for the new Impost	6	3	1
Coinage	0	10	0
Per Tun	13	1	2

Encouragement for Smuggling.

Thirteen Pounds one Shilling and two Pence per Tun, is not 35 s. but 3 l. 5 s. 3 d. 1/2 per Hoghead, and above 70 per Cent. of the whole Value of Wines; which in the Account is estimated at 17 l. 10 s. per Tun. Was it not worth the Smuggler's while, to run the risque of 17 l. 10 s. to gain 13 l. 1 s. 2 d. by saving the Duties? Was it not worth his while, to hazard the Principal, for the clear Gain of 70 per Cent. besides all the Advantages which the Smuggler has in common with the fair Trader?

I come now to prove,

1. That the Importation and Customs of the Wines of other Countries must decrease as those from France shall increase, not only by Vouchers from the Custom-House, but from Reason.

2. That French Wines, tho' bought in that Country at the Valuation in the British Merchant,

The Trade with France.

chant, will yet be cheaper than those of Spain, Portugal, and the Rhine.

3. That French Wines, tho' they should be bought at the Guardian's Valuation, will yet be prefer'd and used in England, rather than those from other Countries.

4. And that the Mercator is very faucy upon the Portugal Treaty.

The Guardian, No. 170 supposed, if the Bill of Commerce should have pass'd, that the whole Quantity of French Wines which should hereafter be imported into the Kingdom of Great Britain, would amount to 18,000 Tuns per Ann. I prov'd from the Custom-House Accounts, that almost that whole Quantity has been annually imported, when the Trade was open between both Countries, into South-Britain only, without craving any Allowance for clandestine Importations.

18000 Tuns of French Wine would be imported per ann.

The Mercator insults the Guardian for his extravagant Supposition, and says, That if so great a Quantity shall hereafter be imported, then at 27 l. per Tun, which will be the Duty even by the late Treaty of Commerce, the Customs upon French Wines only will amount to 486,000 l. per ann. He is very merry with the Guardian for projecting so large an Addition to the Revenue, and furnishing Gentlemen with so good an Argument for the Bill of Commerce: tho' I have prov'd and shall further prove, that it would be the Ruin of our Manufactures.

An Addition of Duty by French Wine ruinous to our Manufactures.

But has the Guardian any were suppos'd, that all this Wine shall be fairly imported? Have not I affirmed, that to save the Duty of

The British Merchant.

27 l. per Tun, above Cent. per Cent. of the Guardian's Value, must be sufficient Encouragement for the Smuggler? And do the Goods which are clandestinely imported pay any Customs at all? Have not I ask'd every one of these Questions? And has the Mercator vouchsafed to give an Answer to any one?

Increase of Duty by French Wines abate the Duty by other Wines.

Again, Of all the Wines that shall be fairly imported and enter'd at the Custom-house, why must those from France make any Addition to the Customs? Why may there not be an Abatement in proportion of the Wines from other Countries, which must pay as great Customs, if the Treaty should be made effectual? I have exhibited a Custom-house Account of the Wines imported for eight Years together into the Port of London; by which it appears, that during the first four Years, while French Wines were prohibited, so much the greater Quantity was imported from other Countries; and that after the taking off that Prohibition, 13 or 14000 Tuns were annually imported from France, and so much less in proportion from Portugal, Spain, and the Rhine. If this had not been a false Entry, it had been a Demonstration, that we have abated as much or more of the Wines and Customs of other Countries, as we gain'd by those of France. But allowing that the Wines from France were enter'd from other Places, 'tis still a Demonstration that what came from one Place supply'd the Want from any other.

They deny the Account which they approved before.

Upon this, the Mercator in a fury, says the Wines of the first four Years were wrong enter'd by the Direction of the Court, and by the Connivance

The Trade with France.

Connivance of the Officers of the Customs. Rather than be press'd by the Argument, they chose to fall foul upon an Account which they acknowledge to be truly return'd from the Custom-house; tho', as I have shewn, this very Acknowledgment is attended with very fatal Consequences both to the Cause and to himself.

But let the Consequences be what they will, they have given up a Custom-house Account: and I am very well contented they should do so, not only for the sake of those Consequences, but because I do not stand in need of the Argument. For I think nothing can be more certain, if the Bill of Commerce should pass, than that our Wines hereafter will be imported chiefly from France, and that we shall abate in proportion for the Wines and Customs from other Countries.

We now pay 53 l. 9 s. 6 d. Customs for French Wines unfilled; yet still we are fond of this beloved Liquor. And if the Customs shall be reduc'd to less than half, to 24 l. 1 s. 1 d. will not the Consumption be increas'd? Which is the Wine that every Englishman will chuse, Portugal or French Wine, if the Price of both should be the same? But what if by the reduction of the Customs on both to an Equality, by the Bill of Commerce, the latter should be the cheapest? Then 'tis certain, so much of our Customs from Portugal must be abated.

He finds fault with my Valuation of French Wines at 17 l. 10 s. per Tun, and fancies he has me herein a Dilemma; either that I cannot

not prove my Valuation, or if I do, that *Portugal* Wines will be still cheapest, and consequently the common Draught of this Kingdom.

In the first place, I see no reason to be offended with my Valuation of *French* Wines at 17 *l.* 10 *s.* clear on board in that Country. I expect Proofs to the contrary; and whensoever they shall be produc'd, they will bear so much the stronger against the second part of his Dilemma, viz. that then the Wines of *Portugal* will be the cheapest.

For, secondly, I shall shew him that *French* Wines will still be cheapest, even with the Valuation of 17 *l.* 10 *s.* per Tun: Since 'tis computed by those Merchants who have ship'd off the greatest Quantity of *Port O Port* Wines, that they have cost clear on board, for these ten Years last past, 22 Millrees per Pipe, at a Medium, (without including one Year, in which the Price was much higher) which at 6 *s.* per Millree, is 13 *l.* 4 *s.* per Tun.

But the *Lisbon* Wines are always dearer, viz. one with another about 38 Millrees per Pipe; which also, at 6 *s.* per Millree, is 22 *l.* 16 *s.* per Tun.

Price of
Portugal
Wines.

	l.	s.	d.
Now allowing that, <i>communibus annis</i> , our Importation is as great of the one, as of the other, the Price of <i>Portugal</i> Wines at a Medium, was	18	0	0
To which ought to be added for Freight at that time	6	0	0
For Leakage and Insurance then	3	0	0
And for Customs unfilled	24	1	1
In all	51	1	1
If			

If any Man doubts this Account, let him ask any *Portugal* Merchant, whether allowing all other Charges, and for bad Debts, he has been able to make great Profit of his *Lisbon* and *Portugal* Wines together, at 30 *l.* per Pipe, or 60 *l.* per Tun, one with another; or whether he has been able to do any more than save himself: whence it must follow, that 18 *l.* per Tun in that Country is a very common Price.

But if any should object, that this was in time of War, and that I ought not to value the Wines to be imported thence, in time of Peace, at the Price of a time of War:

To this I answer, either we shall buy as great a Quantity from *Portugal* as before, or we shall not. If we shall, the same Demand will still keep up the same Price; if not, then he gives up his Argument, that our Importations from *Portugal* will not be lessen'd, and that the Customs upon *French* Wines will prove so much Addition to the Revenue. Therefore to please this Man, I must insist that the Price of Wines clear aboard in *Portugal*, will be the same in Peace as War.

I will allow indeed that an Abatement must be made of the above-mention'd Price of 51 *l.* 1 *s.* 1 *d.* in a time of Peace, viz. 4 *l.* upon the Freight, and 1 *l.* on the Leakage and Insurance, 5 *l.* in the whole upon these Accounts; and then it will remain, that the Wines of *Portugal* must stand the Merchant here in 46 *l.* 1 *s.* 1 *d.*

Let us see now what *French* Wines will stand the Merchant in here in *England*, according to the late Treaty of Commerce.

		l.	s.	d.
<i>The Price of French Wine according to the Treaty of Commerce.</i>	The Price in France, at my Valuation			
	per Tun	17	10	0
	Freight	1	0	0
	Leakage and Insurance	1	10	0
	Customs	24	1	0
In all		44	1	1
The Price of Portugal Wines, as before, is		46	1	1
Price of French Wines will be		44	1	1
So that the latter will be cheapest, per Tun		2	0	0

As for the Spanish and Italian Wines, not only the Duties upon these are higher, but the Leakage, Freight and Insurance must needs be a great deal more than from France; so that with his good leave, the Case is not quite so plain as he says it is, *That the Portuguese Trade will always have the Preference in England, or that French Wines will not hereafter be the common Draught in this Kingdom.* For my own part I think they would be the common Draught, even tho' they should be bought in France at the *Guardian's* Price of 25 l. per Tun; the Wines are so much preferable in themselves, and even that Price would not make an Addition of above two Pence in a Quart. And where is the Gentleman who would not be at this expence, for the gratification of his Palate?

How then has this Writer made good the *Inequality* between the Wines of France and Portugal, to the Advantage of the latter, which he

he says, is the thing insisted upon by the *Portugal Treaty*?

He asks, which is likely to be the common Draught, *Portugal* or *French* Wine? I answer, *French* Wine. Not to insist upon the general Inclination towards every thing that is *French*, these Wines will be the cheapest; but they are so preferable in themselves, that I believe, at a third part greater Price, they would be the common Draught in *England*.

I think I have said enough to demonstrate, that our Importation of Wine from *Portugal*, and other Countries, must abate, as that from *France* shall increase; and consequently that the Importation of *French* Wines will make no Addition to the *Customs*.

The Advocates for the *French* Trade say, *The Treaty with Portugal ought to go for nothing.* What! That Treaty go for nothing, by which we have been enabled to pay such Armies in *Portugal*, without remitting any Sums from *England*! By which we have also paid such Sums to our Armies in other Countries! That Treaty go for nothing, by which we have coin'd above a Million of Gold in the *Tower*! This is downright Madness. Nothing can be equal to it, except the *Mercator's* Imagination, that our Importation of *French* Wines may be increas'd, without abating that from other Countries, or that the *Customs* on *French* Goods will be a new Fund to pay the Nation's Debts, without abating in proportion the *Customs* on Goods, of the like kind, from other Countries.

Our Advantage by the Portugal Treaty.

The British Merchant.

I come now,

1. To the *Mercator's* Account of our Gain by the *French* Trade.
2. To his last Article, of our gaining 500,000 *l.* by exporting our Goods in our Shipping.
3. To shew, that 13,000 Tuns of Shipping were sufficient for all our Exports, between *Michaelmas* 1685 and *Michaelmas* 1686, by an Enumeration of Particulars.
4. To consider the *Mercator's* Dissertation concerning the Advantage of employing our own Shipping.
5. To prove, that the Gain by exporting our own Goods to *France* in thirteen thousand Tuns of Shipping, was not above 6500 *l.* And,
6. That the Sum of 493,500 *l.* is struck off from the *Mercator's* Gain of 500,000 *l.* by the Article of Shipping.

Of all that these Men have publish'd, what follows, is, in my Opinion, the most extraordinary. It is an Account of the Trade between *France* and *England*, from *Michaelmas* 1685 to *Michaelmas* 1686, by which *France*, on one side, is made Debtor to us, for

The Mercator's Account of the French Trade.

	l.	s.	d.
The Value of Goods exported directly hence to <i>France</i>	742,077	4	2½
Ditto to <i>France</i> , via <i>Holland</i>	300,000	0	0
Ditto, via <i>Flanders</i>	100,000	0	0
For Corn exported in dear Years	50,000	0	0
For Advance on Sale of Goods there	64,200	0	0
For Profit, by use of 50,000 Tuns of our Shipping, in exporting our Goods to that Country	500,000	0	0
Total Value	1,756,277	4	2½

Well!

The Trade with France.

Well! this Writer is the most compleat Accountant in the World, that's certain. There is some Policy in swelling an Account, for then a Man will hardly have the Confidence to strike off so much, as not to leave him still enough for his Purpose. He must be a very bold Man indeed, that shall presume to strike off above 1200000 *l.* from 1750000 *l.* But let the Danger be what it will, I resolve to try my Fortune; and I begin with this Article of Shipping.

Fifty thousand Tuns of Shipping employ'd to export our Goods to *France!* and 500000 *l.* Profit to us for the Use of those Ships!

First, let me consider his Quantity of Tunnage, what were the Goods we sent to *France* between *Michaelmas* 1685 and *Michaelmas* 1686, that could fill up all the Room in 50000 Tuns of Shipping.

The Weight or Bulk of the Woollen Manufacture we sent to *France* in that Year, must be the same, whether with my Valuation, or with his. The Tunnage of those Goods is still the same, whether as I have valu'd them, or at any higher Price. By the best Information I can get, all the Woollen Goods mention'd in the Account, according to the Manner of computing the Tunnage for those sorts of Goods, cannot exceed 500 Tuns; and if he will value them at higher Prices than I have done, yet still the Bulk will be the same.

The next heavy Article is Corn: The Corn which was exported in that Year to *France*, according to the *Custom-House* Account, was

P 5

13156

The Computation of Tonnage on several Species of Goods.

The British Merchant.

13156 Quarters; this, at five Quarters to a Tun, is 2631 Tuns.

Another heavy Article is Tin, Pewter, Lead, Lead-shot, wrought Brass and Copper, Iron Ordnance, Iron wrought and Clock-work, Nails and Steel: But of all these things, no more was exported in that Year than 2853 Tuns in weight, tho' extremely short of that in Bulk.

The next great Article is Coals, 20 Chaldron from the Port of London, and 1557 Chaldron from the Out-Ports, which in the whole is 3658 Tuns. But here I must do myself the Justice to acknowledge, that by a Mistake of the Copy, instead of 1557 Chaldrons from the Out-Ports, it is set down in the Account only 557 Chaldrons, which makes but little Difference, viz. 500 l. in the Account, but a very great one in the Tunnage.

All the Plantation-Goods, exported in that Year, did not exceed 360 Tuns.

All our Turkey Goods, exported thither in that Year, did not require 114 Tuns of Shipping.

Neither did our East-India Goods amount to 530 Tuns.

The Drugs, exported in that Year, were not above 20 Tuns.

The Quantities of Beer, Braziletta-wood, Logwood, Oil ordinary, Linseed Oil, Pitch, Tar, Haberdashery Ware, Tann'd Leather, Butter, Glue, Gunpowder, Starch, Allom, Cheese, Bees-Wax, Coney-Wool, Skins, Pot-Ashes, Almonds, Barilla, Brimstone, Currants,

The Trade with France.

Currants, Cinnamon, Cochineal, Elephants Teeth, Figs, Hemp, Honey, Hops, wrought Inkle, Raisins, Soap, Tallow, Spanish Wool, Copperas, Bread, Hilling-stones and Calveskins, mention'd in the Account return'd from the Custom-House, do not amount quite to 2000 Tuns.

The whole Number of Tuns above-mention'd, are but 12666; the rest of the Goods exported in that Year, were but inconsiderable as to their Weight or Bulk. And I will defy him or his Patrons, to shew, that all our Exports of that Year might not be stow'd at once, with all the Convenience in the World, in 13000 Tuns; a little more than a fourth Part of his 50000 Tuns of Shipping.

He says, he has heard that the French Trade employ'd 1000 Sail of our Ships, however he thinks 500 may be well allow'd in this Account; but he might as well have covered the Sea with a Fleet as big as that of Xerxes: We are sure our Exports did but little towards it. Thirteen thousand Tuns of Shipping will make no more than 130 Sail of Ships of 100 Tuns each. But if it shall be consider'd too, that every Ship may make so near a Voyage three or four times in a Year, 30 or 35 of these Vessels, or about 3500 Tuns, were sufficient to carry out our annual Exports thither.

But the most extravagant Part of the Jest is still behind, and that is, that the Profit we made, by exporting our Goods to France in our own Shipping, was 500000 l. to this Kingdom: And this is the next thing to be consider'd.

We

Fifty thousand Tuns of Shipping reduc'd to 13000.

Further reduc'd to 3500 Tuns.

The Profit by our Shipping to France consider'd.

We are so unfortunate as to have lost already about three fourth Parts of his Profit of 50000 *l.* by Shipping, by the Reduction of near the three fourth Parts of his Tunnage : And I am now determin'd to leave him little more than the 80th Part of this Profit, even upon the Supposition, that all the Goods were carried out in our own Shipping, which nobody can or will pretend was the Case.

He has given us one of his wonderful Dissertations upon the vast Advantages of Shipping to a Nation ; " That 'tis a Livelihood to the " Master-Builder, his Servants, his hired " Carpenters, Caulkers, Joyners, Carvers, " Painters, Smiths, and other Tradesmen, " &c.' And then he runs on to the Rope-makers, Powder-men, Chandlers, Seamen, Slop-sellers, to *Wapping, Rotherhithe, Ratcliffe, Lime-house, Deptford, and Blackwall.*

The Influence, says he, take it from the Stocks to the setting sail, is hardly to be imagin'd, and with great Difficulty to be cast up.

Not with so great Difficulty as he imagines : I shall cast it up for him with a very great deal of ease ; and not only this, but the Advantage the Nation made by exporting all the Goods in my former Account, supposing it to be all in her own Shipping : and I believe I shall convince every one, that it was far short of half a Million.

Whatsoever is the Price of building and fitting a Ship to Sea, is the Measure of her Value ; and whatsoever annual Freight shall be given for the Use of this Ship, is the Measure of the annual Profit. The Money that is thus given

The Cost or Value of a Ship consider'd.

given pays the *Builder* and his *Servants* ; the *Landed Interest* for *Timber, Plank, and Iron* ; the *Fellers, Squarers, Sawyers, and Carriers* ; the *West-India and Norway Merchants* for their *Planks, Masts, and Yards*, for their *Pitch, Tar and Oil*, for their *Tallow, Rosin, and Brimstone* ; and all other People that bestow either *Labour or Materials* upon this Ship, wheresoever they live, at *Wapping or Rotherhithe, at Ratcliffe or Lime-house, at Deptford or Blackwall.* Whatsoever it is they sell, whether of *Labour or Materials*, to this Ship, is all paid for by the first *Cost*, or the annual *Freight*. The *Price of building and fitting out* therefore is the *Measure of her first Value* ; and the annual *Freight*, of her annual *Value*, and yearly *Repairs* : for if her *Repairs, her Wear and Tear*, amount to more than her yearly *Profit*, she will soon be laid up.

To what purpose then all that heap of Words which he has huddled together ? When all is said that can be said upon this Subject, the thing is only this : If a Man will give no more for a Ship new-built and rigg'd, and fitted for the Sea, than a thousand Pounds ; then a thousand Pounds is the Value of all that has been done to this Ship, whether by the *Builder or his Servants*, by the *Artificer or the Labourer*, or any body else.

Again, if I buy this Ship, and can let it out for no more *Freight* than 500 *l. per ann.* this annual Sum must answer every Year part of my first *Costs*, the *Wages and Victuals* of the *Seamen*, and the *Wear and Tear* of the Ship : This annual *Freight* therefore must be the

Annual Freight considered.

the Value of all the annual Charges of this Ship. So that what he said was *hardly to be imagin'd*, as to the Value of a Ship, he sees by this time may *be cast up* with a great deal of ease.

What we gain by employing our Shipping.

But the Question still remains, What it is we gain from *France* by employing our own Shipping.

First, it is certain we gain nothing of the first Cost, but what we gain in the annual Freight, *France* does not buy the Ship; all that she does, is paying us something every Year for the Use.

In the next place, we gain nothing from *France* by the Freight of Goods we import from thence. We pay the Value of the Goods to *France*, and we pay the Freight for them among our selves. Indeed in this case we do not lose, as we should do if the Goods were to be imported in *French* Bottoms; for then *France* would be paid not only for the Goods, but for the Carriage of them too. By importing them in our own Ships, the Charge of Carriage is fav'd to us, but it can never be said that any thing is gain'd. It is indeed a great Advantage to us, but no increase of Wealth. Nor is it such Advantage, for the sake of which we ought to hinder any Nation from taking our Manufactures in their Ships, if they cannot be perswaded to do it in ours. The importing Goods from *France*, notwithstanding what he says, in our own Ships, is so far from being Profit, that as I have said formerly, it must be a loss to us, by stopping the Importation of an equal Quantity of Goods from

from *Portugal, Italy, &c.* And these Places, the Distance being considered, must employ a greater Number of Ships, at a much higher Freight.

It remains therefore, in the last place, that what we may properly be said to gain by employing our own Ships in the *French* Trade, is the Freight for the Goods we send to that Country: and how much this is, is the Question to be answer'd.

I have shewn already, that our whole Exports in one Year did not exceed 12 or 13000 Tuns; but if any Man will be at the trouble of looking back to the *Custom-House* Account, he will easily be convinc'd, that the whole Imports were more than double the Tunnage of our Exports. Whence it will follow, that above half the Tunnage of our Ships went empty, to come home full.

And what must needs be the Consequence of this Difference? What else, but that all the Ships outwards contended with Emulation one against another, to accept as low Freight as possible, rather than go empty? which could not but have this effect, to reduce the Freight outwards a great deal below that upon the Return.

Ships carry Goods out gratis for the Back-carriage.

Every one knows that the Goods of our Merchants at home were often taken in for little or nothing, upon condition of their making them amends by the Back-loading; that Lead, Tin, Pewter, Iron, and Coals, were taken on board *gratis*, or for a very trifle, only to save the Charge of Ballast; that Corn has been often carry'd to *France* for 10 s. per Tun, nay,

nay, for nothing, in consideration of Back-Tunnage. All these things render it very credible, that the Freight outwards was, at a Medium, not above one half of the Freight home. But unless the Bill of Commerce shall pass, we shall be under no necessity of sending any empty Ships to that Country for the sake of Back-carriage.

6500 l. gain
from France
by Freight
outwards
instead of
500000 l.

At this very day we fetch home Goods from France for 20 s. per Tun, though Wages are as great now as at that time. It follows then, that we sent our Goods to that Country for 10 s. per Tun, and consequently the whole 13000 Tuns above-mention'd for 6500 l. and that this was the whole Sum we gain'd from France, by exporting our Goods in our own Shipping.

'Twas pretty well done of the *Mercator*, to rate our Gain, by trading with France in our own Shipping, at 500000 l. per ann. I think I have made it evident, that it could not exceed 6500 l. and this only by striking off 493500 l. from an Account of 500000 l. Tho' at the first, I must confess, I was so startled at the Greatness of the Sum, deliver'd too with such an Air of Assurance, that I had hardly the Confidence for some time to look into it.

I shall now prove,

1. That the *Mercator's* Account of 218 Ships sent to *Dunkirk*, was Noise, and nothing else.

2. That a Single Brew-house at *London* is generally as good a Market for our Corn, as the whole Kingdom of *France*.

3. That

3. That *France* is as well able to supply her People with Corn, as *England* is to supply her own.

4. That there's no Reason for accounting our Profit 50000 l. per ann. by the Exportation of Corn to *France* in an accidental dear Year.

5. That the last dear Year of Corn in *France*, is no Rule for the time to come.

6. That the Exportation of Corn to *France* the last, or any other Year, is no reason for passing the Bill of Commerce.

7. That our Exportations to *Dunkirk*, was chiefly for the Subsistence of our own Garrison there.

8. And that 50,000 l. more is struck off from the *Mercator's* Account of our Exports.

What a terrible Noise has the *Mercator* made with our Exportations of Corn to *France*! 218 Ships of ours at *Dunkirk* only! The lading of almost every one, either Corn or Coals! And all this at one Harbour! And for the Use of one Town only, since they have no navigable River by which our Goods could be convey'd to any considerable Distance! And what shall be thought to be our Exportations to all other Ports of that Kingdom, if those to a single Town were so prodigious! And how much greater had our Exportations been, if we had pass'd the Bill of Commerce! And is this the Trade we have so foolishly rejected! With such Exclamations as these, one would imagine all the Farmers in *England* should be prevail'd upon to break up all their Pasture-Ground; and all little enough, to supply so vast a People

218 Ships
at *Dunkirk*
considered.

The British Merchant.

ple as the French Nation with all the Bread they want. He delivers himself with such an Air of Confidence, as if he meant to terrify all the Adversaries of the Bill of Commerce. For my own part, I believe I should have been frightened among the rest, if I had not known better.

A single Brewhouse takes as much Corn from us, as France does in a Year.

The Account from the Custom-house of all our Imports and Exports, from Michaelmas 1686. between both Nations, makes the whole Quantity of Corn exported in that Year, of all sorts of Grain, and to all Parts of that Kingdom, amount to no more than 13156 Quarters. A wonderful Business, for all this Ostentation! 13000 Quarters of Malt are often consum'd in a Year by the Customers of a single Brewer: And 'tis a mighty thing with these Men, that the whole Kingdom of France is as good a Market to our Farmers, as one of our London Brew-houses.

Upon the very expectation of the Exports and Imports of a whole Year, which I have since published, he foresaw that after the great Bluster he had been making about Corn, 13000 Quarters would look ridiculous to his Readers: and therefore asserts that there happens a Scarcity of Corn in France once in seven, or at most once in ten Years; and that the extraordinary Quantity taken from us at such a time, ought to be divided among the other Years: and then thinks it reasonable to demand an Allowance of 50000 l. per ann. for the vast Export of Corn upon the contingent Scarcity in France. Is this his way of proving every thing by indisputable Vouchers?

But

The Trade with France.

But why must a dear Year of Corn happen any oftner in France than it does in England? I do not believe the oldest Man now living has ever seen seven Years of Plenty, without one Year of Scarcity, or any seven Years together, in which the Poor have not been reduc'd to great Extremities for want of Bread. And then why are not we as likely to buy from France, as France from us, in any accidental Scarcity? Are the Seasons in that Country more irregular than they are in ours? Are the Blasts there more frequent? Or is not there Land sufficient for their whole Number of People? They have almost three Acres for our one, but not quite so many Mouths in proportion to their Acres. But what if the Scarcity of Corn in both Countries should happen in the same Year, should we then thank France for taking off our Corn, the Bread of our Poor, in such a Year? No, our Legislators have provided against this Mischiefe, by the Laws which allow no Bounty for exporting of Corn when it is very dear.

Scarcity of Corn in France no Rule of Profit to England.

I have therefore very justly told him before, that I shall never make any Allowance for his dear Year of Corn, except in the Balance of the Exports and Imports of that very Year. Let him produce at any time his dear Year, with the whole Exports and Imports of that Year, and it shall be allow'd. But this is the most extraordinary Writer in the World! In almost 70 Papers, he has not given us the whole Account of any Year; he has not given us the whole Exports of Corn in any one Year, by which we are able to make any Judgment, that 50,000 l. ought to be deducted from one,

Our Adversaries have produced no Account of our annual Exports.

to

to be apply'd to the Profits of another. Is this the Man of Vouchers, of authentick and indisputable Vouchers!

I must repeat here what I told this Person before, that our extraordinary Exportation of Corn in 1713, can be no Rule for the time to come; that by the Superiority of our Troops, we had drawn so many of the French King's Subjects from the Plough into his Armies, as to cause a Dearth in his Dominions; that at other times France has been able to supply herself with Corn, and even other Countries when they want it. Well! I have said this; and is it not true? Were we not every where superior? And does he imagine, that France employ'd less than 200,000 Men in Garisons and in the Field upon this account? Was not every Parish in the Kingdom, especially in the Villages, tax'd to these Levies? And was not the want of so many able Hands at the Plough, sufficient to produce a Dearth in that Kingdom? Did his most Christian Majesty, or his Subjects, grow the richer by being beaten? Is not Poverty the common Effect of an unsuccessful War? And might not the Poverty of his Subjects, occasion'd by means of this War, disable them to lay up such Stores before-hand, as they would have done in a Time of Peace? Why should such a Supposition as this, be thought either unreasonable or improbable?

But see now how I am treated for this:
" Another Deceiver, says he, insinuates now
" that the Scarcity of Corn in France is not a
" thing that ever happens in France in time of
" Peace, and that the Want they suffer now,
" or

" or had suffer'd before, was not from Heaven, but for want of Men to till the Land;
" we having so beaten them, that they were
" forc'd to take their People up to recruit their
" Armies, and so for want of Ploughmen
" they had a Famine.
" It is not, says he, that we will trouble
" our Readers with following these Magi in
" their Shiftings and Turnings, that this is
" mention'd; but to give a Specimen of their
" Way of reasoning, and leave the World to
" judge by it of the rest which they may expect."

I make no doubt, but every disinterested Person will judge very well of my way of reasoning; but the Mercator was weak to mention any thing of the Superiority of our Forces, of the Poverty of that Prince or his People, or of the Numbers forc'd away from the Plough into his Armies, because every impartial Reader will naturally judge that these things were enough to make a Dearth in his Dominions.

But how could he have the Confidence to affirm, as he does, that I insinuate that Scarcity of Corn never happens in France in time of Peace, or that their present Dearth was not from Heaven? No, I am taught better by my Bible, and by the Church of England, in which I was educated. I ever believ'd, that Plague, Pestilence, and Famine, are all Judgments from Heaven. I know not what he believes, but I do assure him, I think their late Famine was a Judgment from Heaven, and a very just one too, and brought upon the
French

French Nation by the very means I have mention'd. And I think farther, that we are not so very righteous a People ourselves, that we ought never to be afraid of the like Judgment. But Judgments from Heaven, and all Accidents which happen out of the ordinary Course of Divine Providence, are a very precarious Foundation for the Profit of annual Trade.

A Dearth of Corn as often in England as in France.

He says, these Dearth's happen in France once in seven or ten Years, without giving me the least Reason to believe him: and I affirm, that they happen, or may happen, as often in England as they do in France; that the latter is as well able to supply her own People with Corn, as the former; and that 'tis altogether as likely we should pay, as that we should receive 50,000 l. per ann. upon this account.

This Article therefore is ridiculous and absurd, and has no Foundation at all, either in Nature or Reason. But if I should grant him, that we gain 50,000 l. per ann. by the extraordinary Quantity of Corn we export once in ten Years to that Country, to what Purpose will it serve? What Use will he be able to make of it? Is it a Reason for our passing the Bill of Commerce? And if we should not pass it, shall we lose the exporting 50,000 Quarters of Corn, or the gaining 50,000 l. per ann. from that Country? Has the late Treaty of Commerce any thing to do with Corn? No, we shall always send our Corn to France, whenever we can spare it ourselves, and that People cannot live without it. This very Year 1713 is a Demonstration of this: the Bill of Commerce

Commerce is not pass'd, the Articles are not made effectual, and yet we have sent great Quantities of Corn to France; and whenever she is starving, she will buy Corn from any Country, whether from Enemies or Friends. Our Corn-Trade does not at all depend upon our Treaty of Commerce, and I hope we shall never bind ourselves by such a Treaty, for the sake of a Trade which we are sure to have without it.

France buys Corn only when she wants it.

But one thing I must not pass over, That two hundred and eighteen Ships were all sent to Dunkirk, where we had a Garison of our own; that most of the Cargoes of those Ships consisted either of Provisions or Fuel; and that, after all, the whole Value of those Cargoes was little more than sufficient to pay the Charge of our Garison in that City; and is therefore very little more to be plac'd to the Account of the French Trade, than the Employment of so much Shipping between London and Newcastle.

218 Ships at Dunkirk only, when the English were there.

But I believe I have said enough to convince every reasonable Man, that the Mercator's whole 50,000 l. Article of Corn, for the extraordinary Quantity of Corn exported in an accidental dear Year (neither I nor he knows when) ought to be struck off from every other Year, except when the same was exported. And there being no more than 13156 Quarters exported to France in the Year which I have publish'd, the Mercator's extraordinary Sum of 50000 l. upon this account, must be struck off from the Exports of that Year.

50000 l. for Corn struck off of their Account.

This

[Sums taken
from their
Account.]

This Writer being quite sick of the Year of Exports and Imports, between *Michaelmas* 1685 and *Michaelmas* 1686, he finds at last that his Project for valuing our Credit, given that Year to *France*, at 1,756,277 *l.* 4 *s.* ½, and for making our Gain, upon the Balance of our Trade, 866,372 *l.* 13 *s.* 11 *d.* ½, will never do. He sees that I have confuted his 500,000 *l.* Article of Shipping; his 64,200 *l.* Gain by Advance on the Sale of our Goods, and his Corn Article of 50,000 *l.* per ann. He knows very well, that I am still able to take off as much more as all the above-mention'd Sums from his Account; and therefore now he would fain divert me from that Year to another Argument.

Objections
against my
Account of
1685.

His Words are, that “ it was a Cheat, a preposterous and absurd thing, to offer the Exports of 1685 for a Test of the Trade to *France*; which is to stand, after a Treaty of Commerce is settled, upon the foot of the Tariff of 1664.”

His Argument is, that after that Tariff, and before 1685, a new Tariff was made, and higher Duties laid in *France* upon our Goods, than by the Tariff of 1664, and that our Exports in 1685 therefore must needs have sunk below those in 1664.

He has also given us an Instance of high Duties laid on our Goods in *France* after 1685, which therefore sunk our Exports afterwards below what they were before; and concludes therefore, that our Exports of 1685 must needs be below those of 1664, and very much below what they will be hereafter, when the Tariff of 1664 shall be restor'd. To

To this fine Reasoning, for the present, I shall give the following Answers: Answer'd.

1. That that Tariff is not restored by the Terms of the late Treaty, without very large Exceptions, and such as render it insignificant.

2. I shall hereafter shew him, that tho' we were to have that Tariff entire, and without any Exception; nay, tho' our Goods in *France* were to pay no Duties at all, yet we should not be able to export such Quantities as we did in 1685.

3. I defy this Writer, or his Patrons, to shew, by the whole Exports and Imports of any one Year since 1664, or even before, when the Duties on our Goods were a great deal less than by that Tariff, that we ever gain'd upon the Balance of our Trade with *France*. Let him produce what Year he shall think fit; I have given him a fair Challenge. A Challenge
to produce
any one
Year's Ac-
count, by
which we
gain'd on our
Trade with
France.

4. But lastly, I wonder to find them at this time of day stand in need of a good Tariff to make the *French* Trade beneficial to this Nation. Are these the Men that asserted, That the Trade between *England* and *France* WAS ALWAYS beneficial to this Nation, in spite of Tariffs, Edicts, and Prohibitions; I have produced the entire Exports and Imports of one whole Year, the only Year that has been laid before the Parliament from the *Custom-House*,

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and it is against them. The Mercator has produced little Sketches from several Years : but let him produce the whole Account of what Year he thinks fit, I will be ready to join issue with him upon his own Year. But I expect no such thing from him : the little Sketches he has offer'd, render it very suspicious that every Custom-House Account is against him.

That we exported Goods to France, via Holland and Flanders in 1685, ridiculous.

In the mean time, I shall go on to shew all his Frauds and Falshoods of that very Year ; and the next in course is, that we exported to France between Michaelmas 1685, and Michaelmas 1686, the Value of 100000 l. by the way of Flanders, and 300000 l. by the way of Holland.

We were promis'd Vouchers, authentick and indisputable Vouchers, for every thing to be asserted by this Writer. Where is his Voucher for this Assertion ? Does he expect to be believ'd upon his own Authority ? But he has not only no Voucher for this strange Assertion, but 'tis impossible he should have any. There is not the least Foundation in the Reason or Nature of the thing, to make it credible, that in that Year any of our Goods were exported to France by the way of Holland and Flanders.

For had we not at that time an open Trade with France ? Why then should any of our Goods be sent thither by the way of Flanders and Holland ? He tells us that some Parts of France are so situated, that they can no way be supply'd with English Goods, so as to have them

The Trade with France.

them at any reasonable Rates, but by the way of Holland. Why then it will follow, that that ought not to be call'd a Part of the French Trade, which we cannot supply but by the way of some other Country.

But, first, why are not we ourselves as well able as Flanders, to supply any Part of France with our own Goods ? At what distance is the Soame from Flanders ? And are we not able to send them up that River to any Part of France, which can be supply'd by the way of Flanders ? Or will our Goods bear first the Payment of one Duty upon their landing in Flanders, and afterwards another Duty in France, upon their being imported into this Country ; rather than the Payment of the single Duty in this Country, upon our exporting them directly thither ? It is therefore ridiculous and nonsense, to talk of exporting any Goods by the way of Flanders, when we had a direct open Trade to France from this Kingdom.

But, secondly, it is still more ridiculous to talk of any Exportations at that time by the way of Holland. All the Goods we send this way pay a Duty upon their Importation into Holland, and another upon their Exportation ; they must pay several Duties in their Passage to France, upon the Rhine and Meuse ; and at last as great a Duty upon their being first brought that way into France, as if we had carry'd them directly thither. And besides all these Charges, the Dutch Merchant will expect to have his Profit. And why should we imagine then, that our Goods had not come cheaper

Goods go to any Part of France directly cheaper than thro' Holland.

The British Merchant.

cheaper to *Champaign, Metz, and other French Countries near the Meuse or Rhine, if we had first landed them at Rouen, and paid the single Duty of that City? If Water-carriage is so very necessary, if we consult the Map, we shall find they may be convey'd by the two Branches of the Seine almost to every part of France, to which they can be carry'd by the Meuse or the Rhine. But if they were to be convey'd thro' France by Land-carriage, yet the Charge would be still lighter, for the Reasons I have given, than the Conveyance by the way of Holland.*

If any of our Goods were sent up the *Rhine* at that time, when we had an open Trade with *France*, the *Mercator* will never be able to prove they were not rather sent that way to *Germany* than to *France*, since the former could not be supply'd otherwise, and the latter have had them much cheaper, if we had sent them directly up to *Rouen*.

But why 400,000 *l.* Value of our Goods exported to *France* by the way of *Holland* and *Flanders*? Says this Writer, because those Parts of *France* had no Manufactures of their own. If they had indeed none of their own, I must ask him where or how they got the Money to pay for so great a yearly Value of ours? To ask the Question only, is to expose him. But if they wanted our Goods heretofore, they are likely to want but very few of them hereafter: They have been improving these last thirty Years in Woollen Manufactures, they have the Materials as cheap, and Labour a great deal any

The Trade with France.

cheaper. It will be impossible for us to send any Cloths to *France* under the Tariff of 1699, which is 20 per Cent. of the whole Value, and which must be the Tariff by the late Treaty.

But whatever shall be the Case hereafter, we certainly sent no Goods to *France* in 1685, by the way of *Flanders* and *Holland*, because we had then a direct Trade to *France*, and the direct Trade was the most profitable. So that I have here cut off 400,000 *l.* more from the Account of these Men.

Let us consider next what were to be the Exports and Imports between *France* and *England*, if the Treaty of Commerce had been made effectual, and what other Trade must be affected.

What other Trades the French Trade by the present Treaty would affect.

In the first place, we should send no Woollen Cloths or Serges, if they are to pay according to the Tariff of 1699, which is to be our Tariff for those Goods by this Treaty. I am not at all mov'd by the small Parcels which have been sent to *Dunkirk*, which is a free Port, and where no Duties at all are paid, and where we have a Garison of our own, which must be clothed with our own Manufactures. But what is *Dunkirk* to the rest of *France*, where the Tariff of 1699 must take place?

Dunkirk a free Port.

We can export no *East-India* Manufactures thither, for the Edict which I have repeated formerly. *France*, to help on the Bill of Commerce, may connive at the Importation of some *East-India* Goods, but the Treaty has no where provided for the Repeal of that Edict, and

Our East-India Manufactures.

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and she may therefore keep them out without any Breach of the Treaty.

Our Turkey Goods.

Our Turkey and other foreign Goods are in as bad a Condition by the Edict of 1701. But what Inundations are we to expect from France, of Wines, Linens, wrought Silks, Paper, Kidskins, &c. upon our rendring effectual the Articles of that Treaty? What one thing can we expect that shall be beneficial to us besides Salt? And are we not then to pay a great Over-balance in Money to that Kingdom?

And first, the Payment of so much Money must be the loss of so much Riches to the Nation.

But secondly, the things for which we shall pay this Money, must needs be more detrimental to us than the Loss of the Money it self.

Goods of Portugal and Italy.

Can we have the Wines of France, and not lessen our Consumption of those of Portugal and Italy? And if we take off less of their Wines, will not those Nations make Reprizals upon us by a Prohibition of our Manufactures? And if they should, how many of the Manufactures must lie upon our Hands, which now employ such Multitudes of our own People?

Goods of Flanders, Germany, Italy and Holland.

Can we buy the wrought Silks and Linens of France, and must not our own Manufactures of equal Value stand still? Or shall we import the like Goods from Flanders, Germany, Italy, and Holland, and will not these Nations retaliate upon us by the like Prohibitions? And then how many of our Woollen Manufactures must stand still? The certain and infallible Consequences

The Trade with France.

Consequences of the Bill of Commerce are, that we shall import from France a World of Manufactures already wrought to the utmost Perfection, and which will contribute nothing to the Employment and Subsistence of our People; and that we shall lose the selling of vast Quantities of our own finished Manufactures to other Countries for Money, or for unwrought Materials, by which our People are employed.

Our Manufactures affected and the Labour of our People.

End of the First Volume.



THE
British Merchant:

CONTAINING

The Sentiments of the most eminent and
judicious Merchants of the City of
London, concerning the Trade and
Commerce of these Kingdoms;

More particularly that which relates to *France*,
Spain and *Portugal*.

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To the Honourable

William Pulteney, Esq;

S I R,



O Man is more sensible than You are, that the Trade of *Great Britain* is the very Axis of Her Wealth and Power, that by this, She is able to turn the Ballance of *Europe* at pleasure : By this, She liberally dispenses Bread to her various Manufacturers, and to all Her industrious Children : By this, She supports the Value of Her Lands, and Her Rents ebb and flow as Her Trade decays or flourishes. And you know, Sir, very well, that all this depends on a right Regulation of Our Trade with *France*; as does the Treasure we gain by Our whole foreign Commerce : Therefore, I beg Leave to shelter this Volume under Your Protection, as the Defence of our Trade, the Subject of the succeeding Sheets, received in the Time of the utmost Danger, the Influence of Your Zeal and Eloquence.

A 2

That

THE

CONSTITUTION

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iv DEDICATION.

That generous Spirit which obliged You lately, amidst a Universal Corruption, rather to forego the great Improvement of the Fortune You then had in Your Power, than to accumulate Wealth at the Expence of the Publick Credit, ought to be recorded to Your Honour; since You did it at a Time, when almost every Man was led away by the Delusion of Avarice to conspire our Destruction. Continue, Sir, at this Time, Your Endeavours to redress Your injured Country, endeavour to heal the Wounds She has received from her false Friends, and be it Your Praise that You have no other Cause to defend, but that of Vertue. I am,

S I R,

With the greatest Duty,

Your most Obedient, and

Most Humble Servant,

Charles King.



I
THE
British Merchant.



The Trade with France further consider'd.



Published in my first Volume an Account of all the Imports and Exports between *France* and *England*, with such a Valuation of Particulars as made the Imports about 1,284,000 *l.* the Exports about 515,000 *l.* by which the Ballance against us was about 770,000 *l.* besides what was made by Goods clandestinely imported, which I suppos'd might be equal to a third Part of all that were fairly enter'd.

The *Mercator*, to get rid of this prodigious Ballance, had recourse to the most extraordinary
V O L. II. B nary

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ary Means in the World. By an extravagant Undervaluation of our Imports he reduced them to 889,904 l. and by as extravagant an Overvaluation of our Exports, he rais'd them to 742,077 l. which still leaves against him a Ballance of 147,826 l.

Ballance of the French Trade against us by their own Accounts.

To make the Ballance that very Year on our Side, he has added, that we gain'd 500,000 l. by exporting our Goods to France in our own Shipping; 400,000 l. by Goods exported by the Way of Flanders and Holland; 64,200 l. by Advance upon the Sale of our Goods in France; and 50,000 l. for Corn. The Absurdity of every one of these Additions I have demonstrated, as I shall hereafter of his over and under Valuations.

We imported no Materials for Manufactures, only things of Luxury.

I must therefore here ask what were the Goods we imported for so much Money, to convince us that it was not lost, or that so much of our Treasure was not exhausted? Had we any naval Stores from France, as we have from the East-Country? Had we any Goods from thence, which we exported afterwards to other Countries, as we do those of the East-Indies? Had we any Wool, or other unwrought Materials, which were either necessary or useful in any of our Manufactures, by the Exportation of which we regain'd the Money we paid to France? Not any one of all these things; but Wines, Brandies, Kid-Skins, Paper, Prunes, Linen, and wrought Silk, and such like Goods as were all consumed in England, and which could no way make us amends for our Loss by that Trade.

But

The Trade with France.

But the Payment of a Ballance to France, is not the worst of our Condition with respect to our Treasure. If the Bill of Commerce should pass, the Goods we shall import from France will be so far from re-paying us the Ballance we shall send thither, that they cannot chuse but stop those Streams of Money which are every Day flowing into this Kingdom, by the Ballance of our Trade with other Countries. For if we should abate of the Consumption of other Countries, from whence we receive a Ballance, will they contentedly take off as many of our Manufactures as they did before, and pay us still so much the greater Ballance? No certainly, it is much more reasonable to imagine that they will retaliate upon us by Prohibitions and high Duties, till we shall be able to gain nothing from them by the Over-Ballance of our Manufactures. For Example;

The Payment of a Ballance to France not the worst part of our Condition.

If the Bill of Commerce should pass, should we not consume more of the French Wines? And should we not abate in proportion of those of Portugal and Italy? And would not those Countries then prohibit our Goods, to prevent the Payment of the Ballance? Again, would not this Treaty of Commerce, if made effectual, increase our Consumption of French wrought Silk and Paper? And should we not consume so much the less of those of Italy and Holland? And lastly, would not our Consumption of French Linen be increas'd, and that of Holland, Germany, and Flanders be abated? And why should we imagine that these Countries will not abate of their Consumption of our Manufactures? or that they will not retaliate

Wines and Manufactures from France, prevent the like from other Countries.

The British Merchant.

liate upon us by Prohibitions and high Duties, to make the Account of Exports and Imports even, and that they may not pay us any Balance? It is a very dangerous thing to provoke the Nations that pay us Money, and which have it in their Power to pay us none.

Our Gain by the Ballance of Trade.

We gain a Million every Year by the Balance of our Trade with Portugal and Italy, and near twice as much by that with Flanders, Germany, and Holland: and shall we venture losing the Gain of three Millions every Year from those Countries, not for the sake of gaining, but of losing a fourth Million every Year to France? But, I think, I have said enough to shew my Readers, when it is that a Trade with any particular Country shall be said to exhaust our Treasures, and how they ought to try the French Trade by that Rule.

The Employment of our People a Rule to judge of a gainful Trade.

Next to the Increase and Decrease of our Treasure, which I have treated of, the Employment and Subsistence of our People is an infallible Rule, by which to judge whether our Trade with any particular Country is beneficial or detrimental to the Nation.

If by means of the French Trade greater Numbers of our People can be employed and subsisted, and in a better manner than can be done without it, it is certainly for our Advantage: On the contrary, if by reason of that Trade there shall be less Employment and Subsistence for our People than was before, every one ought to conclude that it is detrimental, that it is a Nuisance to this Kingdom.

Our Legislators, as appears by the Preamble to the Prohibition Act, 30 Car. II. condemned

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demned the French Trade by this very Rule: This is implied in the words, Lessened the Value of the native Manufactures and Commodities thereof. Here in plain words that Trade is charged with having lessened the Value of the Manufactures and Commodities of this Nation.

Now what are our Manufactures and Commodities, but the Labour or Employment of our People, and the Fruits or Product of our Lands? The last I shall speak to hereafter, the former shall be my present Subject.

It is not possible the French Trade should lessen the Value of English Labour, without lessening at the same time the whole Quantity of our Labour, and the Wages that are given for it; in both which Cases there is so much the less Employment and Subsistence for our People. This therefore is the very thing that was intended by our Legislators, and was one of their Reasons for prohibiting that Trade.

Reasons for Prohibiting the French Trade.

But how shall it be proved, that it lessened the Employment and Subsistence of our People? The first Charge against it, that it exhausted our Treasure, will prove a great Part of the second, that it lessened the Employment and Subsistence of our People.

The French Trade exhausted our Treasure. How? By bringing in upon us a great Overbalance of the Manufactures of that Country; and by taking from us the Ballance in Money, and not in the Goods and Manufactures of our own. It was not possible but such a Quantity of Goods, brought to the same Market, must needs lessen the Value of our own.

B 3 Suppose,

In what case our People are deprived of their Subsistence.

Suppose, for Argument sake, our Trade with France stood thus, that we could sell nothing at all to that Nation, and that on the contrary she sold every Year the Value of a Million of her Manufactures to this Kingdom: (I do not affirm, that this is the very Case, yet for Argument sake I hope I may suppose it without any offence.) If France would take off none of our Goods, could the Value of a Million of Manufactures be imported from that Country, without lessening our own to that Value? What sort of Goods would France be able to send hither, that could not lessen the Value of our own? What other Manufactures to this Value besides Wine, Brandy, Linen, wrought Silk, Thred, Paper; every one of which is either made by ourselves, or imported from other Countries in exchange for our Manufactures, and which we can have no assurance of selling to those Countries but for such Exchange?

I ask any Man, Would it be possible for us to import from France in this Case the Value of 500,000 l. in Brandy, Linen, wrought Silk, and Paper, without lessening our own Spirits, Linen, wrought Silk, and Paper to that Value? And is it not clear in this Case, that so many of our own People must be deprived of their Subsistence, as are now employed in the above-mentioned Manufactures? That the Employment and Subsistence, by Manufactures, of the Value of 500,000 l. must be taken from our People since they are not to be employed to make any at all for France, which by the very Supposition will take none at all from this Kingdom? A-

Again, If we should take off from that Nation another 500,000 l. Value of Wine, and all other the above-mentioned Goods, not instead of those which we make ourselves, but instead of those which we import from other Countries in exchange for our Manufactures, which is the same thing as if we made them ourselves, since we make the Goods which are exchanged for them; should we not cease in this Case taking that Value in those Goods from those other Countries? And would not they abate of their Consumption of the like Value of our Manufactures? And would not our own People by this means also be deprived of such a Proportion of their Employment and Subsistence as is gained by making 500,000 l. Value of Manufactures? If France were to sell us yearly a Million Value, and should buy none at all from us, the Case was past dispute; both the Quantity and the Wages of English Labour must be lessened, our People must lose as much of their Employment and Subsistence as is gained from so great a Value of Manufactures. The French Trade, by exhausting our Treasure in this manner, by selling us Manufactures and buying none, could not chuse but deprive our People of their Employment and Subsistence. So that if that Trade is guilty of the first Charge of our Legislators, it can never be innocent of the second, of lessening the Employment and Subsistence of our People.

But the French Trade is not condemned of buying none of our Manufactures, but only of selling us an Over-ballance of their own, and of exhausting so much of our Treasure as is necessary

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cessary to discharge the Over-balance :— And how will this effect the Labour or Subsistence of our People ? As for example, if we were to sell to *France* the Value of 200,000 *l.* in Manufactures, and to buy from thence the Value of 1,200,000 *l.* as much of our Treasure would be exhausted in this Case as in the former. But the Question is, how much would be taken from the Labour and Subsistence of our People ? I affirm, that just as much as if we were to import a Million Value of their Manufactures, and to export none at all to that Country.

For the 200,000 *l.* Value of Manufactures, which by this Supposition we export to *France*, can employ no more of our People, than 200,000 *l.* (part of the 1,200,000 *l.* Value we import from thence) can employ and subsist in that Nation.

And therefore the remaining Million Value, for which we must pay in Money, and which exhausts so much of our Treasure, must, as in the former Case, deprive our People of making such a Value of the same Manufactures, or of making others here to purchase the like of those we import from *France* : So that whether we buy a Million Value, and can sell none, or buy the Value of 1,200,000 *l.* and can sell no more than 200,000 *l.* it all comes to the same thing ; our People are deprived of as much of their Employment and Subsistence the one way as the other.

But after all, if it could be said in defence of the *French* Trade, That it makes the Account even between both the Nations ; that we could
sell

The Trade with France.

sell to *France* as great a Value of Manufactures as we take from her ; should we not be Losers ? Should we not lessen the Employment and Subsistence of our People by such a Ballancing of Accounts ? The Answer to these Questions will depend very much upon the Knowledge of the Treasure and Employment we gain by our Trade with other Countries, and how much that with *France* is likely to interfere with that Gain.

For, First, if we gain above a Million Sterling every Year by the Ballance of our Trade with *Portugal* and *Italy*, and as much Employment and Subsistence for our People as is usual by making such a Value of Manufactures ; and if, by means of the *French* Trade, we shall lose the sending all this Over-balance to those Countries ; then so many of our People will be deprived of this Employment.

If also, by means of that Trade, we should cease exporting twice as great an Over-balance of Manufactures to *Flanders*, *Germany*, and *Holland*, this would be the Loss of Employment and Subsistence for twice as many of our People.

Let me ask them, Should we not cease exporting that vast Over-balance to those Countries, if the Treaty of Commerce with *France* should be made effectual ? Should we not increase our Importations from *France*, by reducing the Duties upon them to an Equality with those upon the like Goods of other Countries, and in some Cases below that Equality ? And should we not abate of our Importations from other Countries in proportion to the Increase of those from *France* ? And would those
B 5 Countries

The British Merchant.

Countries in such a Case contentedly pay for that vast Over-balance such Sums as they do now to the Labour of our Poor? Would they not save those prodigious Sums which they now pay to our Manufactures, for the Employment and Subsistence of their own People?

Portugal especially, which has bound herself by Treaty to admit all our Woollen Cloths, and other Woollen Manufactures, and never to prohibit any of them as long as we take their Wines, and lay no more upon them than two thirds of the Duties which we do upon those of France; I say, whensoever we shall alter this Proportion, as we should do by making effectual our French Treaty, she has reserved to herself the Liberty of prohibiting all our Woollen Manufactures. And can any one be so senseless as to think she will not make use of this Liberty? Will she contentedly pay the present Ballance, or a greater than she does at present? Will she let her own People starve for want of those Sums which now, even by her Treaty, she cannot help paying to the Employment and Subsistence of our English Manufacturers?

Ballance gain'd by Portugal.

There is good Reason to believe, that Portugal pays us a Million every Year upon the Ballance of Trade, and every Shilling of this for the Labour of our People, or the Product of our Lands. But certainly I was not out of the way when I affirmed, That we gain'd above a Million every Year by the Ballance of our Trade with Portugal and Italy.

By Holland.

Dr. Davenant, the Inspector-General, in his second Report, has shewn, by a Medium of

The Trade with France.

of seven Years Exports and Imports between England and Holland, that our Gain from that Country was 1,388,102 l. 6 s. 8 d. Half-penny.

He has also told us, that by the like Medium our Gain from Germany was 161,270 l.

By Germany.

And probably the Ballance coming to us from the Spanish Netherlands will be believed to be twice as great as our Gain from Germany.

By the Netherlands.

And how little do all these Sums want of three Millions? and all this paid to us for the Product of our Lands, or the Labour of our People, except what was paid for the East-India Goods, which were re-exported to those Countries; and even a great part of the Price of the latter paid for the Labour of our People, which were employ'd in importing and re-exporting those Goods.

But how great a part of these three Millions was paid to the Labour of our People? Perhaps four parts in five of the whole Sum will be thought reasonable to be allowed to this Account, which at 4 l. per Head, the common yearly Earnings of Men, Women, and Children in the Country, at a Medium, is the Maintenance of 600,000 of our People.

Four fifths of our Ballance goes to Labour, and subsists 600,000 People.

And shall we venture the losing of such a Ballance, the Subsistence of such Numbers, for a Trade, which, though the Exports and Imports should be even, would add nothing to the Employment of our Poor?

I shall convince my Readers, that we have lost a Million yearly upon the Ballance of that Trade; and that, if our late Treaty of Commerce

merce should be made effectual, our annual Loss to that Country will be much greater.

The Subsistence of 200,000 People, would be lost by opening the French Trade.

And for what can this prodigious Sum be paid to France, but for the Over-balance of Manufactures she is to send hither, and which must therefore put a stop to such a Value of our own, and to the Labour of 200,000 of our People, who are employ'd and subsisted by so vast a Value of Manufactures?

If such is the Consequence of the French Trade, if it shall deprive such vast Numbers of their Employment and Subsistence directly, by pouring in upon us such an Over-balance of Manufactures, to the hindrance of our own, and much greater Numbers, indirectly, by hindering the Exportation of so vast an Over-balance of our Manufactures to other Countries; our Legislators, as in the above-mentioned Preamble, had very good reason to charge that Trade with lessening the Value of our Manufactures, that is, with lessening the Employment and Subsistence of our People: And, no doubt, the Rule by which our Legislators, in the Reign of King Charles II. condemned that Trade, will be a Rule for all our future Legislators.

Whatsoever Proofs I bring that our Gold and Silver are carried out by the Ballance of that Trade, or that the Manufactures imported from France must lessen the Employment of our own People, or the Value of the Product of our Lands, are so many Arguments to make good the general Propositions of the Preamble of the Prohibition Act, 30 Car. II.

And

And if it shall be endeavoured to persuade People, that the Ballance of this Trade has not been against us, by over-valuing our Exports, and undervaluing our Imports; it tends to the same Argument, that is, to the defence of those general Propositions, if I bring Evidence to disprove any such false Valuations; which I shall now do.

I had valued certain Exports of our Woollen Manufactures at less than 37,000 l. The Mercator has raised them to above 60,000 l. To take off his Over-valuation, to the making good my main Argument. And this I shall do in a few Instances, by the help of a Letter I have received from Exeter, and which is as follows.

To the British Merchant.

S I R, Exon, Oct. 31. 1713.

WE have had your British Merchant here, in Answer to the Mercator; in your Paper, Numb. 14. you have favour'd us with the Imports and Exports between France and England, for the Year 1685 to 1686. we have also had his Observations on the rating such Goods as concerns our Manufactory. In your Paper, Numb. 14. we find you have rated 81557 Ells Serges, sent that Year to France, at one Shilling and 10 Pence per Ell; the Mercator has turned the same into Yards, and instead of rating them at one Shilling and ten Pence per Ell, he rates them at 3 Shillings per Yard. Now inasmuch as he has

Exeter Manufactures, and their Rates.

4 Sorts of
Serges at
Exeter.

“ has appealed to us in this Affair, we shall
 “ put that Part which relates to us in a true
 “ Light between you. You must therefore
 “ understand, that there are four sorts of
 “ Serges made amongst us that are principally
 “ sold ; the first is a small sort of Goods that
 “ contains about 19 or 19 and a half Yards in
 “ a Piece, and are sold at 19 s. to 20 s. 6 d.
 “ per Piece ; the next sort holds about 21
 “ Yards, and are now sold from 25 s. to 26 s.
 “ per Piece ; another sort holds 22 Yards,
 “ and are sold at about 31 s. to 32 s. per
 “ Piece : but the very best sort of all holds a-
 “ bout 22 and a half Yards to 23 Yards, and
 “ are sold at 36 s. per Piece. You must add
 “ to this Price 20 d. for the dressing each
 “ Piece ; so the first sort will stand us about
 “ 13 d. half-penny per Yard ; the next will
 “ stand us about 16 d. per Yard ; the next
 “ sort, which we call the best Seconds, will
 “ stand in about 18 d. per Yard ; and the best
 “ sort of all at about 20 d. half-penny per
 “ Yard.

Their Value
in 1685 the
same as now.

“ There are great Quantities shipped off
 “ from our Port, but much a greater Quant-
 “ tity of the sort from 25 s. to 26 s. than of
 “ all the other 3 sorts put together ; so that
 “ you have exceeded the Value at 22 d. per
 “ Ell, as our Markets have been for several
 “ Years past ; and if you, or the *Mercator*,
 “ will give yourselves the trouble to search,
 “ we believe you will not find any material
 “ Difference between our present Prices and
 “ the Prices in 1685. We find you have valued
 “ our Perpets by the Pound instead of the Piece,
 “ which

“ which is our customary way of selling them ;
 “ you have valued them in your Account of
 “ Exports at 2 s. 6 d. but the *Mercator* finds
 “ fault with your Valuations, and makes his at
 “ 2 l. 10 s. per Piece of 10 lib. per Piece, which
 “ is 5 s. per Pound Weight. You must note, we
 “ have a great many sorts of Perpets, and some
 “ of very ordinary Wool ; and therefore in
 “ this Case you must not take it amiss, if (ex-
 “ cluding the coarsest sorts) we give the cast
 “ in favour of the *Mercator*, and only menti-
 “ on the best made in two of our chief Ma-
 “ nufactory Towns, that is, *Crediton* and
 “ *Sandford* ; the best *Creditons* are now worth
 “ about 26 s. per Piece, and hold 15 Pound
 “ Weight one with another ; the best *Sand-*
 “ *fords* are now worth about 29 s. 3 d. per
 “ Piece, and weigh about 16 Pound and a
 “ half one with another. You must add to
 “ this 20 d. per Piece dressing, but still this
 “ will not bring the *Crediton* Perpets above
 “ 22 d. farthing per Pound, nor the *Sandfords*
 “ above 23 d. farthing per Pound ; so that
 “ your Valuation at 2 s. 6 d. per Pound ; is
 “ above a fifth Part more than their Value
 “ according to our present Market.

“ We find in your *British Merchant*, the
 “ next Article to your Serges, 40800 Pounds
 “ Stuffs, Woollens, all valued by you at 2 s.
 “ per Pound ; if it be really Woollen-Stuffs,
 “ as you say, we can see no reason for any
 “ such Price, since our Perpets that are all
 “ worsted Chains, and only the Shute of
 “ Woollen Yarn, don't come to the Money.
 “ The *Mercator* charges the very same Weight
 “ you

The British Merchant.

" you do, but does not put in the word Wool-
 " len ; by which means we must suppose he
 " intends to be understood that the said 40800
 " Pounds of Stuff is Worsted Stuff, for he
 " values it at 3 s. per Pound. 'Tis plain that
 " either the *Mercator* or you have endeavour'd
 " to impose on the Publick ; which of you,
 " we shall not determine : but whether that
 " you are guilty of adding the word *Woollen*,
 " or the *Mercator* in leaving it out, when so
 " fairly printed in your Paper, is done with
 " design to impose on the Nation, and there-
 " fore would be either Forgery in you, or
 " Villany in him ; and therefore we expect
 " you clear, or condemn your self. We
 " heartily thank you for printing the *Portugal*
 " Treaty, for now we plainly see the preserv-
 " ing that Trade is preserving us our Bread,
 " and that breaking that Treaty will be our
 " Ruin, for we have hardly any other Mo-
 " ney current amongst us but *Portugal* Gold.
 " Sir, we are, in behalf of the Manufactures
 " of this Country,

Portugal
 Gold the
 chief Cur-
 rent Money
 at Exeter.

Your Humble Servants.

In the first place I make my Acknowledg-
 ments to the Gentlemen who sent me this
 Letter, and I shall be obliged to every other
 Person who shall send the like Informations.
 By this means we may come to have an exact
 Account of the Imports and Exports between
 both the Nations, and such a one as cannot be
 contested by the one Side or the other.

In the next place I am bound to answer a
 Question of my Correspondents, and to clear
 my

The Trade with France.

my self of an Imputation, which till I do it,
 may belong as well to my self as to the *Mercator*.
 I had valued *Woollen Stuffs* at 2 s. per
lib. which my Correspondents own to be right,
 the *Mercator* has valued *Stuffs*, without the
 Addition of *Woollen*, which perhaps too may
 be right, if they shall be understood to be of
Worsted ; they say if I have falsly added the
 word *Woollen*, it is Forgery in me, or Villany
 in the *Mercator*, if he has falsly left it out, to
 impose the belief of their being *Worsted* upon
 the Nation. The very *Custom-house* Account
 therefore which was laid before the last Par-
 liament, must answer this Question of my
 Correspondents. The Articles in the pre-
 sent Dispute between us stand thus in that Ac-
 count.

Serges and Perpets		7,672 Pieces.
Perpets		79,723 Lib.
Serges		81,557 Ells.
Stuffs WOOLLEN		40,800 Lib.

Behold here Stuffs WOOLLEN in legible
 Characters returned from the *Custom-house* !
 So that my Correspondents are at liberty to
 think of the *Mercator* as they please. All that
 I have done, is to add two other Columns to
 these above-mentioned, viz. the Valuation of
 the Species, and the value of the Parcels. So
 my Account stands thus.

Serges

The British Merchant.

			l.	s.	d.
Serges and Per.	7,672 Pc.	2 l. per pce	15,344	00	
Perpets	79,723 Lib.	2 s. 6d. per lib.	9,965	7	6
Serges	81,557 Ells	1 s. 10d. per Ell	7,476	1	2
Stuffs woollen	40,800 Lib.	2 s. per Lib.	4,080	00	

By which I made the total Value of those Exports 36,865 8 8

The Mercator's Account stands thus.

7,672 pce	Ser. and Per.	2 l. 10s. per Pc.	19,180
7,972 pce	Ditto being 79,723 lib. at 10 lib. to a Piece	2 l. 10s. per Pc.	19,930
40,800 lib.	Stuffs	3 s. per Lib.	6,120

By which the total Value of those Exports is 60,521

And exceeds mine in the Sum of 23,655 11 4

I ask the Mercator now how he came to value Serges and Perpets at 2 l. 10 s. per Piece. He answers No 63. that he has taken his Valuation from the Old Scheme? to which he has pretended to give so many mortal Stabs. But it helps him to 25 per Cent. for his Perpets and Serges more than he could get any other way; so he submits to the Argument, and the old Scheme begins to be a good Authority with him.

A Fallacy in the Valuation of Perpets.

Again, he is so in love with Perpets at 2 l. 10 s. that he turns 79,723 Lib. weight of Perpets in the second Article into Pieces, and cannot be contented to leave them in Pounds as they are returned by the Custom-house; but why

The Trade with France.

why 79,723 Lib. make 7,972 Pieces? why because he will allow no more than 10 Lib. to a Piece: And why no more than 10 Lib. to a Piece, when my Exeter Correspondents say there are at least 15 Lib. to a Piece? The reason was, he could make half as many more Pieces at 10 Lib. to a Piece, as he could at 15. And since he has the Authority of the old Scheme for valuing every Piece at 2 l. 10 s. it would swell the Account, to multiply the Pieces. If he had look'd back to his No. 25. it would have taught him better, but his Hopes was that I had not so good a Memory. But why not value this Article by the Pound as I have done? No, by turning his Pounds into Pieces, he has made his second Article 19,930 l. which I have made no more than 9,965 l. 7 s. 6 d. and every Pound 5 s. which I have made but 2 s. 6 d. which is yet above 25 per Cent. too much in the Opinion of my Correspondents. He has therefore chosen his Method of turning the Pounds into Pieces, that 5 s. per Lib. might not shock his Readers, and because 50 s. per Piece would serve his Purpose as well, and was less likely to be observed. But could he think he should not be observed?

Again, I must ask this Person, why he has not valued the 81557 Ells of Serges by the Ell, as returned from the Custom-house? and why he has turned them into 101946 Yards, and valued them at 3 s. per Yard? First, the greater Number of Figures, it makes so much the better show; but this was not the whole Reason, I had valued them at 22 d. per Ell; and if the Mercator shou'd have made them 45 d.

The British Merchant.

45 d. per Ell, it would have been shocking. He has therefore turn'd them into Yards, and valued the Serges at 3 s. per Yard, which amounts to the same thing, and was less likely to be observ'd.

As for Woollen Stuffs, he could have no reason to leave out the word Woollen, but that his Readers shou'd believe they were Worsted, and not think his Valuation extravagant, as is observ'd by my Correspondents.

But 'tis time now that these Gentlemen should determine how much ought to be taken off from the above-mentioned 60521 l. of the Mercator: According to their Opinion, the Account ought to stand thus.

	l.	s.	d.
7672 Pieces Serges and Perpets together, at 30 s. 6 d. per Piece	11699	16	0
79723 lib. of Perpets at 15 lib. per Piece, making 5315 Pieces, at 29 s. 4 d. per Piece	7795	6	8
81557 Ells, or 101946 Yards of Serges at 16 s. two thirds per Yard	7079	11	4
40800 lib. Woollen Stuffs valued alike by me and my Correspondents at 2 s. per lib.	4080	0	0
Total Sum	30654	12	0

Mercator condemned by the Exeter Serge-makers.

Which is less than my Valuation by 6210 l. 15 s. 4 d. So that 'tis plain in their Opinion I have not undervalued these Articles; but the Mercator has appeal'd to the Serge-makers of Exeter, and they have here condemn'd him of over-valuing these few Articles in the Sum of 29866 l.

The Trade with France.

29866 l. 8 s. enough in Conscience for so small a Value of Goods.

I come next to consider,

1. The Conclusion of the Exeter Letter.
2. To give an Extract of a Letter from Lisbon.
3. Offer Reasons against breaking the Portugal Treaty.
4. Shew that France proposes to serve Portugal with Woollen Manufactures. And,
5. That the Province of Picardy in France sold annually to Holland the Value of a Million and a half of Woollen Yarn.

THE Conclusion of the Letter from my Correspondents at Exeter, is so remarkable, that I think myself obliged to repeat it.

" We heartily thank you for printing the Portugal Treaty in your second Paper; for now we plainly see the preserving that Treaty, is preserving us our Bread, and that breaking that Treaty will be our Ruin, for we have hardly any other Money current among us but Portugal Gold.

The Advantage of our Treaty with Portugal.

What! almost no other Money current in Exeter, one of the chief Trading Cities in the West of England, but Portugal Gold! and not alter'd to the Coin of Great Britain! But I have heard that the Case is the same in all the Trading Places of Devonshire and Cornwall. And yet I presented my Readers with the Coinage of Gold in the Mint from the 21st of August 1710, to the 7th of August 1713, which amounted to 1,055,328 l. 17 s. 6 d. almost the

Portuguese Gold current all over Devonshire and Cornwall.

the whole from *Moidores* of *Portugal*. And besides this Money, what prodigious Quantities of Gold have been kept back in that Kingdom for the Payment of our Armies there and in *Catalonia*? And what Quantities have been also re-exported to our Forces in the *Netherlands*? Such Quantities coined in the Mint! such Quantities paid abroad! and yet is there still enough of it left to be almost the only current Money in our Trading Western Counties? And what are all these Sums but the Ballance of our Trade with that Kingdom? And for what was all this Ballance paid, but the Product of our Lands, and the Labour of our People? And is such a Trade as this to be abandoned? or would they have us give it up for a Trade which has been condemned by King *Charles* the Second and his Parliament, of exhausting our Treasures, and lessening the Value of our Native Commodities and Manufactures?

And yet passing the Bill of Commerce, rendering the *French* Treaty effectual, is breaking our Treaty of Commerce with *Portugal*, is the Destruction of that Trade which has been so beneficial to this Kingdom. But since I have begun to print Letters, a *Portugal* Merchant has been pleased to shew me a Letter which he has very lately received from his Correspondent at *Lisbon*, and has been so kind as to suffer me to take from it an Extract, which is as follows.

EXTRACT.

EXTRACT.

S I R, *Lisbon*, Nov. 7. 1713.

“ I Wrote you a few Lines the 20th ult. since which are come in the *Betty*, *John Moore*; and *Cooper* Galley, *John Hammer-ton*, &c.” And after acknowledging the Receipt of several Bales of Woollen Goods by those Ships, he goes on:

“ I now find myself honour'd with yours of Oct. 6. and perceive you intend 20 Bales more by the *Mary*, Capt. *Field*. I am of Opinion you had as good stop your Hands, at least send sparingly, till I can give you some more certain News about the *Brazil* Ships, and that you find what will be done in your Parliament in relation to the *French* Trade; for I dread their taking some Resolutions that will prove destructive to this. Thus far you may depend on, that if the Bill in favour of the *French* Commerce passes, this Court will do their utmost to oppress the *English* Trade; and it's much to be feared, that the Treaty being broken by us, they will not be content to prohibit Cloths only, but proceed to forbid Bays and other Goods, which the *French* are proposing to bring hither, and are representing how much more advantageous to *Portugal* a Trade with *France* would be than with *England*, *France* taking off great Quantities of their Sugars and Tobacco, and *England* nothing but their Gold, except it be
“ some

The Portuguese design'd to oppress our Trade, if the French Bill of Commerce passed.

The French Representation in behalf of theirs to Portugal against the English.

The British Merchant.

“ some Wine and Fruit, which does amount
“ but to a small Part of the Trade. And as I
“ should be sorry you should engage in this
“ Trade with any Disadvantage, I give it as
“ my Opinion, that one cannot act too cau-
“ tiously in it at present.

I am, &c.

Here is a Factor at *Lisbon*, who advises his Principal to send him no more Bales of Goods, or to send but very sparingly. A Factor advise this! who is to have the Profit of his Commission, and who can lose nothing by the Goods that are consign'd to him! Certainly the Apprehension of Loss must be very great to his Principal, that to save him from the Hazard only, a Factor can satisfy himself to part with a certain Profit.

And what are the Apprehensions of this Gentleman? He dreads the Parliament's taken some Resolutions here, which will prove destructive to the Trade of *Portugal*. For my own part, I am not able to dread any such thing. A *British* Parliament take Resolutions destructive to the Trade of *Portugal!* a Trade which has brought above 350,000 *per ann.* into our Mint, furnished much greater yearly Sums to the Payment of our Armies in *Portugal*, *Spain*, and *Flanders*, and moreover provided our Western Counties with almost all their present current Money! Will any Members of either *Cornwall* or *Devonshire* give their Votes for the Destruction of such a Trade? Or is it possible that a *British* Parliament can ever be guilty of such a Thought? Did King *Charles II.* and his Parliament

Portugal
Gold coin'd
yearly in our
Mint.

The Trade with France.

liament condemn the *French* Trade for *exhausting our Treasure*; and will any other Parliament destroy the Trade of *Portugal*, for having gained so vast a Treasure to this Nation?

Again, for want have all these yearly Sums been paid by *Portugal*, but for our *Perpets* and our *Serges*, for our *Cloths*, our *Bays* and other *Manufactures*; in short, for the *Product* of our *Lands*, and the *Labour* of our *People*? Has she not paid all this Money either to the *Rents* of the *Gentlemen*, or for the *Employment* and *Subsistence* of our *Poor*? And has she not by this means raised the *Value* of our *Native Commodities* and *Manufactures*? And shall the Trade be destroyed which has done this, and destroyed too by a *British* Parliament? Could the Parliament of King *Charles II.* condemn the *French* Trade for *lessening the Value of our Native Commodities and Manufactures*, for lessening the *Employment* and *Subsistence* of our *People*? And can it be imagined that any other Parliament will do any thing to destroy the Trade with *Portugal*, for being the *Reverse* of that with *France*, for increasing the *Value* of our *Native Commodities* and *Manufactures*, for increasing the *Employment* and *Subsistence* of our *People*? A *British* Parliament do this! it is not possible to be suspected.

But what Resolutions does he apprehend the Parliament can take, which will prove destructive to our Trade with *Portugal*? he assures us, he bids us *depend upon it*, that if the *Bill in favour of the French Commerce* passes, the *Court of Portugal* will do her utmost to oppress the *English Trade*; and that our *Treaty* with that *Nati-*

on being broken by us, she will not be content to prohibit our Cloths only, but to proceed to forbid our Bays and other Goods. And what should hinder her? Before she had tied up her Hands by a Treaty, had she not the Right of a Sovereign Prince, as my Antagonists have said, to prohibit all or any of our Manufactures? Is she restrained from exercising this Right any otherwise than by a Treaty? And will not the Breach of the Treaty on our part, restore her to the Power of exercising this Right? But besides that, she will be restored to this Power by the Breach, tho' there were no Clause in the very Treaty, to this effect, that if it shall be broken by us, it shall be again lawful for the King of Portugal to prohibit not only our Woollen Cloths, but all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures. Has Portugal expressly reserved to herself such a Liberty without any design to make use of it? No, we may satisfy ourselves, that upon the first Breach of the Treaty she will retaliate upon us by a Prohibition of all our Woollen Manufactures: And then there is an End of all that annual Ballance which is paid to this Kingdom; there is an End of that Trade which has so much increased our Treasure, and raised the Value of our Native Commodities and Manufactures. The Reduction of the Duties upon *French* Wines is a Breach of that Treaty, and restores *Portugal* to the Right of prohibiting all our Woollen Manufactures. But then this Reduction cannot be made but by a *British* Parliament; and does he imagine, that a *British* Parliament will ever break a Treaty, and in consequence of that Breach

Breach destroy a Trade so beneficial to this Nation, and this in favour of the *French* Commerce, which stands convicted by an *English* Parliament of *exhausting our Treasure, and lessening the Value of our Native Commodities and Manufactures?*

This Gentleman bids us depend upon a Prohibition, not only of our Woollen Cloths, but of our Bays and other Goods, if the Commerce Bill should pass. My Antagonists are of another Opinion; Woollen Goods, say they, the *Portuguese* must have; and from what other Nation can they be supply'd? So that, in their Opinion, we may safely break the *Portugal* Treaty; that Nation will still be obliged to take off our Woollen Goods, and consequently must still contribute as much as she did before to the Increase of our Treasure, and to the raising the Value of our native Commodities and Manufactures. They differ very much from this *Lisbon* Correspondent. This Gentleman endeavours to persuade us, that the *French* are at this very Juncture of Time proposing to serve the *Portuguese* with Cloths, Bays, and other Goods; and representing to them how much more beneficial it would be for them to trade with *France* than with *England*, and how much greater Quantities of Goods *France* would take off from that Country.

My Antagonist no doubt will laugh at Woollen Manufactures from *France*. "Let us see now, say they No. 67, their Dogs-Hair Broad Cloth, their rough half-dress'd Druggets, their unshorn Dozens, their Cabbage
C 2 " Net

“ Net Bays, and let them be match'd with
 “ the *English* Goods of the same Denomina-
 “ tion.” They write with such an Air of
 Confidence, that one would almost believe
 there is no Mutton at all in *France*, or that
 their Sheep wore no Fleeces. Now if I should
 produce a hundred living Witnesses, that Wool,
 and not Dogs-Hair, grows on the Backs of the
French Sheep, they would call them all Parties
 against the Bill of Commerce. I shall therefore
 give them a Witness that has been dead above
 this forty Years. It is the *Maxims of Holland*
 by the famous Monsieur *De Wit*. The Book
 has been many Years translated into the *English*
 Language, and neither the Author nor Transla-
 tor can be suspected of Partiality in this Cause.

Pica dy sold
 a Million
 and a half
 of Livres in
 Woollen to
 Holland,
 per ann.

In the 7th Chap. 2d Part, among the Goods
 which *Holland* annually brought from *France*,
 we read WOOLLEN YARN SPUN IN
 ALL PARTS OF PICARDY, WORTH
 MORE THAN ONE MILLION AND
 A HALF.

WOOLLEN YARN worth a Million
 and a Half of Livres, purchased annually from
 one *French* Province only, and yet is there no
 Wool at all in *France*? To such Absurdities
 are Men reduced, who write only for Hire,
 and without Reason on their side.

Upon the whole, the *Lisbon* Factor has just
 reason to give such Advice as he has done to his
 Correspondent, if the Bill of Commerce was
 like to pass: But as according to the Conclu-
 sion of the *Exeter* Letter, the Preserving of
 the *Portugal* Treaty is *preserving the very Bread*
of our People, no Man in his Senses can suspect
 that

that a *British* Parliament can have it in their
 thoughts to break that Treaty, and to take the
 Bread out of their Mouths. The *Lisbon* Factor
 has judged very rightly of the Consequence of
 breaking that Treaty: He was only in the
 wrong to suspect that a *British* Parliament
 could, upon any account whatsoever, be in-
 duced to break a Treaty, especially one that
 is so beneficial to this Nation.

The pre-
 serving the
 Portugal
 Treaty is
 preserving
 the very
 Bread of
 our People.

Here I shall shew,

1. That he has given a good Argument for
 the Old SCHEME.
2. That the SCHEME is defended by the
 Mercator's Answer to many of his own
 Objections.
3. That there be greater Reasons now for
 charging the *French* Trade with obstructing
 out Increase of Treasure, and lessening the
 Value of our Manufactures, than when the
 Prohibition Act was made.
4. I shall exhibit a Letter concerning the
 Portugal Treaty.

MY Adversaries finding themselves much
 pressed by the Preamble to the Prohibi-
 tion Act, 30 Car. II. say it was a wild Pre-
 amble to a wild Act of Parliament.

But why a wild Preamble, and a wild Act
 of Parliament? Why? because our Legisla-
 tors then were cheated by the old SCHEME
 into a Persuasion, that the *French* Trade car-
 ried our Money away, &c. and from thence, say
 they, came that wild Preamble to a wild Act of
 Parliament.

Several Things deserve Remark in this Passage.

The Scheme vindicated.

First, That they say, it led our Legislators to the making the above-mentioned Act of Parliament in the 30th Year of King Charles II. between 30 and 40 Years since; so that the contriving or drawing that SCHEME, is not the Crime of the present Age.

But 2dly, The Adversaries of the Bill of Commerce ought not so much as to be charged with the Guilt of offering a SCHEME to the last Parliament, which they knew to be false; for if as they say, it was the Foundation, upon which our Legislators almost forty Years ago condemned the French Trade, what reason could any Man have in this Age to suspect that so wise an Assembly of Men in the last were mistaken? or that upon insufficient Grounds they would proceed to a Prohibition of that Trade? Had the SCHEME ever been confuted? Had ever any thing been published in Print against it? And then was there not sufficient Reason for every Man to rely upon that Authority which had convinc'd our former Legislators? If this SCHEME was indeed the Foundation of that Act of Parliament, the Mercator has acquitted every Person now living from the Guilt of forging an Argument against the Bill of Commerce, or abetting any such Forgery.

But in the third place, if this SCHEME was a Forgery, how comes it to pass that it was not discovered in that Parliament? that the Glory of this Discovery was reserv'd so many Years after for the Mercator? Could so wise

wise a Parliament be so easily imposed on by the Fraud, when it was so very fresh? And was it so easy for this Man to lay it open after so great a distance of time? No, certainly; if the OLD SCHEME was the Foundation of that Law, I shall believe that it was a Good SCHEME; I shall believe that our Legislators could not be so much mistaken as to make an entire Prohibition of the French Trade, when we were in Amity with that Prince upon a Foundation that was false. And thus the Mercator has furnish'd me with an Argument in Defence of the OLD SCHEME, the Authority of an English Parliament, who, I believe, knew a great deal more of this Matter than he or I at this Distance.

Lastly, If the OLD SCHEME was false, the Ministry in that Reign would not have failed to lay it open; for how zealous soever the Lords and Commons were then against the French Trade, 'tis well known that the Ministry was for it; (France has often heretofore found her Way to an English Ministry, and found her Account in such a Correspondence) and they would certainly have detected all the Frauds of that SCHEME, if there had been any, especially if there had been no other Argument against that Trade. Since they did not think fit to do it, I must take it for granted, that whether from that SCHEME, or by whatsoever other Arguments, our Legislators were in the right, when they affirm'd of our French Imports, that they exhausted our Treasures, and lessen'd the Value of our native Commodities and Manufactures.

The British Merchant.

The Mercator affirms, that I gave up this Old SCHEME, that I own'd I would not pretend to vindicate it; I challenge him to produce one Word to this Purpose in all that I have ever written. Indeed, I said the Mercator should not divert me from the Argument I had then chosen, which was the Confutation of his Falshoods to the Defence of that SCHEME, to which I was not at all oblig'd. But I even then believ'd that it was true, notwithstanding all that he had produc'd to prove it false. And I do not believe it the less at this time, if, as he says, it was the Foundation of an Act of Parliament. I thank him for this Argument.

But my Gratitude goes farther, I thank him for the Answer I shall make to his chief Arguments against it, which are contradictory Accounts from the Custom-House. Formerly he affirms, that in the Year 1680, which was two Years after this Act of Parliament was made, the Court gave private Orders to the Commissioners of the Customs to make wrong Entries, that this was done accordingly in the Case of Wines; and he gives us to understand, that there sat at the Board at that time Sir Nicholas Butler, of flagrant Memory. But if we are to take Custom-house Vouchers before the above-mention'd Act of Parliament, we must take such as Sir Nicholas Butler of flagrant Memory, has left there. The Mercator can never be angry with me for this Answer, for it is his own, and indeed it is an effectual Cure for most of the mortal Stabs, he has given the Old SCHEME.

I be-

The Trade with France.

I believe I have effectually clear'd King Charles II, and our Legislators in that Reign, from the Charge of their making wild Preambles, and wild Acts of Parliament; and we ought therefore to believe that upon very good Ground, whether by the Old SCHEME, or by whatsoever other Arguments they justly condemned the French Trade of exhausting the Treasure, and lessening the Value of the Native Commodities and Manufactures of this Nation.

Thus they judg'd of that Trade so many Years ago. They could not but know that an Over-balance of Manufactures imported from that Country, must be paid for by the Gold and Silver of this Kingdom; they could not but see, that all that Over-balance of Manufactures thus imported, must be worn and consum'd here, instead of so many of our own; and it follow'd thence, in the first Case, that our Treasure was exhausted, and in the second, that the Value of our Native Manufactures must be lessen'd.

But those wise and excellent Legislators never liv'd to have the Experience we have had since; and it was not possible for them to foresee how much our Trade with France interrupted that with other Countries. This could only be known by the Increase we have made since of our other Commerce, by the Interruption of our Trade with France. We are taught by the Report of the Inspector-General of the Customs, that Holland formerly paid us nothing, but now almost 1,400,000 l. per Ann. for an Over-balance of our Manufactures. We have gain'd too, since that Interruption

Reasons for the Prohibition Act, 30 Car. II.

Before the Act Holland paid us no Billance, but now 1,400,000 l. per Annum.

ruption, from Germany, Flanders, Italy, and Portugal, by an Over-balance of Manufactures, more than ever we did before. Instead of a losing Trade with France, we have a gainful one with so many other Nations. All this Gain is owing to the Interruption of a losing Commerce; and the Restoration of that losing Commerce, must be the Interruption of our other Gain, from Portugal especially; since the Advantages of this Trade, were not only gain'd by the Commencement of that Interruption, but depend upon a Treaty for its Continuance.

To the British Merchant.

S I R, Nov. 25. 1713.

“ THO’ you have already expos’d the Mercator about the Treaty with Portugal, for Admission of our Cloths, &c. yet he is so impudent, that he calls that Treaty, in his Paper, Numb. 59. a Felonious Treaty.

The Portugal Treaty defended.

“ Thus the taking hold of an Opportunity, when Portugal was newly engag’d in a War with Spain, when the Spaniards, jointly with France, made an Irruption into that Country, and if not destroy’d, put a Stop to the Portuguese Manufacture of Cloth (it being made into the Places where the chief of those Manufactures were) I say, that the improving that Opportunity to open so valuable a Branch of our Trade, as the Admission of our Cloth, and to tie down
“ the

“ the Portuguese never to prohibit any of our Manufactures for the future, is treated.

“ And what is the Reason? Why, because it interferes at present, with the New Treaty with France, every thing is felonious, that does not tend to deliver up our Ballance of Trade to that Nation.

“ Was there never any Treaty of Commerce, in which, for the Advantages of their Trades, we favour’d one Nation more than another? This is so certain, it will never be deny’d. Why therefore, must this Treaty be the Object of Party in favour of France.

“ Did it not immediately produce the Effects foreseen by that able Minister her Majesty employ’d; who by a perfect Knowledge of the Portuguese Trade, knew the Consequences? He was not a Minister just sent to make that Treaty, but had been Envoy Extraordinary, in the Year 1691, and continu’d employ’d in that Country until the Year 1697, and in the Year 1700 was sent again, and continu’d until 1703, that this Treaty was made.

“ And the Success answer’d: For from that Treaty’s first taking place, the Ballance of Trade began to take place; and the Year 1703, was the first Year we began to bring off the Silver of that Nation.

“ It’s manifest from the time of their Prohibition of our Cloth, Cloth Serges, and Cloth Druggets, &c. (which continu’d 20 Years) we never had an Over-balance, so as to bring from thence either Gold or Silver.

During the Prohibition in Portugal, we had no Ballance from thence.

“ No

The British Merchant.

“ No doubt, it well deserves the Name of
 “ a felonious Treaty, and the Friends of
 “ *France* have very good Reasons to call it
 “ so; for it open'd such a Trade as brought
 “ us in fresh Supplies of Gold and Silver too,
 “ as to enable us to carry on the War, which
 “ we could never have supported, had we
 “ been forc'd to pay the Over-ballance of
 “ our War abroad, out of our Stock, with-
 “ out any Supplies.
 “ Should any one call the *French Treaty* of
 “ Peace or Commerce a felonious one, what
 “ would be the present Answer, but a Prose-
 “ cution for abusing her sacred Majesty? And
 “ would not such a Person deserve Chastise-
 “ ment? And yet the *Mercator* can call the
 “ *Portuguese Treaty* so, tho' made and ratifi-
 “ ed by her Majesty.
 “ Have these Men no regard to her Maje-
 “ sty's Honour, when they traduc'd her Acti-
 “ ons, because done in a former Ministry?
 “ They must alledge, either her Majesty
 “ knew, or she did not know what she did.
 “ Let them make it out either way; for it's
 “ equal, and must be a most scandalous Re-
 “ flection on her sacred Majesty, for which I
 “ hope he will receive a just Reward.

Yours, &c.

I shall here exhibit,

1. *A Letter shewing that our Goods exported to Dunkirk, can be no Argument for any Ex- portations to other Parts of France,*
2. *Shall prove that we do not export to France, by the way of Flanders, &c.*

3. *That*

The Trade with France.

3. *That the Mercator has no Reason to find Fault with the Exports and Imports of 1685.*
4. *That the French Abatement of Duty, is not proportionable to ours, by the Treaty Com- merce. And,*
5. *Add some Reflections upon the abovementioned Passages in the Letter.*

THE Improbability of our sending great Quantities of our Woollen Manufactures, and other Goods to *France*, by the way of other Countries, sufficiently appears in the following Letter.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

“ I AM a Well-Wisher to the *French*
 “ Trade, but I would not have us to be
 “ run down too low neither; therefore I ap-
 “ ply to you, that you may set the *Mercator*
 “ right in three or four Points.

“ First, he gives us an Account of several
 “ Goods sent to *Dunkirk*, and makes this Ob-
 “ servation upon it; if we send so many
 “ Goods to one Port of *France*, under the
 “ Pressure of the high Duties we pay at pre-
 “ sent there, what Quantities are we not like
 “ to send, when those Duties are reduc'd up-
 “ on the foot of the Tariff of 1664?

“ To which I answer,

“ First, That *Dunkirk* is not in *France*, 'tis
 “ a *Flemish Town*, where the People general-
 “ ly speak *Dutch*, and is by no means account-
 “ ed as a *French Town* by us, since we do not
 “ suffer

Dunkirk
no French
Town.

But a free Port.

“ suffer them to import into *Great Britain* any
 “ Goods of *French* Growth as taking it to be
 “ against the Act of Navigation.
 “ Secondly, *Dunkirk* is a free Port, where
 “ no Customs at all are paid; so that it will
 “ ever be cheaper for us to send Goods there
 “ (if there was a Consumption for them) than
 “ to *France*, even upon the Foot of the Ta-
 “ riff of 1664.
 “ Thirdly, As we have a Garrison there,
 “ and in other adjacent Places, I take it that
 “ most of the Goods sent to *Dunkirk* are used
 “ and consumed by our own People; and if
 “ we have sent 100,000 *l.* worth of Goods
 “ to that Port, since it is in our Hands, we
 “ have sent six times that Sum in Money, and
 “ Bills of Exchange, for the Subsistence of our
 “ Forces there, and in other Places of *Flan-*
 “ *ders*; so that the Goods we send thither, do
 “ by no means answer the Expence we are at
 “ in that Country.
 “ A second Point is, That the *Mercator*
 “ tells us, that several of the Goods sent from
 “ hence to *Flanders*, go from thence after-
 “ wards to *France*, and seems to look upon
 “ that as a Loss to the Nation; I am a Mer-
 “ chant of 30 Years standing, but I do assure
 “ you, I cannot conceive what he means by
 “ that Suggestion.

The Improbability of sending Goods thro' Flanders in- to France.

“ For,
 “ First, It doth not stand to Reason to
 “ think that any Man in his right Senses, who
 “ can send Goods directly to *Calais*, *St. Vale-*
 “ *ry*, *Roan*, or other *French* Sea Towns, should
 “ wilfully increase his Charges 8, 10, or 12 per
 “ Cent.

“ Cent. by sending those Goods by the way of
 “ *Flanders*; he must be mad if he doth so, or
 “ the most ignorant Trader in the World, if
 “ he doth not fall into the Account of it.
 “ Secondly, Supposing there were no
 “ Charges in sending those Goods a round-
 “ about Way, he would, however, render
 “ his Trade thereby more precarious and diffi-
 “ cult, by reason the *French* do not admit in-
 “ to *France* all sorts of *British* Goods from o-
 “ ther Countries which they do admit direct-
 “ ly from *Great Britain*.
 “ Thirdly, Supposing again it were so as he
 “ pretends that *English* Goods were sent to
 “ *France* by way of *Flanders*, I cannot for my
 “ Life see the Prejudice it is to us. For I do
 “ by no means grant that *British* Goods, which
 “ are exported to *France* directly, are for *Brit-*
 “ *tish* Mens Accounts more than *British* Goods
 “ exported to *Flanders*, or elsewhere; much
 “ less do I grant that there is 5 or 10 per Cent.
 “ Profit upon a Trade so near home, as that
 “ to *France* or *Flanders*; 'tis very well most
 “ times if the Merchants get the Insurance and
 “ Interest of their Money. So that after all,
 “ I should take it rather to be for our Advan-
 “ tage, if the *French* have such Occasions for
 “ our Commodities, that they can afford to
 “ give the extraordinary Charges, Customs,
 “ Commission and Profits (if any) which ne-
 “ cessarily accrue upon them, when they are
 “ convey'd to them by way of other Coun-
 “ tries; and this was undoubtedly the Case in
 “ time of War, the *French* being so shrewd in
 “ Matters of Trade, that either in Peace or
 “ War,

France admits some Goods directly from Great Britain which she does not admit thro' other Countries.

The British Merchant.

France admits no Goods but what she wants.

“ War, they will have whatever is useful for
 “ them and for their Manufactures, tho’ no-
 “ thing else.
 “ A third Point is, The *Mercator* found
 “ fault that the Year 1685. was taken for a
 “ Standard for our Imports from *France*, be-
 “ cause it was the Year after the Prohibition
 “ ceased. This seems to me strangely ab-
 “ surd in him, who hath own’d, that tho’
 “ there was a Prohibition, the then Admini-
 “ stration (which he takes Liberty to abuse at
 “ a strange rate, altho’ in so auspicious a
 “ Reign) wink’d at it; and there were as
 “ many *French* Wines, and other *French*
 “ Goods, imported under other Names, as
 “ if there had been no Prohibition at all; and
 “ he owns also, that in the subsequent Years
 “ there were more Wines imported than in
 “ 1685, and now after a long War and Inter-
 “ ruption of Trade, and after he had supposed
 “ *France* exhausted of *British* Goods, he not
 “ only will take this present Year for a Stan-
 “ dard of our Exports to *France*, but insinuates
 “ that for the future our said Exports are like
 “ to be much greater. When, as I said before,
 “ every body knows that either in War or
 “ Peace, in time of Prohibition, or in time
 “ of free Trade, the *French* will never take
 “ but what is useful and necessary for them,
 “ and are so wise as always to admit one way
 “ or other whatever they have occasion for.
 “ Fourthly, Altho’ the *Mercator* doth in
 “ none of his Papers, that I know of, pretend
 “ that this Nation hath occasion for any sort or
 “ kind of *French* Commodities whatsoever
 “ (for

England wants no French Goods whatsoever.

The Trade with France.

“ (for it were too gross to pretend it) howe-
 “ ver he would have us to abate of the *French*
 “ Duties which have been so wisely laid by
 “ our Legislators, viz.

“ 300 per Cent. on } According to his own
 “ *French* Wines, } Valuation of those
 “ 150 per Cent. on } Commodities. How much
 “ Brandies. } per Cent.
 “ the Duties
 “ on *French*
 “ Goods are.

“ 45 per Cent. on Paper.
 “ 45 per Cent. on Linen.
 “ And so in proportion to these two last
 “ Articles upon most other *French* Commodi-
 “ ties.

“ And for a Compensation to poor *Eng-* The Abate-
 “ land, the *French* will abate of the present ment propo-
 “ Duties which *English* Goods pay in *France*, sed on Eng-
 “ viz. 15 per Cent. on Lead, Tin, Allum, lish Goods
 “ Copperas, and most other Commodities. in *France*.

“ Upon Tobacco, which is one of our
 “ great Articles, Nothing.
 “ And as for Woollen Goods, whether
 “ they abate much or no, ’tis of no Conse-
 “ quence, since every body agrees that the
 “ *French* make now most sorts cheaper than
 “ we our selves.

“ So that it appears we should abate to the The Abate-
 “ *French* infinitely more of the Duties on their ment no In-
 “ Commodities, than they should abate to us couragement
 “ on ours; which makes me conclude we for Expor-
 “ had better let things remain upon the pre- tation.
 “ sent certain good Foot they are, and enjoy
 “ the free open Trade and Commerce the
 “ Peace hath procured us with that Nation,
 “ than to give away without any Cause or
 “ Necessity whatever to a much greater Im-
 “ portation

“ portation of *French Goods* into *England*,
 “ when it is apparent the intended Reduction
 “ of the Duties on *English Goods*, even upon
 “ the Foot of 1664 is so inconsiderable, that it
 “ would give us an Opportunity of exporting
 “ very little more Goods to *France* than now
 “ we do.

Dunkirk
and Mar-
seilles free
Ports.

Trade to
those Ports
is no Trade
to France.

MY Correspondent observes here, that *Dunkirk* is a Free-Port: And I must add too, that *Marseilles* is also another, where no Customs are paid at all. How then, can our Exportations to those Ports prove, that any of our Goods can be let into any other Parts of *France*, under the Duties which are left upon them by the late Treaty of Commerce? Or, how will they prove that we are to have the Tariff of 1664, when that Treaty has restor'd us that Tariff, with so many Exceptions? How will they prove to us that our Woollen Manufactures can be sold in *France*, under the Tariff of 1699, that is, under Duties of above 20 per Cent. of their whole Value? How will they prove that any of our Goods of foreign Growth, or made of the Materials of foreign Growth, can be sold in that Country, notwithstanding the Prohibitions of them which are to remain in their full Force by our late Treaty? *France* may dispense with her present Prohibitions, Edicts, and high Duties, to draw on the Bill of Commerce; but have we any Assurance, that this shall be done when that Point is once gain'd? We are to expect no Favour from that Country, but what she is bound to grant us by her Treaty.

But

But in the next place, what are his supposed Exportations by the way of *Flanders*? Wou'd any Man bear the Charges of a round-about Trade, when in Peace he can carry his Goods directly to that Country? Wou'd he chuse to make his Trade so very difficult and precarious? But if the *French* must have our Goods, if they are under any such Necessity, that they must import them either directly by the Way of *Flanders*, or other Countries, what Reason then for the Bill of Commerce? shall we grant them the Liberty of pouring in upon us their Wines, their Linens, their Silks, their Paper, and other Manufactures, so prejudicial to our own, only for the Liberty of carrying directly to *France* such Goods as she is otherwise forc'd to take from us, by the way of *Flanders*, and other Countries?

France must
have what
she wants,
and there-
fore no need
of a Bill of
Commerce.

In the next place, I cannot but wonder, that the *Mercator* should be so very angry with the Year 1685. He that said so bold at his first setting out, that the *French Trade* has, in spite of Duties, Edicts, and Prohibitions, been always beneficial to this Nation! He that pretended to make a Ballance, that very Year, of 8 or 900,000 *l.* in our Favour! Let him shew, that we had then, or ever before, either before, or since the Tariff of 1664, any Ballance at all, and I promise here never to offer one Word against the Bill of Commerce.

No Ballance
ever gain'd
from France.

Great Search has been making for this happy Year, but no such Year can be found, neither under the Duties of 1664, nor even before that Year, when the Duties were a great deal lighter. And therefore, the *Mercator*, who was so

so very fond of *Custom-House* Accounts, is come to down-right denying that "any Accounts from the *Custom-House*, can give a true Scheme of the Trade of *France*, or so much of a Scheme, as to make a rational Conjecture from." Is this the Man that was so very sure of his Accounts from the *Custom-House*?

But I desire my Reader to look back to my Correspondent's Letter. What Abatements are we to make of our *English* Duties to let in an Inundation of *French* Manufactures into this Kingdom? And how inconsiderable are the Abatements of the *French* Duties upon our Goods? But if the whole Duties upon our *Woollen* Manufactures were to be abated there, it would do us very little Service. I have prov'd, that there is *Wool* in *France*, and they have cheaper *Woollen* Manufactures of their own.

Their Manufactures must be cheaper by their raising the Value of their Coin, and reducing the Value of Labour. They have been making some little Counter-steps to this, to draw on the Bill of Commerce: But when that Point is gain'd, they may unmake them all again. The Treaty has not settled the Value of their Coin; but 'tis no doubt will deserve the Consideration of our Legislators.

Woollen Manufactures cheaper in France than England

The

The Mercator contradicts his own Assertions. His Letter concerning the Ship *Marseilles* Factor consider'd.

Entries for the Straits cannot be presumed to be for *France*.

Custom-House Accounts the most certain Rule to judge of our Exports and Imports between *France* and *England*, notwithstanding the Letter concerning the *Marseilles* Factor.

WHAT a strange Creature is the Mercator? One while all for *Custom-House* Accounts, and for proving the *French* Trade beneficial by those infallible Vouchers: This has been promised in many of his Papers. At another time, it is impossible to make any Conjecture of the *French* Trade by any Accounts from the *Custom-House*. They are found now to be against him, therefore this is the Doctrine of him and his Masters.

Mercator's Self Contradictions.

Again, for a long time he lamented the ill Success of the Bill of Commerce, for want of which few or no Manufactures could be sent to that Country; but by his latest Papers, a World of our Manufactures are sent thither, which are enter'd out for other Places.

One while our Goods cannot get into *France*, under the Pressure of the present high Duties in that Kingdom: This Doctrine has been press'd more than once; but of late one would imagine this Pressure of the present high Duties did us but very little Mischief. Our Goods, it seems, are first sent to other Countries, such as *Holland*, *Flanders*, and *Italy*, where the Cu-

Customs are very Moderate, and afterwards sent to France *under the Pressure of the present high Duties*; that is, they will by no means bear paying the *French Duties* only, but they are very well able to bear the Duties of *France* and other Countries join'd together. Such Absurdities as these are thought fit to be imposed on *English Readers*!

Marseilles Factor considered.

But why are we to grant, that greater Quantities of our Goods are exported to *France* than are enter'd for that Country? Why? " Because on the 31st of *October* last was entered " at the *Custom-House* by *Mr. Paul Torin* " 31091 *lib.* of *Pepper* for *Marseilles*, which " was shipp'd on board the *Marseilles Factor*, " a Ship that was afterwards clear'd out, not " for *Marseilles*, but for the *Straits*.

Did this Ship, says he in other Words, carry no other Cargo to *Marseilles*? Was it worth her while to go to that Port with so small a Cargo? But if she was full loaden for *Marseilles*, why was she clear'd for the *Straits*, which takes in so many other Countries, and not for that Port only? Since therefore Goods which are enter'd for the *Straits* are so very likely to be carried into *France*, he concludes that *no Guess can be made from the Custom-House Books of what the Trade to France is.*

Marseilles Magazine of Goods.

And I must deny, that *any Guess can be made, what our Trade to France ever was or ever shall be hereafter, by any Tariff or Treaty of Commerce, from any Exports to Marseilles.* *Marseilles* I have said already is a free Port, where no Customs at all are paid, either inwards or outwards, where all sorts of Goods are laid up, till

till any other Market shall call for them, whether in *France*, or any other Country; and whensoever that shall happen, they are carry'd out as free as they came in. The *Mercator* will by no means allow, that our Exports for *Holland* are for the Consumption of that Country, and yet they pay a Duty both inwards and outwards; so that they cannot pass thro' *Holland* without an Increase of their Price upon this Account. The Case is otherwise at *Dunkirk* and *Marseilles*, no Customs are paid at all upon Goods imported or exported in those Places; and then shall it be thought that whatsoever we send to either are for the Use of the *French Nation*? No, certainly it is much more reasonable to believe that they are only laid up there, till they shall be called for by some other Country; for as soon as they leave those Ports for any other Ports of *France*, they are loaded with such Duties as are next to Prohibitions. I must therefore inform this Writer, that his Exports to *Marseilles* are very little to his Purpose, very little more than if they were sent to *Constantinople* or *Aleppo*. It is much more probable, that the Goods landed at *Marseilles* are shipp'd again for some other Country, than that either these, or any other Goods enter'd for the *Straits*, are for the Use of the *French Nation*. And therefore notwithstanding this fine Argument of the *Mercator*, the *Custom-house* Accounts are a very good Rule to determine the utmost Extent of our Exports to *France* in every Year of Peace; his *Marseilles Factor*, tho' she had been loaded wholly for that City, and for no other Country within the

No Customs paid at Dunkirk and Marseilles.

The British Merchant.

the Straits, does not prove so much as a Probability, that any thing more than the Pepper, or even that all the Pepper on board that Ship, was for the Use of the French Nation.

I shall therefore grant, that Goods may be sometimes entered for the Straits, and afterwards landed at *Marseilles*, without granting that any Goods, whether entered for *Marseilles* or the Straits, are for the Use of *France*. I think *France* will use none of our Goods, except such as she cannot be without, whether the Cargo of the *Marseilles* Factor was of this kind, we shall be able to judge when we see it; for my own part, I know nothing of it, let the *Mercator* produce it, if he thinks it for his Purpose. But I believe he will not produce it, or if he should, I believe we should be convinc'd by the very Sight, that none, or but a very small part of it, was to be consumed in *France*, or even to be laid up at *Marseilles*, till called for by any foreign Market; but I must ask the *Mercator* here, if Goods enter'd for one Country are often landed in another, what Reason he has not to believe that the Pepper enter'd for *Marseilles*, might not be landed in any Port of *Italy*, as well as that Goods enter'd for the Straits, should be landed at *Marseilles*? I am sure there is very little Reason to believe, that any great Quantities of our Goods can be consum'd in any Part of *France*, under the Pressure of the present Duties, as he calls it, or even without any Duties at all, as is very well observ'd by my Correspondent. I must therefore desire the *Mercator* to consider,

First,

The Trade with France.

First, that *Marseilles* is a free Port, That our Goods there, and at *Dunkirk*, pay no Customs; that the Consumption of them in those Places, cannot be increas'd by passing the Bill of Commerce; and that therefore, the Exportations to either the one or the other, can be no Argument for that Bill.

Exportations to *Marseilles* and *Dunkirk* not increased by the Bill.

Secondly, that our Goods in all other Parts of *France*, are either prohibited, or loaded with high Duties; and that therefore, our Exportations to *Dunkirk* or *Marseilles* are no Argument at all, that any of them can be sold in any other Part of that Kingdom.

Or carried into France.

In the third Place, the Treaty of Commerce leaves many of our Goods under high Duties; and some of them under Prohibitions, in all other Parts of *France*. And therefore our Exportations to *Dunkirk* or *Marseilles*, are no Argument that that Treaty will enable us to sell any in any other Part of that Kingdom.

Fourthly, If more of our Goods are exported to *Dunkirk* or *Marseilles*, than are necessary for the Consumption of those Cities; it ought rather to be presum'd, that they are afterwards re-exported to other Countries, where they are admitted upon easier Terms, than that they are sold thence to any other Parts of *France*, under the Pressure of the present Duties.

And from hence it will follow in the fifth Place, That if Goods are enter'd from *England*, without specifying any particular foreign Port, to which they are bound, it ought rather to be presum'd, that they are bound for those Countries where they are admitted upon easy Terms, than that they are bound for any Country,

V O L. II.

D

Country,

The British Merchant.

Goods entered to the Straits landed in Ita'y, not in France.

Country, where they are either prohibited, or loaded with high Duties. For Example: The Straits is a general Name that comprehends Italy as well as France; but our Goods are not prohibited in Italy, they are admitted there with easy Duties. The thing is just the contrary in France: The Mercator himself has denied, and indeed, it is ridiculous to imagine, that any considerable Quantity of our Goods can be exported to that Kingdom, under the present Pressure of high Duties; and therefore, every Entry for the Straits ought rather to be presum'd to be made for Italy.

And hence it will follow, in the last Place, That the Entry of 31,091 lib. of Pepper for Marseilles, and the clearing out the Ship in which it was carried, ought to be considered in this Manner, viz. That the Pepper only was for France, if she was in absolute Want of that Commodity (for in such Cases, she admits every thing) and that all the rest of her Cargo was for Italy. Or if the whole was for Marseilles, for the Reasons I have given, it ought not to be presum'd, that the whole is to be consum'd within the French Nation, or that it is not afterwards to be re-exported to other Countries, where it is admitted with easy Duties.

The Mercator has a very quaint Argument to persuade us, that the whole Cargo on board the Marseilles Factor is intended for that Port; and that is, that if the Ship is bound for Italy, Marseilles is out of the Way; and that the Carrier's Waggon is never known

to

The Trade with France.

to leave the Road, to deliver a Parcel by the Way. But is it the same thing with a Ship? Or is Marseilles so very much out of the Road to Italy? Or is 30,000 lib. of Pepper, like a little Parcel in a Waggon? According to the last Sale, it is of 2,500 l. Value; and how many Ships are loaden with no greater Value? But if the whole Cargo was for Marseilles, Marseilles is a free Port, and nothing at all to the Mercator's Purpose.

But I think I have said enough to convince every reasonable Person, that his Marseilles Factor, the Entry on board her for that Port, and the clearing her out for the Straits, are no Argument at all, that we cannot make a Guess at the French Trade, by any Returns from the Custom-House.

The Marseilles Factor nothing to the Mercator's Purpose

What a strange Creature now is the Mercator, to deal in such Self-Contradictions! To be first so very confident of his Custom-house Accompts, and then so soon to give them up! To persuade us that our Goods cannot be carried into France, and that yet now such Quantities are carried thither! To persuade us that our Goods are not able to bear the present high Duties in that Kingdom, and that yet, now they are able to bear, not only the French Duties, but those of other Countries in Conjunction! But I believe I shall shew my Readers before I have done, that Duties, or no Duties in France, the Case will be very much the same, we shall send very few Manufactures to that Kingdom.

We shall send few Manufactures to France, Duty or no Duty.

*A Letter in Answer to one of the Mercator's Arguments against the SCHEME.**Some Reflections on that Letter.*

THO' at first I had nothing less in my Thoughts, than to undertake a Defence of the Old SCHEME, yet I will do it because the *Mercator* opposes it. I have already made my Acknowledgements to him for some Answers to his own Objections; and for providing Cures for some of the mortal Stabs he has given to that SCHEME. But I am also oblig'd to this Writer, for putting other Gentlemen upon the Study of this Argument, by which I find I shall be eas'd of a great deal of Trouble. The *Mercator's* Objection against the SCHEME from the *Custom-house* Account, laid before the last Parliament by the present Commissioners of the Customs, is so well answer'd by a Letter I have just now receiv'd, that I shall give it my Readers entire, as it came to my Hands.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

I Must frankly acknowledge, That I pay a very great Respect to the Memories of those worthy Merchants, who publish'd the Scheme of the Trade between *England* and *France* in 1674, as it was then carried on, in the Commodities of the Native Product and Manufacture of each Country, for
“ one

“ one Year, from *Michaelmas* 1668, to *Michaelmas* 1669.
 “ Their known Integrity and Abilities for that Work, easily prevail'd with me to give entire Credit to all they had asserted.
 “ But after I had read the *Mercator*, No. 11, and had examined the Accounts from the Officers of the *Custom-house* relating to our Exports and Imports to and from *France* for the said Year, from *Michaelmas* 1668, to *Michaelmas* 1669, which were laid last Sessions before the House of Commons, I was strangely surprized; and tho' I found by the *Memorandum* at the Foot of the Account of the Imports, that it was imperfect, yet the Difference between these *Custom-house* Accounts and the Scheme, was so great, that I must confess, I was afraid those Gentlemen had been impos'd on, for I could not question their Sincerity.
 “ Thus I was held in suspense, until I had perus'd your Paper No. 34, which revived a Suspicion I had long harbour'd of the Authority of the *Mercator's* said *authentic Voucher*; and turning to the Inspector-General's first Report to the Commissioners of Accounts, I was soon convinc'd, that this Argument against the Scheme, might be expos'd, tho' under the Protection of so great a Demonstration.
 “ For by that Report, it appears that all the Light the Inspector-General had been able to gain into the Transactions of past Times, relating to our Exports and Imports to and from *France*, was from a Manuscript
 D 3 “ remain-

The British Merchant.

“ remaining in the *Custom-house*, which only
 “ gives an Account of the several Goods and
 “ Merchandizes of the *Growth of England* ex-
 “ ported from *London*, and an Account of the
 “ several Goods and Merchandizes that were
 “ imported into the said City from *Michael-*
 “ *mas* 1662, to *Michaelmas* 1663, and from
 “ *Michaelmas* 1668, to *Michaelmas* 1669,
 “ with the then Valuation of all the Commo-
 “ dities; but it takes no Notice of the Re-
 “ exports, *viz.* of foreign Goods and Planta-
 “ tion Goods carried to other Countries.

“ This Abstract appear'd to him to be an
 “ authentick Copy of what had been offered
 “ to the House of Commons, but in what
 “ Year he could not find; and that the Quan-
 “ tities of Goods contained therein, may have
 “ been fairly extracted from the old Entry-
 “ Books of the *Custom-house*.

“ According to this Manuscript, or Ab-
 “ stract,

		l.	s.	d.
“ From <i>Mich.</i> 1662	{ The Imp. a- mount to	647706	16	0
“ To <i>Mich.</i> 1663	{ Exports —			
				6

“ The Imports exceed the
 “ Exports ————— 272641 10 0

“ From <i>Mich.</i> 1668	{ The Imp. a- mount to	541583	16	0
“ To <i>Mich.</i> 1669	{ Exports —			
				4

“ The Imports exceed the Exp. 432884 12 0

“ And

The Trade with France.

“ And afterwards he observes, That

		l.	s.	d.
“ From <i>Mich.</i> 1668	{ The Lead which was exported a- mounted to	14608	0	0
“ To <i>Mich.</i> 1669	{ And the Wooll. Ma- nuf. amoun- ted to			
				68521 17 0

“ To this Account, there can be no Ob-
 “ jection; it comes from the proper Officer,
 “ who declares that he was upon Oath, and
 “ look'd upon himself, by the Nature of his
 “ Office, bound to act impartially between
 “ the Crown and the Merchant.

“ He believes it was fairly extracted from
 “ the old Entry-Books, and it had the Sanc-
 “ tion to be offer'd to a House of Commons.

“ I cannot then doubt, but that this Manu-
 “ script was in the *Custom-house*, and known
 “ to be there, when the Officers of the *Cu-*
 “ *stom-house* gave in their Accounts in *June*
 “ 1713 to the House of Commons.

“ And since this was all the Light the In-
 “ spector-General had been able to gain, it
 “ must be concluded, that there was no other
 “ Account in the *Custom-house* in 1711, (when
 “ his said Report was made) that was regular-
 “ ly enter'd, or that could be found.

“ This therefore is a sufficient Reason, to
 “ question the Validity of this Account from
 “ the *Custom-house*, unless it should appear that
 “ this and the Manuscript, mentioned by Dr.
 “ *Davenant*, are the same Record.

D 4.

“ Which

The British Merchant.

“ Which cannot be allowed, for the Doctor, as aforefaid, fays, That the Woollen Manufactures were therein valued at 68,521 l. 17 s.

“ And by the Scheme, they are valued at 61,546 l. This Difference may be occasioned by the Rates that are fet upon thofe Goods in the Manuscript, and in the Scheme; but it will be impoffible to reconcile the Quantities of the exported Goods in the *Custom-houfe* Account delivered to the Houfe of Commons, with the aforefaid Valuation of 68,521 l. 17 s.

“ To prove this Affertion, I might refer to the *Mercator*, Numb. 11. but becaufe he has omitted feveral Parcels of the Woollen Manufactures that are exprefs'd in that Account, I fhall give you the Particulars, and their Valuation, according to the Rates made ufe of in the Scheme, viz.

		l.	s.	d.
“ 349 Long Cloths at 10 l. per Clo.—	3490	00		
“ 54 Short Cloths 8 ———	432	00		
“ 2049½ Spa. Cloths 15 ———	30742	10	00	
“ 161 Penniftones 3 per Piece	483	00		
“ 5937½ Kerseys 1 15 —	10338	2	6	
“ 34 Cloth Rufhes 5 ———	170	00		
“ 305½ Double Doz. 5 ———	1527	10	00	
“ 162 Single Dozens 2 ———	324	00		
“ 286 Double Bays 4 ———	1144	00		
“ 1660 Single Bays 2 10 —	4150	00		
“ 168 Minikin Bays 6 ———	1008	00		
“ 7582 Perp. & Serg. 2 10 —	18955	00		
“ 1701 Says & Stuffs 2 10 —	4252	10	00	
“ 102465 Goads of Cot. } 9 per 100 Go.	9271	7	00	
“ 550 <i>Welsh</i> Plains }				

“ 1215

The Trade with France.

	l.	s.	d.
“ 1215 Yds of Flannel 1 per Yard	60	15	00
“ 2661 Dozen Mens } 2 per Dozen	5322	00	
“ Worfted Hofe }			
“ 634 Childrens } 8 ———	253	12	00
“ Worfted Hofe }			
“ 1522 Mens Wool- } 15 ———	1141	10	00
“ len Hofe }			
“ 1003 Childrens } 3 ———	150	9	00
“ Woollen Hofe }			
“ 1005 Ells of } ———	180	00	
“ Woolen Cloth, }			
“ valued at }			

“ Woollen Goods exported from
 “ *Michaelmas* 1668 to *Michael-*
 “ *mas* 1669, as by the *Custom-*
 “ *Houfe* Account, amount to 93396 5 6

“ Woollen Goods exported in the
 “ fame Year, as by the *Inspec-*
 “ *tor-General's* Account, amount
 “ to ——— 68521 17 0

“ The Difference is ——— 24874 8 6

“ Which is fufficient to demonftrate, that the *Custom-houfe* Account, and the Doctor's Manuscript, are two diftinct Accounts, and have no relation to one another.

“ Befides, it muft be obferved, that the faid *Custom-houfe* Account differs from the Scheme in the Quantities of every Species of Goods: The *Mercator* has fhewn you where it exceeds, but it did not answer his End, to give the Counter-part, where 'tis exceeded.

“ In that Account, there are alfo fome Goods that the Scheme takes no notice of;

D 5

“ and

“ and on the other hand, there are other
“ Goods in the Scheme, which do not appear
“ in the *Custom-house* Account.

“ From the whole it's reasonable to be-
“ lieve, that the Doctor's Manuscript is au-
“ thentick; and that it's very probable, either
“ that, or the Books of Entries, from whence
“ it was taken, was the Foundation of the
“ Scheme, since neither the Scheme, nor the
“ Manuscript give any distinct Account of
“ Exports and Imports, to and from the Out-
“ Ports; nor of the re-exported Goods as
“ aforesaid: so that their different Valuation
“ of the Products and Manufactures shipped at
“ London, may be easily accounted for.

“ But when, or how the Officers of the
“ *Custom-house* came by the Accounts they
“ laid, as aforesaid, before the House of Com-
“ mons this Year; or why they took no no-
“ tice of the aforesaid Manuscript, is not for
“ me to reflect on.

“ My Design being only to take off that
“ Load of Infamy and Scandal, that has been
“ cast on the Authors of the Scheme, who
“ like true *Englishmen*, further'd the Prospe-
“ rity of their Country. I am,

S I R,

Your Friend and Servant,

London, Dec.

7. 1713.

K. K.

To

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

“ MY Correspondent here has kindled a
“ War between the *present* Officers of
“ the *Customs*, and the *Inspector-General*; and
“ for my own part, I am very well contented
“ that it should be fairly fought between them.
“ One thing I must observe, that Dr. *Dave-*
“ *nant* (the *Inspector-General*) in his Report
“ to the Commissioners of Accompts, ac-
“ knowledges himself to be upon his Oath;
“ and that he very well consider'd the Nature
“ and Obligation of an Oath: I think this
“ cannot be said of the Officers of the *Customs*,
“ in respect to this Return.

“ Again, the Doctor, *fol.* 8. has asserted,
“ that all possible Enquiries had been made at
“ the *Custom-house*, for an Abstract of the Im-
“ ports and Exports for one or two Years be-
“ fore the Commencement of the War, but
“ that he could not find that any such Abstract
“ was kept. And therefore, if the Manuscript,
“ mention'd by the Doctor, is genuine, then
“ the *Custom-house* Accounts for the Year
“ 1668-9, are undoubtedly spurious.

“ Besides, it appears plainly, that the *Merca-*
“ *tor*, when he first began to attack the Scheme,
“ knew so very little of the *Custom-house* Ac-
“ counts in his Paper, No. 11. that he ac-
“ knowledges, No. 2. that an Account of the
“ Value of the Exports and Imports in the Port
“ of London, between France and England, was
“ really return'd from the *Custom-house*, as fol-
“ lows.

Mercator
owns a Bal-
lance against
England.

“ Im-

The British Merchant.

	l.	s.	d.
“ Imported from France,			
“ from Michaelmas 1668			
“ to Michaelmas 1669	541,543	16	0
“ Exported ———	108,699	4	0
“ Ballance against England	432,844	12	0

“ The Difference between this *Custom-house*
 “ Account, and that of the *Inspector-General*,
 “ is so inconsiderable, that it may very easily
 “ be accounted for by a Slip of the Pen. But
 “ whether this in the *Mercator*, No. 2, or that
 “ of the *Inspector-General*, is the right, for the
 “ Reasons in my Correspondent's Letter, the
 “ *Mercator's Custom-house* Account in his No.
 “ 11, must be wrong.
 “ Another thing must be observ'd, That
 “ the Customs were farm'd in 1669; and I
 “ have seen an Account of the Liquors, and
 “ *French* Linens imported into the Port of
 “ London, and the Out-Ports, from *Michael-*
 “ *mas* 1667 to *Michaelmas* 1669, sign'd by
 “ the Farmers, and the Officers of the *Cu-*
 “ *stoms*, and which was produced before the
 “ last House of Commons, where the Imports
 “ of those Goods render the Account of the
 “ same Goods in the Scheme highly probable.
 “ And whether, at a time that the Customs
 “ were in farm, the Farmers and Officers of
 “ the *Customs* were more likely to be in the
 “ right, or the present Officers of the *Customs*,
 “ at so great a Distance after, may be worth
 “ the Reader's while to consider.
 “ Lastly, it is notorious, that the Scheme
 “ was brought into the House of Commons
 “ before.

The Trade with France.

“ before 1678, by that worthy Patriot, the
 “ famous Mr. *Sacheverell*; and whether so
 “ great a Man was likely to be imposed on
 “ by the Merchants, or whether the Mer-
 “ chants could have any hopes to impose up-
 “ on him, and the whole Parliament of *Eng-*
 “ *land*, when the Matter of Fact was so fresh,
 “ will deserve the Reader's Consideration.
 “ My Correspondent, therefore, might
 “ have some Suspicion that the Merchants,
 “ who had subscribed the Scheme, were im-
 “ posed on, when he came to see the *Custom-*
 “ *house* Account in *Mercator*, No. 11, be-
 “ fore he had so thoroughly considered the
 “ Matter, as he appears to have done in this
 “ Letter. But for my own part I shall never
 “ suspect, that any Man's Integrity or Capa-
 “ city ought to be call'd in question for any
 “ thing I shall find in the *Mercator*. I am, &c.

*The Old
 Scheme
 brought into
 the House of
 Commons by
 Mr. Sache-
 verell.*

My Correspondent's Letter has quite de-
 stroy'd the chief Argument against the Old
 SCHEME.

That SCHEME which made the Ballance
 against *England* upon her Trade with *France*,
 almost a Million Sterling *per Ann.* was confi-
 der'd as a most formidable Adversary of the
 Bill of Commerce; and was therefore to be
 encounter'd by all sorts of Weapons.

*Reasons why
 they attack'd
 the Scheme
 of 1674.*

Therefore in *Mercator*, No. 11. a *Custom-*
house Account is rais'd against it, by which
 our Woollen Manufactures exported from
 London to *France*, between *Michaelmas* 1668
 and *Michaelmas* 1669, which by the Old
 SCHEME are valu'd at no more than 61,
 “ before.
 “ 546 l.

546 l. are so multiply'd, that they must amount to 93,396 l. 5 s. 6 d. And if this Custom-house Account is true, then without dispute, the Makers of the Old SCHEME was mistaken.

Against this Custom-house Account, the Letter from K. K. has set up the Report of the Inspector-General of the Customs, who upon Oath has deliver'd that Report to the Commissioners of the publick Accounts. According to that Report, our Woollen Goods exported that Year, are valu'd at 68,521 l. 17 s. These might be the same Sorts and Quantities of Goods which are in the Old SCHEME, tho' higher valu'd by the Inspector-General, who has no where been guilty of undervaluing the Goods we sent to France: But they can by no means be the Sorts and Quantities in the Mercator's Custom-house Account, which by the Valuations in the Old SCHEME, which he thinks too low for Goods exported to France, must amount to 93,396 l. 5 s. 6 d.

Whom then shall we believe, the Inspector-General who was upon his Oath, or the Mercator's Custom-house Account, which was handed into Parliament without any such Solemnity? It will be very well done of the Mercator, to decide this Controversy between the Inspector-General, and his Account from the Custom-house.

If any Credit is to be given to the Report of the Inspector-General, then the Custom-house Account must be wrong: And if that Account is wrong, then this mortal Stab, as the Mercator calls it, is cured, then the Old

Old SCHEME is well again of this Wound.

All the Fear I have had, was, that this Argument of my Correspondent would bring back the Mercator to the French Commerce; and that for a while, we should remain without the fine Things he has promis'd us concerning the Spanish Trade and Treaty. But that Fear is over, he has given us great Hopes by his last, that his Correspondent shall keep open all the Wounds. he has given the Old SCHEME, while he himself is more usefully employ'd in defending the Spanish Treaty from the Attacks of our News-writers.

His Correspondent therefore is my new Adversary, who in his very first Letter defends the Mercator for having said that the Preamble of King Charles II's Prohibition Act, was a wild Preamble to a wild Act of Parliament. He thinks it as lawful to say this, as, that many of the Members of that Parliament were Pensioners to the Court. For my own part, I think so too; but yet, I believe it was never said, that any of those Members were retain'd by Pensions against France. The Pensioners, if there were any such, were all in the French Interest, and were very far from being the most forward Persons for a Prohibition of the French Commerce. But they must either yield, or lose their Pensions; for the Country Part of our Legislators at that time would give no Money, but with the TACK of a Prohibition. Our Legislators then thought the French Commerce so great a Nuisance to this Nation, that they gave Money to be without it: And without doubt, 'tis now worth

The Pensioners in 30 Car. II. wanted the Fr. trade a great Nuisance.

Exclamati-
ous against
the Scheme.

worth while for *France* to give a great deal to bring us into better Humour.

But to return to the Old SCHEME, and his Charge, " That I had once disown'd it, and am now repenting of that Sin; that I value myself upon the *Mercator's* Confession, that the Scheme was 40 Years old, as if it was the less a Cheat for being a Cheat of so long standing; that I now know it to be counterfeit, and yet put it off for true Money; that I threw it by while it wanted Credit, but since it has been a successful Cheat, since it has cheated a Parliament, I am now ready to imbrace it: as if a Highwayman, who had robb'd for 40 Years, and had pass'd all that while for an honest Man, deserv'd ever the less to be hang'd. But he resolves to prove this Old SCHEME the errantest Cheat that ever was put upon a Nation, and that I shall be ashamed of it a second time, or be made a Shame myself to all the World." And to give me a Sample of the bitter Things I am to expect in his future Letters, his Correspondent begins with the Title of the Scheme; which he charges with a Fraud: " It is called, says he, A Scheme of the Trade, as it is at present carried on between *England* and *France*; whereas in the first place, all our Plantation Goods imported into *England*, and exported into *France* by Certificate, are omitted in it. This, says he, is first making the Title lye to the Nation, and then making the Scheme lye to the Title."

Confused.

But wherein is it that I have ever disown'd the SCHEME? Indeed I have said that it was not.

not a SCHEME of my making, and the *Mercator* himself has acquitted me of this Thing; he acknowledges that it was made above forty Years ago, that it cheated a Parliament forty Years since; then it could not be a Cheat of my contriving. But I am charged with knowing it to be counterfeit, and yet putting it off as true Money. But from whom have I known the Counterfeit? From the *Mercator*! I am so unfortunate as not to believe any thing because he says it; nay, since I have undertaken him, he has told so many Untruths, that I am ready to believe the contrary of whatever he says to be true. I shall never believe any thing to be less a Cheat for its long standing, if I can be once persuaded that 'tis a Cheat: but till I shall be convinc'd that the Old SCHEME was such a Cheat, I cannot easily believe that it could impose upon a whole Parliament, especially so wise a one as that of King *Charles II*, or that our Legislators then were seduc'd by it to make wild Preambles to wild Acts of Parliament; if yet it is true, that the Old SCHEME was the Foundation of that Act, for I have no Authority for it, but that of the *Mercator* and his Correspondent, which is always to be suspected. I believe the Old SCHEME will still live in spite of the *Mercator's* mortal Stabs; but whatsoever shall be its Fate, I make no doubt but our Legislators, as I have said before, had very good Reason for affirming, that our *French* Imports exhausted our Treasure, and lessened the Value of our Native Commodities and Manufactures. The *Mercator* has not yet prov'd that they were mistaken in their Assertion; he has written

The Mercator challenged to produce any Year that brought a Ballance to England.

written almost an hundred Papers to prove the French Trade beneficial, and promis'd it in his first, yet has never shewn a Ballance on the side of England. The Custom-house has been ranfack'd for this happy Year, yet neither since the Tariff of 1664, nor even before, when the Duties on our Goods were lighter than by the late Treaty, can such a Year be found; let him but produce the Year, and I have done, I will then be ashamed of the Cause I have undertaken, nay, I will own my Shame to all the World.

As for this Writer's quaint Observation, That the Title of the SCHEME professes it to be a SCHEME of the Trade, as it was heretofore carried on between England and France, and yet all our Plantation-Goods that were re-exported are omitted, and therefore the Title is a LYE:

To this I answer, The SCHEME seems only to be a SCHEME of the native Commodities of both Kingdoms; and whether our Plantation Goods will be accounted such, we shall be able to judge if ever the French are brought to an Explanation of the Doubts of the last Parliament. But whoever reads that SCHEME, and the Conclusion of it, will readily believe, that as many of our Imports of the Growth and Manufacture of France are omitted, as of our Exports of foreign Growth and Manufacture. But I would have the Mercator, or his Correspondent, answer the Letter I have presented him, and recover his Custom-house Account, if 'tis possible.

The

The Mercator has been often insulting me with his Maxims:

That Cheapness of Commodities increases the Consumption of them. And,

The Mercator's Maxims refuted.

That Dearness of Commodities must needs hinder their Consumption.

From the first he argues, that since by the late Treaty of Commerce between us and France, the latter has obliged herself to lay no higher Duties upon our Goods than those of the Tariff of 1664, we shall export more to that Country than we were ever able to do under the higher Duties of any subsequent Tariff, because Cheapness of our Commodities in France must certainly cause an Increase of their Consumption.

But from the second he argues, that since by that Treaty we are obliged to favour the Goods of France only as those of the Nation the most favour'd; by which means the Duties upon French Goods will be a great deal higher than they were in the Year 1664, or in any subsequent Year; it must needs follow, that we shall not import such Quantities as we did under the lower Duties, because Dearness of Commodities cannot chuse but cause a Decrease of their Consumption. These are the Mercator's Arguments to prove that we shall import less of the French Goods than we ever did before, and at the same time that we shall export more of our own than ever to that Nation.

Now I have not taken up a Resolution to quarrel with every thing the Mercator says: I am for keeping on the Prohibitions and high Duties

Duties upon *French* Goods, because we shall then consume the less Quantities, and because Dearness of Commodities hinders their Consumption.

Cheapness and Dearness of Commodities considered.

The *Mercator's* Maxims therefore are very good, *Quoad hic & nunc*, as they say, that is, if they are restrained to Time and Place. For example, if the City of *London* had spent any certain Quantity of *French* Wines, Brandy, Silk, Linen, and Paper, at a certain Price, it is a violent Presumption that if the Price had been doubled in the same Year, the Consumption would have been less. And on the other hand, if the People of *France* at this time use any considerable Quantity of our Lead, Tin, and Woollen Manufactures at the present Prices, it cannot be doubted that a great Abatement of these Prices, by the Reduction of the Duties in *France*, must increase their Consumption, and be the Cause of a greater Exportation.

According to the Difference of time

But then these Rules, if applied to different Times, are not so very infallible. For example, if thirty Years ago we spent a certain Quantity of *French* Goods at the current Prices of that Time, it cannot be concluded that we shall not spend as much now at higher Prices, and under an Increase of Duties. And the Reason of this may be, that our Luxury may be greater now than it was formerly, or that by an Increase of Wealth our People may be able to pay better Prices.

High Duties on French Wines did not hinder their Increase.

But I would convince the *Mercator* even by Matter of Fact. It appears by an Account return'd from the *Custom-house* to the last Parliament, that the Wines imported from *France* into

into the Port of *London* for four Years, were as follow, that is to say, in the Year

	Tuns.	Gal.
1675	7495	88
1676	9645	11
1677	9789	80
1678	7212	2

The Medium of which was 8535 Tuns per Ann. The Customs then were 6l. 8 s. 1 d. On the 24th of *June* 1685, a Duty of 6 l. 3 s. 1 d. was added, that is, the Customs were almost doubled; and immediately after, the Account for four Years, is as follows.

	Tuns.	Gal.
1686	12760	237
1687	15518	97
1688	14218	171
1689	11109	92

The Medium of which was annually 13,401 Tuns. So that here the Customs were almost doubled, and yet our Importations increased in so prodigious a manner.

But I must acknowledge now, that the Customs upon all Wines are above double what they were in the last mentioned Years; and so many other Countries as well as *England*, are of late accustomed to drink Clarets, that the prime Costs in *France* are very much increased: it is not to be imagined therefore, that the open Importation of those Wines can be as great now as it was formerly. And the above-mention'd Account from the *Custom-house* shews, that for the last sixteen Years and a Quarter, the Wines imported into the Port of *London* from all Countries in the World, did not

not exceed 12491 Tuns, which was almost a thousand Tuns less than was imported in the last mentioned four Years from *France* only, and five or six thousand Tuns less than was fairly imported in that time from all the World. But are there fewer Taverns now in *London* than heretofore? Or does any Man think that the Consumption is lessened? And if it is not, then it is certain the Quantity must be made up by Wines that are clandestinely imported, and that our Luxury has increas'd with the Prices.

French Clarets considered, if the Duties are reduced.

But let it be admitted, that *London* now consumes no more than 12500 Tuns per Ann. does any one believe that we shall import less than 10000 Tuns of the Growth of *France*? Have we not accustomed ourselves to buy these Wines under almost double the Duties that are even now paid by those of other Countries? And will they not be universally preferr'd, if they shall pay no greater Duties than those of the Nations the most favour'd? Are we not infected as much as ever, with an Appetite towards every thing that is *French*? And if the Duties shall be reduced, is any other Wine so likely to be the common Draught of this Nation? And if this should be the Case, the Price of Clarets in *France* has advanc'd so much of late Years, by the great Demand of them over all *Europe*, that in all probability we shall pay as much for 10,000 Tuns, as we did heretofore for 13,500. But if the Customs shall be reduced upon *French* Wines to an Equality with those of *Portugal*, I can by no means yield, that 10,000 Tuns will be the whole Quantity

Quantity imported, either fairly or clandestinely; I am afraid as many will be imported as ever.

But should I grant, that the Duties by the late Treaty of Commerce upon Wines and Brandies, shall be such, that our Consumption of them shall be lessen'd, I am very sure, this cannot be the Case of wrought Silks, of Linens, of Paper, or of their other Goods. The Increase of Duties upon their Linens, is very little more than a Half-penny for every Yard: And is this a Duty sufficient to keep them out? We may expect therefore, that they will be pour'd in upon us, in such Quantities, as to destroy all the new Looms we have set up in *England*, as well as in *Ireland* and *North Britain*, to the Ruin of above an hundred thousand of our People.

And of their Manufactures and other Goods.

As for the Customs here upon most of the *French* Manufactures, which are to remain in force by the late Treaty; they are generally such, as with the whole Value of the Labour that is bestow'd upon them in that Kingdom, are yet under the Price that is given for the like Manufactures made in *England*. I need not resort to the *French* King's Reduction of the Price of Labour, by several former Alterations of his Coin in his Dominions: But 'tis notorious, that his Subjects are subsisted in a meaner manner, and live for less Wages than the labouring People of *Great Britain*. And then, can any one imagine that his Manufactures are not cheaper than our own? Or that we shall not buy the cheapest? It is not enough, therefore, for the *Mercator* to tell us, that Dearness

French Manufactures, notwithstanding the Duty, cheaper than English.

ness of Commodities causes a Decrease of their Consumption: He ought also to shew us, that by the Duties which are to remain in force by the late Treaty, all the Manufactures we can import from *France*, will be so much dearer than our own, that our Merchants will be able to make very little Profit by importing; or otherwise, whether for our Luxury, or Necessities, they will still continue to import upon us.

Then for his other Maxim, that Cheapness of Commodities must needs increase the Consumption; and that consequently, by the Reduction of the *French* Duties upon our Goods to the Tariff of 1664, we shall be enabled to send more of our Woollen Manufactures to *France*, than we did in 1685, it is nothing at all to his purpose.

If we send any Manufactures to *France*, under the present high Duties; we have good reason to believe, that by taking off a Part of those Duties, our Exportations may be increased. But has the *Mercator* any where prov'd, that we send any Manufactures to *France*, under the Pressure of the present Duties? Our Exportations to *Dunkirk* or *Marseilles* prove nothing like it. No Duties are paid in those Places; and then, will our Exportations thither prove, that they are carried farther into that Country?

Will our Exportations to *France* in 1685, and under the Duties of that time, prove that we can send any Goods now, under any Duties at all? Have the *French* been labouring ever since at the Woollen Manufacture, and are they arriv'd at no Perfection? Have they plac-

ced King *Philip* on the *Spanish* Throne, that they should now buy *Spanish* Wool, or *Spanish* Cloth from *England*? Or must we buy Woollen Manufactures from the *Netherlands*, because we did heretofore in the Time of the *Dukes of Burgundy*?

Unless therefore the *Mercator* can apply his Maxims of Dearness and Cheapness of Commodities to one and the same Year, they are by no means sufficient to argue upon from the past time to the present.

The Entries for Flanders and the Straits are not for France.

Our Woollen Manufactures cannot go to France, neither at present, nor by the late Treaty. And for what Reasons.

WELL: There is no End of the *Mercator's* Exports to *France*; that's certain. Every thing that is enter'd at the *Custom-House* for *Flanders*, or the *Straits*, is carry'd into *France*, besides a World of Goods that are sent thither by the way of *Holland*. It is unhappy for him, that any Entries are made for the *East* or *West-Indies*, for *Portugal* or *Muscovy*; these Countries are either at too great a Distance, or too much out of his way; otherwise, we should also lose those Trades; all the Goods we are able to send any where, wou'd be swallowed up by *France*; he would damn all the *Custom-House* Accounts, and the Merchants for their false Entries to any other Country.

Ridiculous to suppose the Goods enter'd for Flanders or the Straits, go for France

The British Merchant.

But why are the Goods carried into *France*, that are enter'd out for *Flanders* and the *Straits*? Why? Because it pleases the *Mercator's* Fancy; not that he has any one Reason, besides his being hir'd to write for the Bill of Commerce, to induce him to be of that Opinion. No; whatsoever Reason there is, it is against him.

To instance in our Woollen Manufactures, which is the Grand Article of our Exports, the Staple Commodity of this Kingdom. Where wou'd any one believe that these are carry'd? To Countries that have not sufficient of them for their own People; or to those which, besides having enough for their own People, are able also to supply their Neighbours? To Countries which receive them indifferently into every Port; or to those which restrain the Importation of them to two or three Ports only, at the greatest Distance from the whole Body of their People? To Countries which receive them with very easy Duties; or to those which load them with such Duties as amount to Prohibitions? And lastly, to Countries which give our Merchants very little trouble upon the landing their Manufactures, or to those which subject them to very troublesome Visitations? To compare then the Case of *Italy* and *Flanders*; they have not sufficient of their own Woollen Manufactures for their own People; they admit ours equally into every Port, they lay upon them very moderate Duties, and they give our Merchants no manner of trouble upon their landing these Manufactures. In *France* every thing is the reverse;

no

The Trade with France.

no want of our Woollen Manufactures; but three Ports where they are suffer'd to be imported; excessive Duties, and exceeding troublesome Visitations. This is the Condition of our Trade with that Nation, even by the late Treaty; but till that Treaty shall be made effectual, our Condition is still worse: And then, can any Man entertain the least Suspicion, that the Manufactures which are enter'd out for *Flanders* or the *Straits*, are carried into *France*?

I shall particularly consider every one of the above-mention'd Circumstances; by that time, I believe my Readers will be convinc'd, how unlikely it is, that any more of our Manufactures shou'd be carry'd into *France*, than appear in the *Custom-House* Accounts.

As for *Italy*, it never did abound with Woollen Manufactures: Both the Lands and the People of that Country have been employ'd another way. Silk is their chief Employment, in which they excel. But the People there wear Woollen Cloths; and since they have not enough of their own, they supply themselves from *France* and *Great Britain*: And there is no great doubt but we shall continue to sell our Share, unless, by any ill Conduct of ours, we should provoke them to increase their Duties upon our Woollen Manufactures, which at present are very moderate.

Flanders heretofore, in the time of the Dukes of *Burgundy*, was the Seat of the Woollen Manufacture. We then sold our Wool to the *Flemings*, and bought from them our Woollen

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Cloths

England got the Woollen Manufactures from Flanders, and they set up Lace and Linen.

Cloths. Since that time, by the coming in of the *Walloons*, by wholesome Laws, and by applying ourselves to the Work in earnest, we are arriv'd at Perfection. The *Flemings* are gone off to fine Lace and Linens, and we sell them yearly a very great Value of Woollen Cloths; and shall still, perhaps, be able to do this, unless by any Provocation we force them upon Prohibitions. We have learn'd better, I hope, by our late unsuccessful Attempts to prohibit the *Flanders* Laces, which made the *Flemings* retaliate upon us, and lessened our Exportation of Woollen Manufactures to the Value of several hundred thousand Pounds per ann. But without giving any of those Provocations, we have just reason to hope that our Exportations may be continued both to *Italy* and *Flanders*.

The Prohibition of their Lace hinder'd our Woollen Exports.

But can we hope to export any of our Woollen Manufactures into *France*? They have Wool of their own, and they can never want the finest sort from the Dominions of King *Philip*. They have followed it now for many Years with uncommon Application; and for the Encouragement of their Artists, they have put as many Hardships as possible upon Foreign Manufactures. They now not only supply their own People, but *Smyrna* and *Constantinople*, with more fine Cloths than are sent thither from *Great Britain*: and even *Italy*, as I observed before, is served with the Woollen Manufactures of *France*. And can we hope then to sell any of these Goods to such a Country? Is it not justly to be presumed, that the Woollen Manufactures which are entered out for *Flanders*

France supplies Turkey with more fine Cloth than we.

Flanders and the *Straits*, are consumed in *Italy* and *Flanders*? Can any one believe, that any of them go to *France*?

The next thing is the Ports. In *Italy* and *Flanders* our Woollen Manufactures are equally received in every Port; but even by the late Treaty of Commerce, by which it is pretended we are so very much favoured, they are admitted only in *Bordeaux*, *Rouen*, and *St. Valery*. And does this look as if the *French* were in earnest to receive our Woollen Manufactures?

Woollen admitted only into free Ports in France.

The Customs and Duties upon them will soon determine where the greatest Quantities are consumed. They are very moderate in *Italy*, they are not above 8 per Cent. in *Flanders*. In *France* they are prohibited at this time, and so indeed would be by the late Treaty, notwithstanding the Reduction of them by that Treaty. Woollen Cloths, every Piece of 25 Ells, that is, 31 Yards, are to pay by this kind Treaty, if ever it should be made effectual, according to the Tariff of 1699, Fifty five Livres, Ten Sols, or 3 l. 3 s. 4 d. that is, 2 s. and 8 d. for every Yard, or 20 per Cent. for Cloth of 13 s. and 4 d. per Yard, and almost 40 per Cent. for that of 7 s. per Yard. And is any one so fond as to believe that any will be carried into *France* by this Treaty? And much more is it possible to believe that any is sent thither now? Or that our Woollen Manufactures which are entred out for *Flanders* and the *Straits*, are carried afterwards into *France*?

The Duty on our Woollen Manufactures in Flanders.

And on Cloths in France.

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The Tariff
no reason for
the Bill of
Commerce.

Perhaps the *Mercator* will imagine that they steal from *Holland* and *Flanders* into *France*, without paying *French* Customs. There is not the least ground for this Imagination: But if they do, they will do so still; they will rather bear paying the moderate Customs of *Holland* and *Flanders*, than from 20 to 40 *per Cent.* by the Tariff of 1699. For whatsoever the *Mercator* fancies concerning the Tariff of 1664, the former is to be the Tariff by the late Treaty for our Woollen Manufactures. And if this should be the Case, there cannot be the least reason for the Bill of Commerce.

Visitation
of Goods
considered.

One thing still remains, and that is the Visitation. We are sure there is no such thing in *Italy* or *Flanders*, but by the late Treaty of Commerce they are subject to a Visitation; that is, they are to lie six or eight Months at the *Custom-house* to be Moth-eaten, till the President of the Customs shall have leave to be in perfect Health to make his Inspection, and then, if he pleases, he may measure them over in the Rain and the Dirt, and make them 20 *per Cent.* worse than they were before. With this and the extravagant Duties from 20 to 40 *per Cent.* we shall send a World of our Woollen Manufactures into *France*. Or it is wonderful likely that they should rather go thither under these Hardships, than to *Italy* and *Flanders*.

When I first read over the Treaty, I was astonished at the Exception of our Woollen Manufacture in the 9th Article; but I was still more astonished at the Hardships in the Articles annexed, and dated a Month afterwards. Yet

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I can by no means wonder that the *Mercator* should think light of these Hardships, who has fallen foul upon the *Portugal* Treaty, which has taken off the Prohibition of our Woollen Manufactures in that Country. We are obliged however to the Ministers, who, as they did not apprehend these Difficulties in the late Treaty, have reserved them to the Parliament, which it is impossible should be mistaken.

The following Letter from an unknown Hand, contains so many excellent and self-evident Truths, that I resolve to pass it upon my Readers, without any Comment of my own.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

“ THERE are none of her Majesty’s
“ Subjects that are more obliged to those
“ worthy Patriots, who last Session of Parlia-
“ ment rejected the Bill of Commerce, than
“ those concerned in the Woollen Manufac-
“ tures: and since the Wealth and Prosperity
“ of this Kingdom do in a great measure de-
“ pend upon the Improvement thereof, and
“ the profitable Trade carried on by the Ex-
“ portation of the same; there is no doubt,
“ but that both the Manufactures and the
“ Merchants will be always assisted and en-
“ couraged by our Legislators, in prosecuting
“ so good a Work, and that tends so much
“ to the publick Utility.

“ The Trade to those Nations therefore,
“ who consume the greatest Quantity of our

E 4

Woollen

That Trade which takes off most of our Woollen Goods, to be most promoted.

“ Woollen Manufactures, must and will be most effectually promoted.
“ And it is impossible, but that all those, who wish well to this Kingdom, will effectually discountenance our Commerce with every Country that excludes the Importation of our Woollen Manufactures, by imposing such exorbitant Duties thereon, as amount to a Prohibition; especially when it is manifest, that such Manufactures have been set up in opposition to ours, and that they not only supply themselves therewith, but interfere with us in our Trade to other Countries.

Which the Trades are that do so.

“ I will therefore conclude, that our Commerce with *Russia, the East Country, Germany, Holland, Flanders, Portugal, the Straits, Italy and Turkey*, with whom we traded during the late War, to the great Benefit of this Nation, will be encouraged; and that due and proper Measures will be pursued, for restoring our former Traffick with *Spain*.

The Parliament will never encourage French Manufactures.

“ But it's not to be imagined, if ever the *French* Trade should be again under the Consideration of a *British* Parliament, that they will permit the Subjects of his most Christian Majesty to import their Manufactures into this Kingdom, to the vast Prejudice (if not the utter Ruin) of our own, and to the great Discouragement of several of the aforesaid Trades, unless we can import our Woollen Manufactures and foreign Goods into *France*, whereby we might repair at least part of the Damage we should in such case suffer.
“ Our

“ Our Forefathers (it's certain) enjoyed a great Trade with that Kingdom many Years, whilst they paid easy and reasonable Duties, viz. 6 Livres for a Cloth, and 1 Livre for a Piece of Serge; then the Woollen Manufactures exported thither, amounted to a vast Sum.

The Trade occasioned by the former Duties in France.

“ But as their own Manufactures encreased, they gradually imposed greater Customs on ours, whereby that Trade was sensibly discouraged; and no sooner had the present *French* King established his Tariff in 1664, whereby we were oblig'd to pay 40 Livres for Custom of a Cloth, mix'd, or otherwise, of 25 Ells, or 32 Yards (that is, on a Long Cloth of 42 Yards two thirds, 53 Livres one third, which at 18 d. per Livre, amounts to 4 l.) and extravagant Duties on all our other Woollen Manufactures, but the Exportation thereof declined apace.

The Tariff of 1664 abated that Trade.

“ And his Officers having since very frequently, tho' injuriously, detained the Merchants Goods in the *Custom-house* for several Months, before they could receive them, and afterwards by opening and exposing them, on purpose to discourage their Importation, also by further increasing his Duties, this great Trade dwindled to a Trifle; so that during the last Peace which continued above 3 Years, all the Cloth exported to *France* is valued by the Inspector-General at no more than 24010 l. 9 s. 4 d.
“ And altho' (according to the present Treaty) those Duties are lessened from what they were in 1687. yet we are still to pay for

By the Imposition of Officers, and farther Duties, it fell to a Trifle.

But 24000 l Value in Cloth sent to France in 3 Years.

“ Custom of a Cloth of 25 Ells, 55 Livres instead of 40 Livres as aforesaid, by the Tariff of 1664.

“ If this then be impartially considered, how small will the Exportation of our Cloth and other Woollen Goods be for the future ?

The Encouragement for making Woollen Goods in France.

“ It is therefore most certain, that his said Majesty has nothing more at heart, than to encourage the Consumption of his Woollen Manufactures, and that he spares no Charge to promote the same.

Lewis xiv's Care to establish his Woollen Manufactures.

“ For Instance: In 1665, He settled Mr. *Joses Van Robay*, a foreign Protestant, at *Abbeville* in *Picardy*, and by Letters Patent granted to him and his Workmen the free Exercise of their Religion, and several other very considerable Privileges, which their Families enjoy to this Day. This Clothier fixed the Manufacture of all sorts of *Spanish* Cloth in that City, and the King lent him by Agreement 2000 Livres for every Loom he set up, until he had 40 Looms at work; so that he received 80,000 Livres. And at last it was found, he had so well established that Manufacture, that by degrees the Payment of the whole was remitted.

And imitate the English.

“ Again, that Monarch by an Arret of the 19th of *October* 1688, granted to *Noel de Varennes* divers Immunities, to encourage him to carry on the Manufacture of *Drap de Londres*, (or Cloth made in Imitation of what is sent from *London* to *Turky*) in the Province of *Languedoc*.

“ And

“ And afterwards that Province was obliged to furnish the *Sieur Magi* and his Partners with 30,000 Livres, to carry on the same Manufacture of *Drap de Londres* at *Clermont* and *Sette*; and they having voluntarily engaged themselves to transport 2000 Pieces of that Cloth to the *Levant*, by an Arret of the second of *October* 1692, they are permitted to carry the Goods they import from thence at *Marselia*, by Transfers from *Lyons*, into all Parts of that Kingdom (that is, without paying the Duties, of particular Provinces) nevertheless upon this express Condition, that they export annually 2000 *Drap de Londres* to the *Levant*.

“ In 1670, a *Levant* Company was established in *France*, and the King both at that time and afterwards granted them many Privileges; and tho' it was some time before their Trade flourished, yet they now import at some of the principal Scales in *Turky*, Cloth and Perpets, to a greater Value than our *Turky* Merchants.

A Levant Company in France, who import at some Places more Woollen Goods than the English.

“ By these, and other proper Methods, their Trade, and their Woollen Manufactures, have been established in *France*, and they are now brought to a very great Perfection.

“ Do not the People of that Kingdom, as well as we in *Great Britain*, generally wear Woollen Cloth, and Stuffs; and are not those worn there, of their own Manufacture ?

Woollen worn in France, as well as in England.

“ Is it not acknowledged by all that have lived in *Italy*, as well as in *Turky*, that they supply

France furnishes Italy and Turkey, and did us with Stuffs and Druggets.

“ supply those Countries with great Quantities of Woollen Manufactures; and did they not formerly furnish us with *Stuffs* and *Druggets* to a great Value?

Spaniards wear French Stuffs instead of English Bays.

“ Besides, have not the *Spaniards* laid aside their old Habit, which was made of *English* Bays, and are now clothed in *French* Stuffs? &c. And can we be so very unhappy as to imagine, there are but few Woollen Manufactures in *France*?

“ But the *Mercator* says, they are not so good as ours; and I must confess they generally are not, especially their superfine Cloths: However, when it turns them to account, they will make them very near as good as their Neighbours, and can sell them much cheaper.

We imitate the French in some Woollen Goods.

“ Have we forgot, that our *Drap de Berry*, *Serge de Nimes*, and other Goods, took their Names from their Manufactures? But if they, or the Foreigners, with whom they trade, demand and are please with a lighter and worse made Cloth than ours, because it's cheaper; are they not in the right to gratify them?

Lighter Cloth required abroad than formerly.

“ Merchants and Manufacturers must endeavour to comply with the Humours and Fancies of those, to whom they vend their Commodities, or else they will soon lose their Trade.

The Venetian Cloth Manufacture sunk and why.

“ The *Venetians*, some Years past, supply'd a great Part of *Italy* and the *Levant* with their fine Cloth, which is an excellent Manufacture: But, by being obliged by the Law of their Country, to keep up

“ to their own Standard, have since in several Places, lost nine Parts in ten of that Trade.

“ What is become of our noble Manufacture of *Plunkets*, *Violets*, and *Blues*, formerly made in *Suffolk*? Are not these Sorts beat out entirely, by a slighter and inferior Sort, made in *Gloucestershire*? And are not the Cloths, even of this Country, which are made for Exportation, of less Substance than formerly?

Our Cloths much lighter than heretofore.

“ Let our *Salisbury* Clothiers answer, how many more superfine *Spanish* Cloths did they formerly sell for *Turky*, than at present: Or if the *Turky* Merchants would confess, what is the Reason, that That Part of their Trade is almost lost; I am afraid it would be found, that the *French* fine Cloth prevents the Consumption of ours; for it's obvious, by their present Exports, they are well enough inclin'd for the publick Good, to promote, nay to force a Trade in the *Levant*, and yet they take off but little of this sort of Cloth.

French light Cloth prevents ours in Turkey.

“ But in all Countries, how few are there, that buy the best Cloth, comparatively with those that are forc'd to content themselves with the inferior Sorts?

“ If the *French* then come to the same foreign Markets with us, and have such sorts of Cloth as we have, tho' they are really inferior; will not theirs be prejudicial to the Sale of ours?

“ The *Mercator* may tell a *Yorkshire* Clothier, that it's in vain for him to send up his

“ his Cloth to *London*, to be dispos'd of there ;
 “ because there are many better Sorts from the
 “ *Western Parts*, to be sold every day in that
 “ *City* : But he will never take his Advice,
 “ nor credit what he says, any more than you
 “ do.

“ In short, an inferior Commodity will al-
 “ ways affect the Price of a better, at the same
 “ Market.

French
 Wool Goods
 cheaper than
 ours, even
 allowing the
 Difference in
 the Goodness.

“ But, however some may deceive them-
 “ selves, or be deceived ; this is certain, The
 “ *French* work cheaper than we can ; I mean,
 “ they have much more Work done for a
 “ Shilling in *France*, than we have here for
 “ the same Value ; and they sell their Cloths,
 “ *Perpets*, &c. abroad, considerably cheaper
 “ than we can pretend to, with fair and just
 “ Allowances for the Difference of the Good-
 “ ness of the Manufacture. And for the Truth
 “ hereof, I appeal to every unbiass'd Mer-
 “ chant, that has lived abroad, where theirs
 “ and our Manufactures are sold.

“ Formerly, the *Dutch* were our Rivals in
 “ these Manufactures ; but the *French* having
 “ been too hard for them, by almost ruining
 “ their Trade in several foreign Markets, I
 “ must now assert that the *French* are become
 “ our principal Rivals abroad ; and I wish, we
 “ find not the bad Effects thereof in a very
 “ few Years.

“ But this must be submitted to : their In-
 “ dustry, and the *Remissness* of others in for-
 “ mer Times, has increas'd their Woollen
 “ Manufactures, and occasions their supply-
 “ ing several foreign Countries with those
 “ Manu-

“ Manufactures which interfere with ours ;
 “ the ill Consequences whereof can never be
 “ prevented, but by encouraging the Expor-
 “ tation of the Woollen Manufactures to those
 “ Countries who trade with us on the Square,
 “ and by promoting the Manufactures of Silk,
 “ and other unwrought Materials which are
 “ the Returns thereof. If this be but prose-
 “ cuted, this Kingdom can never regret the
 “ Loss of a destructive Trade with *France* ; but
 “ on the contrary, shall remember, not only
 “ our late Legislators, but those also who pas-
 “ sed the Prohibition Act in the 30 *Car. II.* as
 “ Benefactors to their Country, and as such,
 “ with the highest Honour, Gratitude and Re-
 “ spect.

“ Before this Stature was in force, the
 “ Wool of this Kingdom was a mere Drug,
 “ and the Clothiers, I am sure, petition'd
 “ the Parliament several times, upon the ill
 “ State of their Trade : But in 3 Years af-
 “ ter, I find, Wool was advanced above 50
 “ *per Cent.* and such a Trade (says a good Au-
 “ thor in 1681) there is for Woollen Manu-
 “ factures, as *England* never saw in any for-
 “ mer Age.

“ But that you may be fully convinc'd,
 “ that this Nation has enjoyed a prodigious
 “ Advantage since that Trade was prohibited,
 “ examine the following Account, which is
 “ taken from *Dr. Davenant's* Reports.

Exported

	Exported from England in	l.	s.	d.
<i>An Account of the Increase of our Exports since the Prohibition Act, 30 Car. II.</i>	1662-3	2,022,812	4	0
	in 1668-9	2,063,274	19	0
<hr/>				
Total exported in those two Years before the French Trade was prohibited		4,086,087	3	0
Exported in 1699, when the Trade between France and England was reciprocally carried on upon the same high Duties as are now in force		6,788,166	17	6
<hr/>				
in 1703, when we had a War with Spain, and before the great Increase of the Portugal Trade		6,644,103	0	0
<hr/>				
Total exported in these two Years since the French Trade was either prohibited, or carried on with high Duties		13,432,269	17	6
Deduct the first two Years Exports as above		4,086,087	3	0
So that the Exports of these two Years exceed the two Years Exports, when we had a free Trade with that Kingdom		9,346,182	14	6

“ This, I must acknowledge, is a surprizing
 “ Difference ; but any Merchant, who will
 “ thoroughly inform himself of the Trade that
 “ was formerly, and is now carry'd on in
 “ *Great Britain*, together with the Impor-
 “ tance

“ tance of our Silk and other Manufactures,
 “ may account for it. I am,

S I R,

Your Friend and Servant,

London, Dec.
 21. 1713.

S. M.

The Heads I am now to discourse upon
 are,

1. *Arguments to prove that there are Goods and Merchandizes which France may lawfully prohibit without any Violation of the late Treaty.*
2. *To explain the Meaning of the Words, WITH RESPECT TO THE GOODS AND MERCHANTIZES OF GREAT BRITAIN, in the ninth Article of that Treaty.*
3. *That the French King never intended to repeal his Prohibitions of foreign Goods imported from Great Britain.*
4. *To shew that the House of Commons doubted that the Words of the Treaty were not sufficient to repeal Prohibitions of foreign Goods.*
5. *That French Prohibitions of foreign Goods re-exported from England, are not repealed by the Treaty.*
6. *That France may prohibit the Importation of foreign Goods from Britain, without Violation of the Treaty.*
7. *That*

7. That Foreign Goods exported to France, were heretofore half our Exports to that Kingdom.

Several Goods which France may prohibit.

THERE are many Goods and Merchandizes in Britain, which are prohibited in France by the Edicts of his most Christian Majesty, or which are loaded with such Duties as amount to Prohibitions, and which that Prince may still continue to prohibit, or charge as he shall think fit, without any Breach of the late Treaty of Commerce. But has the Mercator ever had the Ingenuity to acknowledge this in any one of all his Papers? No, his Design is, that his Readers should believe that all Prohibitions are to be repeal'd.

Again, there are other Goods and Merchandizes, which by express Words in the late Treaty are excepted out of the general Rule of paying no higher Duties than those of the Tariff of 1664. But how slight is the Mention which the Mercator has made of these Exceptions? Not above once or twice in above an hundred of his Papers.

A Fallacy in insinuating the Tariff of 1664.

But we are so often told by him of the Tariff of 1664, the easy Duties of that Tariff, and of the Excellency of the Treaty, which has brought us back to those easy Duties, that the Generality of his Readers run away with this Delusion, that the above-mention'd Tariff is to be the universal Rule, that France is oblig'd by the late Treaty to admit all sorts of Goods from Great-Britain without any the least Exception, and all under no higher Duties than those of the above-mentioned Tariff. And then

then the next thing to be believ'd is, that Cheapness of Commodities is the Cause of increasing their Consumption, and that we shall make prodigious Exportations to that Kingdom.

My present Design is to take off this Delusion from his Readers: If any of them are so weak as to believe that France is oblig'd to repeal all her Prohibitions of all sorts of Goods which shall be exported hereafter from Great Britain, let them only read the late Treaty, and they will be convinc'd of their Mistake.

In the ninth Article of that Treaty are the following Words, *Omnesq; Prohibitiones, Tariffæ, Edicta, Declarationes, sive Decreta post Tariffam illam Anni 1664, & contra illam QUOAD BONAMERCESQUE MAGNÆ BRITANNIÆ in Gallia factæ, abrogabuntur.* The English Translation is thus, *And all Prohibitions, Tariffs, Edicts, Declarations, or Degrees made in France since the said Tariff of 1664, and contrary thereunto, IN RESPECT TO THE GOODS AND MERCHANDIZES OF GREAT BRITAIN, shall be Repeal'd.* Now I must ask the Mercator or his Readers here, what are the Prohibitions that are to be repealed by these Words? Certainly the Prohibitions only, *QUOAD BONAMERCESQUE MAGNÆ BRITANNIÆ*; the Prohibitions only *WITH RESPECT TO THE GOODS AND MERCHANDIZES OF GREAT BRITAIN.* And what are these? Certainly they are the Prohibitions of the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, and not of any other Country; and therefore by

Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain explained.

by the above-mention'd Words, the Prohibitions only of the Goods and Merchandizes of this Country are to be repeal'd, and not those of the Goods and Merchandizes of other Nations.

The *Mercator* will needs have it understood, that all Commodities of which our Merchants are possess, whether of the Growth and Manufacture of *Great Britain*, or imported hither from any foreign Nation, are properly speaking of the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*. But what if *France* should not be of his Opinion? What if his most Christian Majesty should interpret the Manufactures of other Countries imported into *Great Britain*, or the Manufactures of *Great Britain* made or mixt with the Materials of foreign Countries, to be the Goods and Merchandizes of other Countries, and not of *Great Britain*? To whom shall she appeal? Or who is it that shall decide the Difference between the *Mercator* and his most Christian Majesty? If there is the least doubt of this, ought it not to be fully clear'd before the Treaty shall be made effectual?

Notorious Partiality in wording the Treaty in favour of France.

But his most Christian Majesty might very justly urge, that the whole Article explains the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, to be only the Product and Manufactures of the very Country, and not those imported into *Great Britain* from other Countries. For in the former part of the ninth Article, the Laws to be repealed by us, are those made in *Great Britain* since the Year 1664, for prohibiting *Ullorum E GALLIA VENIENTIUM Bonorum Merc-*

Mercimoniorumque Importationem, in the Translation thus, *The importation of any Goods and Merchandizes COMING FROM FRANCE*. Now *Bona Mercimonique E GALLIA venientia*, or Goods and Merchandizes COMING FROM *FRANCE*, are undoubtedly all the Goods that come from thence, whether the Goods of that, or any other Country. Why then are we to repeal all our Prohibitions of Goods and Merchandizes COMING FROM *FRANCE*, when *France* is only oblig'd to repeal her Prohibitions OF THE GOODS AND MERCHANDIZES OF *GREAT BRITAIN*? Why are not the Terms of the Repeal the very same in both parts of the Article? His most Christian Majesty may say, that we, by the very Terms of this Article, are oblig'd to repeal our Prohibitions of all Goods that COME FROM *FRANCE*, whether they are the Goods of *France* or of any other Nation; whereas he is only oblig'd to repeal his Prohibitions of the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, and not the Goods and Merchandizes of other Countries which are exported FROM *GREAT BRITAIN*. Will the *Mercator* affirm that such a Construction as this is a mere Chicane? Or will his most Christian Majesty be satisfy'd if he should? Certainly if he meant the same thing in both parts of the Article; if by Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain* he intended all those exported from *Great Britain*, whether the Product and Manufacture of that, or any other Country; he very well knew the Doubts of the

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the last Parliament, and he would have explain'd that to be his Meaning.

But this whole Matter is admirably well discuss'd in part of a Letter I have received from one of my Correspondents. " In another place " he, *sc. the Mercator*, says, that as to the " Trade of *France*, he will put it on this Issue, " that *England* is to enjoy all the Tariff of " 1664, in as full a manner as was then enjoy'd. I would readily agree with him it " would be so, if there were no Exceptions " in the ninth Article; and if as to the repealing Prohibitions on both Sides, it had been " said FROM BRITIAN, as it is said " FROM FRANCE, would not one think " that to avoid Dispute, the Terms should be " the very same in both Places? Can any " Man think that such a Difference, in so " correct a Thing as a Treaty, could be an " Error of the Pen? Or ought it not rather " to be believed that the thing was done with " Design? And that the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, meant something " less than the Goods and Merchandizes exported from *Great Britain*?

Goods imported cannot be re-exported to France.

" If his most Christian Majesty intended to " put us fully on the Foot of 1664, and that " all Prohibitions since that time in his Kingdom should be repealed, Why did he not " explain himself in this Manner? He knew " this Difference was objected to the Treaty " in the last Parliament; there was time enough during the Debates, to have had an " Explanation. The *French* Deputies were " here, they were certainly prepared on that " Head,

The Trade with France.

" Head, and they could not but know their " Master's Meaning. If he meant that no " more Goods from *Great Britain* should be " prohibited in *France* than in 1664, this " Meaning would have been explained. Since " *France* was not pleased to do this, it is plain " that by repealing her Prohibitions of the " Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, " she never, intended to repeal those of Foreign Goods exported from *Great Britain*.

The Tariff of 1664 as insinuated, a Fallacy.

" The House of Commons seem'd doubtful in this Matter, and therefore provided " by their Bill of Commerce, that the Repeal of the *French* Prohibitions should extend as well to Manufactures of Foreign " Countries exported from *Great Britain*, as " to her proper Manufactures; and made the " Consent of *France* to this Proviso, a Condition, without which the Treaty could not " be made effectual. Could the House of " Commons have such a Doubt, and yet is the " thing so very clear in the Opinion of the " *Mercator*? If *France* should have explained " the Sense of the Article to be as asserted by " the *Mercator*, yet that very Explanation " had over-thrown his Assertion, and shewn " that the Treaty had not put us upon the " Foot of 1664, with respect to Prohibitions. The very Explanation had shewn " that the Treaty wanted one, so that the " *Mercator's* Assertion had been still false, that " the Treaty had restored us to the Foot of " 1664, with respect to Prohibitions: it has " not yet done, nor can do it, without an " Explanation.

" My

“ My Correspondent here has undoubtedly
 “ falsify'd the Assertion of the *Mercator*, but
 “ that is the least part of my Ambition; what
 “ I principally intend here is to shew, that the
 “ late Treaty of Commerce does not put us
 “ upon the Foot of 1664, with respect to
 “ our *French* Trade.

If the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, are not so comprehensive Words as the Goods and Merchandizes exported from *Great Britain*; if the Commons in Parliament doubted that they did not signify the same thing; if his most Christian Majesty was not so obliging as to satisfy their Doubt, and to explain the Words to that Sense; then it is certain, that by Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, he could mean nothing more than the Product and Manufactures of this Kingdom, but not the Product and Manufactures of Foreign Countries imported thither, and afterwards re-exported.

And if this was his Meaning, if the Treaty obliges him only to repeal his Prohibitions of the Product and Manufactures of *Great Britain*, and not of those imported into *Great Britain* from other Countries; and if there are no other Words than the above-mentioned, which disable his most Christian Majesty from making new Prohibitions; then it is certain, without any Violation of this Treaty, all the *French* Prohibitions of Foreign Goods remain still in their full Force, and he may add as many more to them as he shall think fit.

But there will be little need of his adding any new Prohibitions to the old. *East-India*
and

and *Turky* Manufactures are absolutely prohibited in that Kingdom, whether imported by his own or the Subjects of other Nations. This appears by the Edict I have exhibited in my first Volume. All other Merchandize of Foreign Growth, or Manufacture, or made or mixed with Foreign Materials, are forbid to be imported by *English* Merchants, by the Edict of 1701, of which I have exhibited an Extract. And if this is not sufficient, *France* is still at liberty by this Treaty to prohibit all other Foreign Goods; and whether she may not construe our very Plantation Goods to be such, is a Matter worth explaining.

East-India and Turkey Manufactures prohibited in France.

Our Foreign Goods, and those made or mixed with Foreign Materials, together with a very few Plantation Goods, were almost half the Value of our whole Exports to *France*, between *Michaelmas* 1685 and *Michaelmas* 1686, as appears by the Account: but if all these are now prohibited, or may be prohibited if *France* pleases, without any Violation of the late Treaty; how then could the *Mercator* say, that as to our Trade, we are put upon the foot of 1664? How can this be, if the Treaty does not provide for the Repeal of Prohibitions of our Foreign Goods, or against the making any new ones?

Foreign Goods, Goods mix'd with foreign Materials, and Plantation Goods, were almost half our Exports to France.

Thus much for the Goods and Merchandizes which are not comprehended in the Treaty; but our Condition will appear to be still worse, with respect to those that are excepted from it.

'Tis asserted by the Friends of *France*, That England is to enjoy all the Tariff of
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1664, in as full a manner as was then enjoyed.

France may prohibit all foreign Goods from England, without Violation of the Treaty.

It is certain, that at that time we had liberty to export Foreign Goods to France, as well as those of our own Growth and Manufacture, and that too subject to no other Duties or Prohibitions than were then in being. But since the Year 1664, many Foreign Goods are absolutely prohibited to be imported into France, whether by the Subjects of that or any other Nation. Many others of them, if exported into France by English Merchants, are charged in that Country with such Duties as amount to Prohibitions. And none of these Prohibitions or high Duties upon our Foreign Goods, are taken off by the late Treaty: So far from this, that his most Christian Majesty may absolutely prohibit the Importation of all Foreign Goods whatsoever from hence into his Kingdom, without any Violation of that Treaty, as I have shewn at large. If we could export Foreign Goods to France in 1664, subject only to the Duties of that Tariff, and are not enabled to do it now by our late Treaty of Commerce, how could any have the Confidence to assert, That England is to enjoy all the Tariff of 1664, in as full a manner as was then enjoyed?

Our foreign Goods exported heretofore to France, as I have made appear, amounted in one Year to almost one half of our whole Exports to that Kingdom. How then can our Exportations be as large as ever, when his most Christian Majesty either has prohibited, or may if he pleases, prohibit one half of the whole, without any Violation of our late Treaty? Our

Our foreign Goods then are none of those which by the late Treaty are comprehended within the Rule of the Tariff of 1664. But some also of our own Growth and Manufacture, are expressly and by Name excepted out of that Rule, by the ninth Article of the late Treaty, particularly our Woollen Manufactures.

Wool. Goods excepted by the 9th Article.

Strange! A Treaty of Commerce, by which our Woollen Manufactures, the stable Commodity, the Life and Soul of this Nation, are excepted out of the Number of Goods which we are permitted to export to France! And will the Lords in Parliament hereafter sit upon their WOOL-SACKS? Will they suffer themselves to be upbraided by their very Seats, that a Treaty of Commerce has been made between France and England, and that our Woollen Manufactures were excepted out of the Goods allowed to be exported to that Kingdom? Certainly they will never be consenting to that Treaty while there are any Wool-sacks in their House.

The Lords who sit on Wool-Sacks can never consent to this Treaty.

Our Woollen Manufactures were usually above half the whole that we exported heretofore to that Nation. And has any Man the Confidence to assert, That England is to enjoy all the Tariff of 1664, in as full a manner as was then enjoyed? Or that our Exportations shall be as large as ever, when above half the Value of those of our native Manufactures are excepted by this very Treaty?

Our Woollen formerly above half our Exports to France.

Our foreign Goods which are not comprehended within the Rule of the Tariff of 1664, and our Woollen Manufactures which are ex-

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cepted from it, were at least three fourth Parts of the Value of the Goods and Merchandizes which we usually exported heretofore to France. And how are our Exportations to be as large as ever, when of these three fourth Parts, little or nothing is to be exported?

By the Treaty of Commerce, as it was executed the thirty first day of March last, this was the Case of our Woollen Manufacture; France might either totally prohibit them, or load them with as high Duties as she pleased. Whatsoever she had done of this kind, had been very consistent with that Treaty.

Indeed, by subsequent Articles executed a Month after, she has vouchsafed to give us the following Article for our Woollen Manufacture, which was excepted by the above-mentioned Treaty.

Second Article.

Wool. Goods in a manner prohibited by the Treaty.

“ Cloths, Ratines, and Serges, shall be likewise subject to the Duties of the Tariff of 1699. and in order to facilitate the Trade thereof, it shall be allowed to import them by St. Valery upon the Somme, by Rouen, and by Bourdeaux, where these Goods shall be subject to Visitation, in the same manner as those which are made in the Kingdom.”

A very extraordinary Favour this! And every good Englishman ought to be as thankful to France for it, as if his most Christian Majesty had in express words prohibited the Importation of those Goods into his Country!

For

The Trade with France.

For first the Reader is to observe, that they are to be subject to a Visitation; that is, the Merchant abroad is not to take them from the Custom-house, till the President of the Customs in the place where they are landed is well enough, or at leisure, to make his Inspection; and he may be indisposed as long as the King will give him leave, till the Manufacture is quite moth-eaten, and good for nothing. And if with great Solicitation at Court, the Officer shall be directed to inspect the Goods, he shall chuse the open Air and a rainy Day for this purpose, that they may be quite spoiled. Are we subject to any such Visitation in Holland, Germany, Italy, or Portugal?

The next thing is, that we have three Ports, St. Valery, Rouen, and Bourdeaux, to facilitate our Trade to that large Kingdom. That is just as if we were to permit the French to import their Wines only into Plymouth, Chester and Liverpool, to facilitate their Trade to this Kingdom. To facilitate our Trade? I could not have imagined the many Victories we have obtained, should have rendered us so much the Scorn of that Nation.

The 3 Ports allowed us considered.

The next thing to be observed is, that not one of these three Ports is in Britany, which was almost the only Place for taking off our Woollen Manufactures; either because the People there were employed in others, or were at too great a distance from Picardy, and other places where the like are made. That Province too was never accustomed to pay as high Duties as others Provinces of France. This I think was the Condition of its being annexed

Reasons for restraining us to 3 Ports.

F 3

by

by ANNE of Bretagne to that Kingdom; instead of Taxes they presented the Prince with free Gifts. But now it seems they must pay the Duties of the Tariff of 1699, since they are not to have the Manufactures but through other Provinces, where they have been already paid. And this seems to be a principal Reason of restraining us to three Ports, and none of those in Britany.

The last thing to be considered is, the Duties to be paid by the Tariff of 1699, which and not those of 1664, are to be the Duties by our late Treaty. For my own part, I believe we should send very little of our Woollen Manufactures to France, tho' she had granted us this last Tariff entire, and without any manner of Exception.

It is not the same thing now as when that Tariff was made: the French were then in the Infancy of their Woollen Manufacture; they have been labouring at it ever since, and are now arrived at very great Perfection, and it is not therefore to be imagined, that ours can be kept out now by as small Duties as heretofore, when they had very few of their own.

But because we are harangu'd very often upon the lowness of Duties to be paid hereafter in France by our Woollen Manufactures, and told that they are but about 10 per Cent. or the tenth part of their whole Value, the Reader will be convinced by the following Letter of my Correspondents, that the Duties are vastly beyond 10 per Cent. by the Tariff of 1664, and yet vastly

vastly more more by that of 1699, which is to be the Rule by our last Treaty.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

YOU not giving your Readers such a distinct Account as they expected of the Custom payable in France, on Woollen Cloth made in Great Britain; we have taken the Liberty to transmit you the Particulars of what was paid, according to the Tariff of 1664, and what is to be paid by the Tariff of 1669, which last is the Rate fixed by the late Treaty of Commerce with France, viz.

By the Tariff of 1664.

- “ 25 Ells, or 31 $\frac{1}{4}$ Yards of Broad Cloth, paid
- “ 40 Livres, which at 18 d. per Livre, amounts
- “ to 3 l.
- “ 30 Ells, or 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ Yards of Spanish Cloth,
- “ paid 70 Livres, at 18 d. per Livre, amounts
- “ to 5 l. 5 s.

By the Tariff of 1669, which is the Tariff by which we are to pay by the Treaty,

- “ 25 Ells, or 31 $\frac{1}{4}$ Yards of Broad Cloth, is to
- “ pay 55 Livres, or 4 l. 2 s. 6 d.
- “ 30 Ells, or 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ Yards of Spanish Cloth, is
- “ to pay 100 Livres, or 7 l. 10 s.
- “ And whereas both you and the Mercator agree that a short Cloth is to be valu'd at 8 l.
- “ and a long Cloth at 10 l. at a Medium;

The Duty we are to pay to France.

The British Merchant.

“ therefore, the Custom of a short Cloth, which contains about 31 1/4 Yards,

“ By the { 1664 paid 3l. or 37 1/2 } per C. ad
“ Tariff of { 1669 pays 4l. } Valorem.
 { 2 s. 6 d. or 51 1/8 }

And a long Cloth, which contains at least 41 2/3 Yards, which is 3/4 Part more than 25 Ells, must consequently pay,

“ By the { 1664 4 l. or 40 } per C. ad
“ Tariff of { 1699 5 l. 10 s. or 55 } Valorem.

A Spanish Cloth containing 37 1/2 Yards, by the Tariff of 1664, paid as aforesaid 5 l. 5 s. that is, 2 s. 9 d. 3/4 per Yard. Which,

“ on a { 8 s. per Yard, is 35 } per C. ad
“ Cloth of { 12 s. per Yard, is 23 1/2 } Valorem.
 { 16 s. per Yard, is 17 1/2 }

By the Tariff of 1699, said Cloth is to pay 7 l. 10 s. that is, 4 s. per Yard. Which,

“ on a { 8 s. per Yard, is 50 } per C. ad
“ Cloth of { 12 s. per Yard, is 33 1/2 } Valorem.
 { 16 s. per Yard, is 25 }

“ If it should be objected, that at present the Livre of France is not worth 18 d. you will remember, that by the French King's late Edict, or Arret, (a Translation whereof is in the Daily Courant of the 6th of October 1714.) for regulating the Diminution of his Coin, a French Crown is to pass after the 1st of June 1715, for three Livres ten Sols; and then the intrinsic Value of a Livre will be rather more than 18 d. We are

Your Humble Servants,

A. B. C.

“ I

The Trade with France.

I desire now the Mercator will inform us, what Quantities of our Woollen Cloths may be carry'd into France, under these extravagant Duties of 1699: Or how much our Exportations may be enlarg'd by the Increase of Duties by that Tariff; or whether he will still affirm that we are now to enjoy the Tariff of 1664, in as full a manner as was then enjoy'd?

The Treaty of Commerce with France will not increase our Exportations to that Country;

But will vastly lessen those to other Countries.

It can neither increase our Capital Stock of Gold and Silver;

Nor the Employment and Subsistence of our People;

Nor the Value of our Lands.

I Would very gladly now be inform'd by any Person, what we shall get by a Law for rendering effectual the eighth and ninth Articles of the Treaty of Commerce: Shall we enlarge our Exportations by means of such a Law? Will Gold and Silver flow in upon us more plentifully than they did before? Will our People be better able to subsist themselves by their own Labour? Will our Lands rise in value, or our Rents be better paid? These are the Rules, the only Rules, by which it is possible to state and determine the Value of any particular

F 5

The Treaty does not enlarge our Exports.

cular Trade, or of the universal Trade of the whole Nation.

And first of all, shall we enlarge our Exportations? To what Country shall we export more Goods than we did before? Shall we export more to the French Nation? Yes, says the Mercator, we are to have the Tariff of 1664 in as full a manner as it was then enjoy'd; and he would therefore have us believe, that we shall export as many Goods as we did then. But I think I have fully prov'd that the Prohibitions and high Duties, which have been imposed in France since that Tariff, upon Foreign Goods exported from this Kingdom, are still in force: and his most Christian Majesty may add as many more to them as he pleases, without any Violation of our late Treaty. Foreign Goods are not intitled by the Treaty to the Benefit of that Tariff, they are in no better a Condition than they were before, they may be entirely prohibited if that Prince pleases: so that the Treaty does by no means enable us to enlarge our Exportations with respect to foreign Goods.

Others of our principal Goods and Merchandizes, and among those, our Woollen Manufactures, are by express words in the Treaty, excepted from the Rule of paying no greater Duties than by the Tariff of 1664. So that all these excepted Goods, as they stand in the ninth Article, were left to his most Christian Majesty's Direction to tax as he thought fit. I must confess I was amaz'd, that in a Treaty of Commerce there should be such an Exception to our Woollen Manufactures.

Indeed,

Indeed, by other Articles executed a Month after, instead of admitting those excepted Goods, that Prince has been pleased to grant us a shew of admitting them, but into such Ports only, and under such Restrictions, upon such Conditions, and paying such exorbitant Duties, that nothing can more manifest his Design of excluding them for ever from his Countries. I have already given an Instance of this, and shewn that this is plainly the Case of the Restrictions and Duties upon our Woollen Manufacture.

Our foreign Goods, our Corn, our Woollen Cloths, are in no better Condition with, than without the late Treaty of Commerce; and the same thing may be said of our Fish, Sugar, and all our Woollen Manufactures. The Treaty of Commerce will not enable us to make greater Exportations of these things to France, than we do at present. These have formerly been nine Parts in ten of the Value we exported to that Nation. And then what a Trifle is all the rest?

The Treaty of Commerce does not make way for any of the above-mentioned Goods to go to France. And as for the inconsiderable Remainder, it consists generally of such Goods as France wants, and cannot have from any other Country but ours, such as Lead, Tin, &c. She had these Things from us, even during the last War, by the way of neutral Countries; and she must have them either thus, or directly from hence, at whatsoever Price. And she will take no more of them than she wants, tho' the Prices of them should be reduced. She therefore

therefore puts them upon the Foot of the Tariff of 1664, not for our sakes but her own. So that I have answer'd the first Question, the Treaty of Commerce will not enlarge our Exports to France.

Imports from France increas'd, but our Exports to other Countries less'n'd.

The next is, whether by means of this Treaty, they are like to be enlarged to other Countries? There is no dispute, but that our Importations from France will be increased by it. If France is to pay no higher Duties than other Countries, and can produce as good or better Commodities, and is also nearer at hand, so that the Carriage will not cost so much; there can be no question but our Importations thence will be increased.

But whether the Increase of our Importations from France will be a Means to increase or lessen our Exportations to other Countries, is a thing that ought to be considered.

If we are to judge of future Time by the past and present, the Treaty of Commerce, and consequently the Increase of our Importations from France, must needs lessen our Exportations to other Countries.

I must again refer my Reader to the Extract out of Dr. Davenant's Report, as follows.

Our Exports to all the World from England.

	l.	s.	d.
In 1662-3 were	—	—	2,022,812 04 00
In 1668-9 were	—	—	2,063,274 19 00

In

	l.	s.	d.
In 1699, when the Trade between France and England was reciprocally carried on upon the same high Duties as are now in force,	6,788,166	17	06

In 1703, when we had a War with Spain, and before the great Increase of our Trade to Portugal,	6,644,103	00	00
--	-----------	----	----

Here the Reader is pleas'd to observe, that in 1662, even before the Tariff of 1664, and when the Duties upon our Goods were a great deal less in France than by that Tariff, yet our Exports to all Parts of the World in that Year amounted to no more than Two Millions, Twenty two Thousand, Eight Hundred and Twelve Pounds, Four Shillings.

Again, in 1669, even after France had loaded us with the severe Tariff of 1667, yet our Exports to all the World amounted in 1669, to two Millions, Sixty three Thousand, two Hundred and Seventy four Pounds, nineteen Shillings.

The Difference between the two Years is inconsiderable; so that it seems the Case was much the same, whether we pay low Duties or high Duties in France, our Exportations to all the World differed but a very little.

Nay, we made the greater Exportations to all the World, even when France loaded our Goods with higher Duties. And yet without doubt, the Consumption of our Manufactures was lessened in France in 1669, by those higher

er Duties; but then it is certain it must have increased in other Countries.

In 1699, our Exports to all the World amounted to Six Millions, Seven Hundred and Eighty eight Thousand, One Hundred and Sixty six Pounds, Seventeen Shillings and Sixpence; above three times as much as in either of the former Years.

In 1703, our Exports to all the World were Six Millions, Six Hundred and Forty four Thousand, One Hundred and three Pounds, that is almost as much as in 1699; but still above three times as much as in either of the former Years.

The Duties in France upon our Goods in 1699, were the very same as they are now, even before the Treaty of Commerce is made effectual; and yet our Exportations to all the World were above three times as great as in 1662, even when we had a more easy Tariff than that of 1664. And yet it is certain, that in 1699, we could make no greater Exportations to France than we do now, because the Duties in both Years were the very same.

But whatever Exports we made to France in 1699, it is certain we exported very little in 1703, for in that Year we were at War, and our Goods and Merchandizes were all prohibited in that Kingdom. And notwithstanding this, and tho' we had then also a War with Spain, and could send little or nothing to that Country, yet our Exports to all the World were almost as great as in 1699, and above three times as great as in 1662, when we were

were every where at Peace, and paid so very easy Duties in the French Dominions.

Now what can be the Reason that our whole Trade is so much better, when our Goods in France are either prohibited, or loaded with excessive Duties? It can be no other than that the French Goods here are either prohibited, or loaded with higher Duties than those of other Countries, that we therefore chuse to buy the Goods of other Countries; and that these in return enlarge their Trade with us, and take off so many more of our Manufactures.

But then if we should increase our Importations from France, as we shall certainly do if the Treaty be made effectual, shall we not lessen our Importation of the like Goods from other Countries? And will not these in return take off so much less of our Goods and Merchandizes? Especially Portugal, which by her very Treaty buys our Woollen Manufactures, upon condition that we will buy her Wines.

The Result of all that has been said, is, that our French Treaty of Commerce, far from increasing our Exports to France, is like to lessen those to other Countries; and that our present annual Exports of the Value of Six Millions and a half, shall be reduced again to two Millions, as they were before the Year 1664, and when he had a better Tariff than is granted us by this Treaty.

And if we shall export less Goods and Merchandizes than we did before, will our Gold and Silver be increased? Have we any Gold or Silver, but in exchange for our own Commodities?

Gold and Silver.

dities? and shall we get more by exporting Commodities of the Value of two Millions, than by exporting the Value of six Millions and a half?

Subsistence of our People.

And then for the Employment and Subsistence of our People, can it be conceived that greater Numbers will be subsisted by making Manufactures for Exportation of the Value of two Millions, than above thrice as great a Value? Or rather, is it not certain, that as many People must come to the Parish for Subsistence, as are now maintained by their own Labour, for the difference of the two Sums, that is, for four Millions and a half?

Lands and Rents.

And Lastly, are our Lands likely to rise in Value by these Means? are the Rents like to be better paid, when the Demands of so vast a part of our Product shall cease in other Countries, when so many of our own labouring People shall be disabled to buy either Cloths for their Backs or Meat for their Bellies; when instead of doing this, they must be subsisted at the Cost of our Landed Interest?

But if France must be gratify'd by such a Treaty of Commerce, I must conclude, O Miserable England!

A

A Letter concerning the Manuscript cited by the Inspector-General, and the Report of the Commissioners of the Customs in defence of the old Scheme.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

YOU suffer the Mercator, in several of his late Papers, to go triumphing on with his Answer to the Letter, written in defence of the OLD SCHEME. And since the Author of that excellent Letter has not yet thought fit to reply, I have presumed to send you my own Thoughts upon the Answer, which, if they shall not fully satisfy your Readers, may at least prepare them to expect from that Author such a Defence of the SCHEME, as shall never be replied to by your Adversary.

It is pity to abridge that excellent Letter, but if I should not begin with the Substance of it, I shall hardly make my self intelligible to your Readers.

The OLD SCHEME subscribed by the most eminent of the French Merchants in 1674, gives the Parcels of the Woollen Manufactures exported to France in 1668-9 from the Port of London, with a Valuation of the Particulars, and makes the whole amount to no more than 61,546 l.

The Report from the Commissioners of the Customs mentioned in the Mercator, No.

“ No. II. which was laid before the last Par-
 “ liament, and pretended to be taken from the
 “ Entries, makes the Parcels of Woollen Ma-
 “ nufactures exported in that Year, to be much
 “ greater than those in the SCHEME ; so that
 “ according to the Valuation of the Particu-
 “ lars in the SCHEME, the whole Value ex-
 “ ported by the Report, must have been 93,
 “ 396 l. 5 s. 6 d.

“ From the difference of the Quantities
 “ in the SCHEME, and the Report of the
 “ Commissioners, the *Mercator* argued that
 “ the former must have been false, and gave
 “ this as one of his mortal Stabs to the
 “ SCHEME.

“ The Author of the abovementioned Let-
 “ ter sign'd K. K. undertakes the Cure of this
 “ Wound, and defends the SCHEME, not
 “ by the Authority of the Inspector-General of
 “ the Customs, but by a Fact he has cited
 “ from his Report, which was this, that the
 “ whole Woollen Manufactures exported
 “ that Year to *France* from the Port of *London*,
 “ amounted to no more than 68521 l. 17 s.
 “ which is 24874 l. 8 s. 6 d. short of the
 “ Value exported, according to the Report of
 “ the Commissioners of the Customs, and but
 “ a very inconsiderable Sum more than the
 “ Value exported by the SCHEME.

“ Hence the Letter argues, that the Par-
 “ cels in the SCHEME, and the Inspector-
 “ General's Report, might very well be the
 “ same, tho' a little over-valued by the lat-
 “ ter, but that the Parcels could not be the
 “ same in the Report of the Inspector-Gen-
 “ ral

“ ral, and that of the Commissioners of the
 “ Customs, since the Value of the latter is
 “ 24,874 l. 8 s. 6 d. more than that of the
 “ Inspector-General.

“ The Question then is, which is more to
 “ be believed, the Inspector-General, or the
 “ Commissioners of the Customs ?

“ Not to mention here, that the former
 “ was upon his Oath, he affirms, that he has
 “ taken his Value from a Manuscript remain-
 “ ing in the *Custom-house*, which appeared to
 “ him to have been an Authentick Copy of
 “ what had been offer'd heretofore to a House
 “ of Commons ; and this Manuscript he af-
 “ firms was all the Light he was able to gain
 “ into the Transactions of past Times relating
 “ to the Exports and Imports between *France*
 “ and *England*.

“ The Inspector-General made his Report
 “ after the first Session of the last Parliament ;
 “ and if his Manuscript was all the Light he
 “ was then able to gain into the Transactions
 “ of the above-mentioned Year, it is plain
 “ there could not be any of those Entries at
 “ the *Custom-house*, from whence the Com-
 “ missioners of the Customs have made a Re-
 “ port of the Exports of our Woollen Manu-
 “ factures so different from those of that Ma-
 “ nuscript. Whence the Letter very justly
 “ argues, That the Manuscript must have
 “ been the right, and the Commissioners Re-
 “ port a wrong Account of the Exports of
 “ that Year.

“ And hence it will follow, that the Ma-
 “ nuscript and the SCHEME, which may
 “ very

“ very well agree in the Quantities of our
 “ Exports, tho’ they differ a little in the Va-
 “ luations, may be the same thing ; and that
 “ the SCHEME is a more authentick Ac-
 “ count, and much more to be depended on,
 “ than the Report of the Commissioners of the
 “ Customs.
 “ Now to this what Answer has the *Mercator*
 “ yet given ? Why, he says, No. 96.
 “ that the Inspector-General says of the
 “ SCHEME, *that it was maliciously made use*
 “ *of by some that had a mind to defame and di-*
 “ *sturb the Government,* but that the Trade to
 “ *France* was a beneficial Trade to this Na-
 “ tion. In No. 97. That *Schemes* have
 “ been heretofore laid before the Parliament,
 “ which to enhance the Over-Ballance of the
 “ *French Trade* against *England,* have valued
 “ their Wines at 36 *l. per Tun,* and Brandies
 “ at 45 *l. per Tun ;* when according to the
 “ Judgment of experienced Merchants, they
 “ were not worth above 8 or 9 *l. per Tun.*
 “ And in 98, That the great Coinage of Gold
 “ and Silver in the Mint, from 1650 to 1688,
 “ is a Demonstration, that we could not lose
 “ a Million Sterling *per Ann.* by the *French*
 “ Trade, since our Trade to *Spain* was never
 “ able to repay such a Sum. And from hence
 “ the *Mercator* concludes, that the OLD
 “ SCHEME is condemn’d, and the *French*
 “ Trade prov’d to be beneficial, by the Au-
 “ thority of the Inspector-General, a Witness
 “ of your own calling.
 “ I cannot but observe here in the first
 “ Place, that the Inspector-General is not ci-
 “ ted

“ ted in the above-mentioned Letter as a Wit-
 “ ness for the Old SCHEME, or against the
 “ *French Trade,* for sake of his Opinion or
 “ Authority, but for the Evidence of a Fact,
 “ of which he could not have sufficient Know-
 “ ledge, and which is inconsistent with the
 “ Report of the Commissioners of the Cu-
 “ stoms, and an Answer to one of the *Mercator*
 “ ’s chief Arguments against the OLD
 “ SCHEME.
 “ He may be a good Witness of a Fact, yet
 “ for his Opinion, it may be no better than
 “ another Man’s. For example, in Pag. 46.
 “ of his Report, he says, that in the Year
 “ 1662, our Imports from all the World ex-
 “ ceeded our Exports 1,993,207 *l. 14 s.* And
 “ in the Year 1668, our Imports exceeded our
 “ Exports 2,132,864 *l. 18 s.* Now he is very
 “ likely to be a good Witness of these Facts,
 “ because he is Inspector-General ; but then
 “ he goes on to say, that in those Years no
 “ Man in his right Senses will deny that we
 “ carried on a profitable Traffick. This is
 “ his Opinion. But I must affirm, that such
 “ a profitable Traffick for many Years to-
 “ gether, must have been the Ruin of this
 “ Nation.
 “ The Witness you have called was not
 “ Dr. *Davenant* the Inspector-General, but
 “ the Manuscript cited in his Report ; and
 “ has the *Mercator* any where destroyed the
 “ Validity of that Manuscript ? Yet as long
 “ as that shall be right, the Report of the
 “ Commissioners of the Customs must be
 “ wrong.
 “ But

“ But for the OLD SCHEME’s being
 “ made or used to defame the Government,
 “ what Witness has the Dr. for any such
 “ thing? By what Argument has he proved
 “ the French Trade to be beneficial to this
 “ Nation? As for the Valuation of Wines
 “ at 36 l. or Brandies at 45 l. per Tun, it is
 “ not the Valuation of the SCHEME. But
 “ he or the Mercator are desired to produce
 “ the Authority or Invoices of Merchants
 “ for the Valuation of 8 or 9 l. per Tun.
 “ And lastly, as for the Coinage in the Mint,
 “ we might very well lose a Million yearly by
 “ our Trade to France, and yet regain not
 “ only that Sum, but also enough to supply
 “ our Mint, from Spain and other Countries:
 “ but this does by no means prove that the
 “ French Trade was beneficial, that the OLD
 “ SCHEME was false, or the Doctor’s
 “ Manuscript to be wrong, or the Report of
 “ the Commissioners to be right, I am,

S I R,

YOURS.

*An Ediēt of the French King’s concerning Bays
 and Perpetuanas.*

Some Observations concerning that Ediēt.

AN Arret or Ediēt of his most Christian
 Majesty’s Council, taken from a Book
 lately publish’d in *English*, entituled, *The
 French Book of Rates*, pag. 403. with some
 Observations of my own upon that Arret.

Arret

*Arret of the King’s Council, ordaining that the
 Stuffs called Bays, Perpetuanas, &c. of the
 Manufacture which are sent to Italy, shall pay
 but 30 Sols per 100 Weight.*

October 23. 1703.

“ **T**HE King having by Arret of Coun-
 “ cil of the 14th of July last, for the
 “ Reasons there explained, regulated the Du-
 “ ties upon the Exportation of Stuffs called
 “ Bays, Perpetuanas, &c. which are sent in-
 “ to Italy any way whatsoever, at 10 Sols per
 “ 100; and his Majesty being informed that
 “ there is a very considerable Quantity of the
 “ said Goods consumed in Italy of the Manu-
 “ facture of England, and that it will be very
 “ advantageous to the Manufactures of the
 “ Kingdom to fix the Duties of Exportation,
 “ so as that the Merchants may be able to furnish
 “ Italy with the said Stuffs at the same Price as
 “ the Manufacturers of England do; WHICH
 “ HIS MAJESTY BEING WILLING
 “ TO GRANT, and to encourage A
 “ TRADE WHICH IS SO ADVANTA-
 “ GEOUS TO HIS SUBJECTS; has
 “ therefore ORDAINED, and does hereby
 “ ORDAIN, That the said Stuffs called Bays,
 “ Perpetuanas, &c. of the Manufactures of
 “ this Kingdom, which are sent into Italy by
 “ any way whatsoever, shall pay but 30 Sols
 “ per 100 Weight, instead of all the Duties
 “ which they used to pay; and the said Stuffs
 “ shall be exempted and discharged from pay-
 “ ing the Duties of the Custom-House of Lyons,

*Arret en-
 couraging
 the French
 to undersell
 our Manu-
 factures in
 Italy.*

“ and

The British Merchant.

“ and the Duties of the *Custom-house* of *Valence*, and the Customs of *Bayonne*, and
 “ from all other Duties, as *Octrois*, *Peages*,
 “ and *Passages*, which were levied to his Ma-
 “ jesty’s Use, or the Use of particular Lords,
 “ Cities, and Communities, as well for their
 “ Importation and Passage, as for their Ex-
 “ portation out of the Provinces of the King-
 “ dom by or Water, without Prejudice never-
 “ theless to the *Transire* granted upon the
 “ Merchandizes sold in the Fairs of *Lyons*,
 “ *Bordeaux*, and *Troyes*; his Majesty forbid-
 “ ding the Farmer to levy any higher Duties
 “ upon the said Stuffs, upon Pain of restoring
 “ double, and all Charges, Damages, and In-
 “ terests.

Done at Fountainbleau, Oct. 23. 1703.

Signed,

PHILIPPEAUX.

The *Mercator* has been so eloquent upon the *Dogs-hair*, *Broad Cloth*, the *Unshorn Dozens*, the *Cabbage-Net Bays*, and other sorry *Woollen Manufactures* of the *French Nation*, that I was almost tempted to believe there were no *Sheep* in *France*, or that their *Sheep* did not bear *Fleeces*, or that the *People* did not know how to work upon the *Wool*; so that, let the *Duties* be ever so high in the *Country*, yet they would be obliged to buy our *Woollen Manufactures*. But of all things in the *World* I should not have suspected that they would pre-
 tend

The Trade with France.

tend to vie with us in other Markets, that they could have the least hopes of carrying their *Bays* or *Perpetuanas* with any Success into *Italy*, or that any of them could be sold there in the presence of the *English Manufactures*.

I was perfectly amaz’d when I came to read over the above Edict of his most Christian Majesty. What! the Merchants of *France* represent to their Prince, that they should be able to sell *Bays* and *Perpetuanas* in *Italy* at as low a Price as the *English Manufacturers*? And this too without taking off the whole Duties of Exportation? nay, tho’ 30 Sols per 100 Weight should be still left upon these exported Manufactures?

The French sell as cheap in Italy as we, tho’ a Duty on Exportation.

All the Duties of Exportation upon our *Woollen Goods* were taken off long before this Edict, and yet are we not able to sell our *Bays* and *Perpetuanas*, tho’ all the Duties are taken off, cheaper than the *French Merchants*, tho’ a Duty of 30 Sols per 100 Weight is still left upon them. This was all the *French Merchants* desired to enable them to cope with *England* in the *Italian Markets*, and the Prince has granted what was desired by his Subjects.

If their *Bays* and *Perpetuanas* are as cheap with a Duty of 30 Sols per 100 Weight, as ours without any Duty at all, what if his most Christian Majesty should remit even these 30 Sols? Why then we shall not be able to export either *Bays* or *Perpetuanas* to the same Market, without giving a *Bounty* at Exportation, as we do in the Case of *Corn*.

The King acknowledges, that the Trade of sending their own *Bays* and *Perpetuanas* to *Italy*, even when this Edict was made, was already advantageous to his Subjects. What then must we think was the Consequence of this Edict, and the discharging all those burdensome Octrois, Peages, and Passages, besides the Port Duties, and reducing the whole to 30 Sols per 100 Weight, not above one 80th Part of their whole Value? There is no doubt but their Exportations to *Italy*, if they were before so very advantageous to the *French* Nation, must needs be very much increased.

It is in vain for the *Mercator* to talk as he often does, of the Quality of our *English* Manufactures, and their being so very preferable to those of *France*: If the latter can be sold as cheap, it is plain that the Quality, as well as Quantity, is considered by the Buyer.

He often calls the Woollen Manufacture our Manufacture, our own Manufacture, the *English* Manufacture, as if Wool was not the Growth of any other Country, or as if the People of other Countries did not know how to work it up: And in a late Treatise, has insisted very largely upon the inimitable Spinners of *England*. This Edict is a full Confutation of these fine Doctrines; they have Wool in *France*, they have Spinners in *France*; so that besides supplying their own Country, they are able to vie with us in Foreign Markets.

Another thing is remarkable, which is, that this Edict of 1703, is particularly levelled against *England*. It was made on purpose, that the *French* might be able to sell their Woollen

Manu-

Manufactures as cheap as the *English* can sell theirs in *Italy*: And if they can sell as cheap in *Italy*, will they not be able to sell as cheap in every other Country? If *France* is able to sell their Woollen Manufactures as cheap as we to Foreign Countries, can we hope to sell any of ours to *France*, under the extravagant Duties of the Tariff of 1699, which are to be the Duties by our late Treaty? If *France* had granted us the Tariff of 1664, for our Woollen Manufactures, which are exorbitant enough; nay, if she had granted us the Liberty of importing our Woollen Manufactures free of all manner of Duties, yet we could not send any to that Country. Their making these Manufactures so very cheap, that even with a Duty of Exportation they can be sold at the same Market with ours, is a Demonstration that they can make them cheaper for the Use of their own People, and that we are not able to send an Ounce of manufactured Wool to *France*.

The *Mercator's* Objection here will be, That we have formerly sent considerable Quantities into *France*, under higher Duties than those of the Tariff of 1664, as appears by the Exports of 1685, which have been printed.

All this is very true, but all this is no Argument that we shall be able to do the same thing now. Their Woollen Manufacture was then but in its Infancy, they have been labouring at it ever since, and 30 Years may well be thought a sufficient time to advance into very great Perfection. And his most Christian Majesty has contributed very much to this Perfection,

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tion,

tion, by prohibiting or loading with high Duties, all Foreign Manufactures, and even by lessening the Duties upon those of his own Subjects, as appears by the Edict which I have just now recited. Such Encouragements from the Prince, and so great a Length of Time, cannot chuse but be sufficient to make them Artists; and they have all necessary Materials for the Manufacture of the Growth of their own Country, or from the Dominions of King *Philip*, the Grandson of his most Christian Majesty.

We bought heretofore our Woollen Cloths from the *Flemings*; Time and Application have brought us since to as great Perfection in this Manufacture as any People in the World. And should we buy any Woollen Cloths from *Flanders* now, if we were to admit them clear of Duties? There is as little Reason to believe that we can sell either *Bays* or *Perpetuanas* to the *French* Nation. But the Edict of 1703, is a Demonstration that they are able to vie with us at other Markets, and are therefore certainly able to undersell us at their own.

The

The Interest of Merchants ought not to be considered in Treaties of Commerce so much as that of the Landholders and Manufactures.

Merchants may enrich themselves by improving their Country.

We are not enabled to export any Fish to France by our late Treaty.

THO' in opposition to the *Mercator* I set out with the Title of *British Merchant*, yet the Interest of the Merchants is the thing that I have least of all considered in my Reflections upon the late Treaty of Commerce, or upon the Bill for rendering that Treaty effectual.

The Merchant may have a distinct Interest from that of his Country, he may thrive by a Trade which shall prove her Ruin; for example, Suppose a hundred *French* Merchants were to export annually the Value of a Million Sterling in Bullion for *French* Wines, Brandy, Linens, Silk, Paper, and other Manufactures of that Nation, all for the Consumption of this Kingdom; or, which is the same thing, suppose they should pay for such a Value of Goods by Bills of Exchange, by which the Receipt of so great a Balance from other Countries would be prevented; it cannot be deny'd that such a Trade as this would be very ruinous, that it must exhaust our Treasures, and lessen the Value of our native Commodities and Manufactures. And yet even by such a Trade the Merchants themselves may grow very rich, they may sell the Manufactures

The Gain of the Merchant, and Gain of the Nation consider'd.

tures they import for a hundred thousand Pounds more than they cost, they may share this hundred thousand Pounds among themselves : but from whom do they gain this Sum? Not from *France*, but from their own Countrymen, who buy their Goods ; let their Gain be what it will, yet still, by this Supposition, *Britain* loses a Million yearly to the *French* Nation, and their Manufactures of so great a Value are imported here, and sold at the same Markets with our own ; which cannot chuse but diminish to the like Value the Product of our own Lands, and the Manufactures of our own People. For this Reason I have never had the least regard to the Interest of the Merchants, unless that Interest of theirs shall be also consistent with the Interest of the Kingdom.

The Merchants Gain when the Nation loses, is from the Landholders and Labourers.

The Case will be the same in a greater or less degree, as the Quantities of Bullion exported, or the Sums remitted abroad, are greater or less, and as the Manufactures imported for our own Consumption are more or less. The Nation in every such Case, loses all the Ballance that is paid abroad. The Merchants who export the Bullion, or remit the Money, may perhaps gain the tenth part of that Sum ; but they do not gain it from the Country with which they trade in this manner. Their whole Gain is shuffled to them out of the Pockets of their own Countrymen, from the Landholders and the Labourers ; and these in the mean while lose perhaps ten times as great a Value of their Product and Manufactures, by the Payment of so great a Ballance to a foreign Nation. Our

Our Legislators therefore have had the Wisdom in every Age to guard the Nation from this detrimental Gain of the Merchants. The many Prohibitions, and high Duties laid upon *East-India* Manufactures, are so many Evidences of this Matter. There can be no doubt but our Merchants have gain'd incredible Sums heretofore for themselves, by sending out our Bullion to the *East-Indies*, and by returning such Manufactures thence as were thought to interfere with those of our own Nation. But the particular Gain of those Merchants was no Invitation to our Legislators to let them go on, and therefore from time to time they made Laws to lessen the Consumption of *East-India* Manufactures in this Kingdom ; some they totally prohibited, others they charg'd with such Duties as rendered them very little cheaper than those of our own People: so that now our *East-India* Company must derive almost their whole Gain from Manufactures which are re-exported, and consum'd by foreign Nations ; very little is gotten by the Consumption of any of them in our own.

Gain by East-India Trade chiefly by Re-exportation.

And yet I very much question whether it ever could be objected against the Trade to the *East-Indies*, as has very justly been against that of *France*, that it exhausted our Treasure, or lessened the Value of the native Commodities and Manufactures of this Kingdom. As for our Treasure, it is notorious that we always re-exported as many *East-India* Manufactures as equall'd the whole Cost of our Importations, by which means we were re-paid the Sums we sent abroad ; so that our Treasure could not be said to be exhausted by this Trade. And then as to

the lessening the Value of our own Commodities and Manufactures, the Silks and Linens wrought in *England*, were formerly but inconsiderable ; they are risen up of late Years to be mighty Manufactures ; they are wore chiefly since the Prohibitions upon those of *France* and the *East-Indies*.

No Re-
exportations of
French
Goods.

But the Case of the *French* Trade was very different : The Wines, Brandies, Silks, Linens, Paper, innumerable other Goods imported from that Nation, where all consum'd by our own People. I would desire the *Mercator* to shew me that any of these Goods were ever re-exported to other Nations. If he is not able to do this, it will follow, that if our Merchants paid *France* a Ballance, so much of our Treasure was exhausted ; they might perhaps gain Estates to themselves, but it was by carrying on a Trade that was detrimental to their Country. The Estates they gain'd, they gain'd from their own Countrymen, the Nation paid very dear for the Acquisitions of those Merchants, and perhaps ten times as much as the whole Value of their Acquisitions.

Reasons for
Prohibitions
and high
Duties.

Again, as to the lessening the Value of our native Commodities and Manufactures, I have already observed that none of the Goods imported from *France*, ever us'd to be re-exported, they were all consum'd by our own People ; and then must not this take off from the Value of our own at the same Market ? Wou'd it be possible to import great Quantities of Wine from *France*, without lessening in proportion the Consumption of our own Malt, or at least of the Wines we buy from *Italy* and *Portugal*

Portugal for our Manufactures, which otherwise we should not send in such Quantities to those Countries ? and then must not these *French* Wines, if they are no otherwise to be purchased than with our Mony, lessen the Value of our native Commodities and Manufactures ? And must not the same thing be said of Brandy, Linen, Silk and Paper, if any considerable Quantities of them should be imported ? Should we consume as much of our own Spirits as we did before, and yet increase our Consumption of *French* Brandies ? Should we make still as many Silks, as much Linen and Paper, and yet at the same time increase our Importation of these things from *France* ? And if we are to purchase all these things with our Mony, and not with equivalent Manufactures, is it possible that the value of our own native Commodities and Manufactures should not be lessened with their Consumption ? And yet perhaps the Merchant who imports these Goods may grow rich ; he may get a great Estate for himself by lessening the Value of the Product of our Lands, and when he has done, he may purchase so many more Farms for his Mony : he may drive our People from their Manufactures, and when he has done, he may hire them to be his Servants at less Wages. Whatsoever therefore was the Gain of our Merchants, our Legislators in the Reign of King *Charles* the Second did not think this a sufficient Argument for the Continuance of the *French* Trade ; they thought the Merchants Gain was vastly over-ballanc'd by the Loss of the Nation's Treasure, and by the Impoverishment of our Land-holders and
G 5 our

The British Merchant.

our Labourers ; and for this reason they prohibited the whole Trade for *exhausting our Treasure, and lessening the value of our native Commodities and Manufactures.*

The Gain of the Nation is preferable to that of the Merchant.

The *Mercator* in one of his late Papers appeals to the Merchants upon the Exchange, whether they are losers by the *Spanish* Trade. But what is all this to his purpose ? If they have made great Gain for themselves, is this any manner of proof that the Kingdom has been also a Gainer ? Does it prove that we sell more Manufactures to *Spain*, than *Spain* does to us ; or that we receive a Ballance in Money from that Country ? If this is not the Case, our *Spanish* Merchants may grow rich by selling the Treasure of their native Country ; but poor *England* in the mean time must pay very dear for their Riches. The same thing may be said of our Merchants, that traded formerly to *France* ; but I cannot have the least Suspicion that our present Legislators will not follow the Steps of their wise Predecessors, and consider not so much the Interest of the Merchant, as that of the Land-holders and the Labourers, and indeed of the whole Nation. Without doubt they will take sufficient Care that it shall not be in the Power of *France* to gain a Ballance from this Kingdom, that it shall not be hereafter in her Power to sell us more Manufactures than she takes from us ; but they will never be able to prevent her doing this, if the eighth and ninth Articles of the late Treaty should be made effectual.

By passing a Law for this purpose *France* would be as much favoured here, as every other Nation

The Trade with France.

Nation the most favoured. And should we not then from so near a Country, and where the People are obliged by very Poverty to work cheaper than they do in other places, import much greater Quantities of Wines, and Linens, and Silks, and Paper, than we either produce our selves, or import from *Italy, Portugal* or *Germany*, in exchange for our Manufactures ? And would not there be an end in this case of so many of our own Manufactures, which we either make for our own Use, or to exchange with those Countries ? Certainly so much of the Value of our own Product and Manufactures must be lost, unless it shall be affirmed, that we shall sell as many to *France*, as we made for our selves and those other Countries.

But this the *Mercator* says, we shall be able to do by the help of the late Treaty, (when it shall be made effectual) and upon the Tariff of 1664, which, says he, is fully restor'd to us by that Treaty. The Tariff of 1664 is often brought to our remembrance, as if we were now to be under no other Duties or Prohibitions than during the time of that Tariff. But God knows, by the late Treaty we are to have very little, or almost nothing of that Tariff.

In the first place, that Tariff is not granted to the foreign Goods re-exported from this Kingdom, as I have shewn at large before. These were heretofore one half of our whole Exports ; but the *French* King may now prohibit them, or charge them with high Duties, notwithstanding and without any Violation of the late Treaty. In

In the next place, at least one half of all the other Goods we usually sent to *France*, were our Woollen Manufactures, as I have expressly shewn: These are put under the hard Tariff of 1699, and under such other Restrictions, as shew plainly the King's Resolution that we shall send none of these Manufactures to his Dominions; and yet the *French* are so improved in these Manufactures of late Years, that if we were to have the Tariff of 1664, or to pay no Duties in that Country, yet we could send none to *France*.

Thus in these two Articles, of foreign Goods, and Woollen Manufactures, we not only not have the Tariff of 1664, but every thing else is excepted from the general Rule of that Tariff, of which we might hope to export any considerable Quantity. To leave other Articles to another time, I shall instance at present in that of Fish.

*The Im-
portation of
Fish to
France ob-
structed.*

Fish is one of the Species of excepted Goods, which by the subsequent Articles, as well as Woollen Manufactures, is put under very heavy Duties, and with such Restrictions, as besides the heavy Duties, shew that *France* is fully determined that none at all shall be imported from this Country.

*Articles
proposed by
the Board of
Trade for
our Fish.*

The Council of Trade here proposed Additional Articles to be added to a Project of a Treaty of Commerce with *France*, as follows:

“ THE most Christian King does farther
“ promise, That from henceforth all
“ Cod, Ling, or Haick or salted Herrings,
“ Salmon,

“ Salmon, and and all Fish whatsoever dry or
“ wet, may be freely imported from the Do-
“ minions, and by the Subjects of *Great Bri-
“ tain* in *British* Ships, into the Territories of
“ *France*, without being liable to re-packing,
“ notwithstanding any Edicts, Arrets, or Or-
“ ders to the contrary; and that you shall not
“ be oblig'd to pay any higher Duties than
“ what were established by the Tariff of
“ 1664, and also that the said *British* Sub-
“ jects shall have Liberty to sell the Fish by
“ them so imported to whatever Buyer they
“ please.

“ The most Christian King does likewise
“ promise, That from henceforth the *British*
“ Merchants shall have the like Allowance up-
“ on Tare on Cask and Packing of Goods in
“ *France*, as is allow'd to *French* Merchants
“ in *Great Britain*.”

These Articles his most Christian Majesty rejected, instead of which he has given us an Exception for our Fish in the Body of the Treaty; and in the Articles sign'd a Month afterwards, he is pleas'd to grant us Liberty to import Fish into his Countries, but under such Duties, and with such Limitations and Restrictions, as plainly shew that he wants none at all from us, and that he knows very well what use to make of *Cape Briton*, which has been granted him by a late Treaty.

Among the many false Arguments made use of to reconcile the People to the Treaty of Commerce, in my Opinion the most barefaced of all is, that all Prohibitions laid in *France*, since the Year 1664, upon Goods and Mer-
chandizes

The British Merchant.

chandizes exported from Great Britain are taken off, that all high Duties there upon our Goods, are reduced to the easy Tariff of the above-mentioned Year, and that we shall of Consequence make prodigious Exports to that Kingdom.

The Treaty of Commerce is so far from granting us this general Repeal of Prohibitions and high Duties, that all Foreign Goods stand charged still as they did before, and may be yet farther charged at the Discretion of his most Christian Majesty, without any Violation of the late Treaty; and Foreign Goods were a very great Part of our whole Exports to that Kingdom.

The appointing Commissioners an Imposition, and a Ridicule.

The Treaty of Commerce has not granted us the Tariff of 1664, (tho' a very exorbitant one) for our Woollen Manufactures. This, tho' the staple Commodity of this Nation, is expressly excepted from the general Rule of that Tariff. Indeed, by the Treaty Commissioners are to be appointed on both sides, to consider of the Terms upon which Woollen Manufactures, Fish, and other excepted Goods shall be admitted. But till the Commissioners appointed by his most Christian Majesty shall have his Leave to agree upon any such Terms, the Exception is absolute, and he may load these Goods with as high Duties as he thinks fit, without any Violation of the Treaty.

It is true, his most Christian Majesty by subsequent Articles dated a Month after, and consequently no Part of that Treaty, has given us a Permission to import three Sorts of Woollen Manufactures into his Dominions, (which I take

The Trade with France.

take it does comprehend almost every one) but under such extravagant Duties, at such Ports only, and under such Restrictions, as plainly demonstrate his Intention that we shall send none of them into France. The Truth of it is, the very Form of the Permission granted us in these subsequent Articles, looks rather like a Ridicule upon the British Nation, than a Permission to introduce our Woollen Manufactures into his Countries. Our Woollen Manufactures were usually heretofore one third Part of our whole Exports to France; but we have not the least Hopes of sending any now under the Articles subsequent to the late Treaty. This Article, and that of Foreign Goods, were heretofore above three fourths of our whole Exports; we have not the Tariff of 1664, for these Goods, we should export but very few of them, even tho' we had that Tariff, but without it we have not the least Hopes of exporting any.

Of the remaining Goods which we exported heretofore under the Tariff of 1664, the Fish from England, but especially from Scotland, was a very considerable Part. But this too as well as our Woollen Manufactures, is excepted in the Body of the late Treaty, from the general Rule of paying according to that Tariff, and is reserved for the Commissioners to be appointed on both sides, to consider upon what Terms they shall be imported into France. This is the prettiest Contrivance in the World to exclude the Importation of these excepted Goods, without giving any Colour of Complaint to the British Nation. For can we have

Fish and Woollen Goods excepted by the Treaty, and granted by subsequent Articles.

have the least Reason to be offended with his most Christian Majesty, if the Commissioners appointed on his Part should refuse to admit these Goods upon any Terms or Conditions whatsoever? For my own part, I should not think they very much consulted the Interest of their Master or his Subjects, if they should admit any of them, without the Offer of some new Equivalent on our Part, besides the Advantages already secured to them by this Treaty. I believe therefore that no Man in his right Senses, can think that Commissioners will be appointed by *France* for any other Purpose, than as a Shooing-Horn to draw on the Bill of Commerce, to amuse the Nation, and grant us nothing. So that we have absolutely granted *France* what she wants by this Treaty, in lieu of which she has condescended to grant us the Liberty of importing the excepted Species of Goods and Merchandizes, when the Commissioners appointed by her shall agree with the Commissioners appointed on the Part of *Great Britain* upon the Conditions. Upon the whole matter, notwithstanding the Clause of Commissioners for adjusting the Differences between the two Nations, the Goods excepted by the Body of the Treaty were absolutely excepted, and *France* was at full Liberty to load every one of them with as high Duties as she pleased, without any Violation of the Treaty.

Subsequent
Articles or
Prohibitions.

But in the subsequent Articles dated a Month after, she has condescended to explain her Meaning concerning the Article of Fish, as much to our Advantage as she has done that of the Woollen Manufactures; that is, that we shall

shall import the one no more than the other into that Country. For indeed the subsequent Articles in every Case of the excepted Goods, instead of an Allowance, are in effect a downright Prohibition of those Goods.

This will be apparent in the Case of Fish, by a Comparison of the Liberty we had to import that Commodity into *France* under the Tariff of 1664, with the Duties and Restrictions laid upon it by the Articles made and executed after the late Treaty.

Duties on Fish.

By the Tariff of 1664, the Case of Fish imported into *France* stood thus:

	Liv.	Sols.
Herrings per Last of 12 Barrels paid	15	00
Ditto white per Last of 12 Barrels paid	16	00
Salmon per Last of 12 Barrels, paid	6	00
Codfish dry per M.	8	10
Ditto green per M.	3	00

But the third of these subsequent Articles is in the following Words, viz. " Salt Fish in " Barrels only is to be imported into the Kingdom, Countries, and Territories under the " Dominion of the King; and at all Places of " Entrance into the Kingdom, Countries, and " Territories under the Dominion of the " King, even at all free Ports, the Duties of " Landing and Consumption shall be paid, " which were appointed before the Tariff of " 1664; and besides 40 Livres per Last, consisting of 12 Barrels, weighing each 300 l. " for the Duty of Entry; which Entry shall " not be permitted, but by *St. Valery* upon " the *Somme, Rouen, Nantz, Libourne,* and " Bour-

“ Bourdeaux, and shall remain prohibited at
“ all other Harbours or Ports, as well in the
“ Ocean as in the Mediterranean.”

Can any Man read this Article, without some
fort of Indignation? Has his most Christian
Majesty granted this *to facilitate* our Importa-
tion of Fish into all Places in his Dominions?
Is not the whole Article a Demonstration of
that Prince's Resolution, that his Subjects shall
eat no Fish, but of their own catching and
curing?

First for the Duties; 15 or 16 Livres upon
the Last of Herrings, by the Tariff of 1664,
that was almost 2 s. for every Barrel. Her-
rings would be valued high enough at 15 s. *per*
Barrel; and then the Duty, even by that Ta-
riff, was about 14 *per Cent.* of the whole Va-
lue. And can Fish, of which almost the whole
Cost is paid to the Labour of the People, bear
a higher Duty? and yet, as if this was not suf-
ficient, forty Livres are laid on the Last of 12
Barrels by the above-mentioned Article; that
is, 5 s. to every Barrel. And are Herrings so
appropriated to this Island, or so wanted in
France, as to be able to bear both this Last, as
also the Duties, whatsoever they are (doubtless
high enough) of *Landing and Consumption?*
which is about 35 *per Cent.*

Can Salmon, of which we did not export
very great Quantities before, under the old Du-
ty of 6 Livres *per* Last, bear a Load of 40 Li-
vres, which is laid upon it by the abovementi-
oned Article?

Cape Bre-
ton.

But the most extravagant Part of the Story,
and which shews that *France* understands per-
fectly

fectly well what is given up to them in *Cape*
Breton, is still behind. And that is that Cod-
fish, which were formerly imported into that
Country by Tale, and paid from three Livres
to eight Livres ten Sols *per M.* must be hereaf-
ter imported in Barrels, or not at all, and pay
40 Livres *per* Last, that is 5 s. *per* Barrel, a
Duty equal to almost the whole Value of that
Fish. And then, as for the Expence of Cask,
which is imposed upon us, while their *New-*
foundland Fishermen may import their own in
Bulk, and save this Expence, it is equal to al-
most half the Value of the whole Commodity.
If his Majesty had made it high Treason for a-
ny *Breton* to import Cod-fish into his Coun-
tries, he could hardly keep them out more ef-
fectually than he will be able to do by this Ar-
ticle. *O Cape Breton! Cape Breton!*

And yet, as if all this were not sufficient, our
Importation of salted Fish is confin'd to five
Ports only, and these all in the Ocean, with-
out any Port in the Mediterranean. But yet
there may be some such Fools as will believe
that this was done, as in the Case of our Wool-
len Manufactures, *to facilitate our Commerce!*
And for the very same Reason, no doubt, the
Judicious Proposal of our Council of Trade
(recited before) was rejected by *France*, and
this wonderful kind Article given us in its
stead.

I believe I have here effectually answered
the *Mercator's* pretended *Scotch* Letters of the
great Disappointment to that Nation, by the
rejecting the Bill of Commerce, and depriving
them of the Means of exporting their salted
Fish

Fish to *France*. I have effectually proved that the Bill of Commerce, if this Article is a part of it, is a Prohibition of that Commodity.

I desire now the *Mercator* will inform his Readers of what sort of Goods we shall be able to send any considerable Quantities to *France*, since the Tariff of 1664 is not granted to Goods imported here from foreign Countries, nor to our Fish, nor Woollen Manufactures; since all these are either prohibited there, or admitted only with such Duties, and under such Restrictions and Limitations as amount to Prohibitions. If this is the Case of all the above-mentioned Goods, I desire the *Mercator* will tell us “ of what sorts of Merchandizes we “ shall be able to export any greater Quanti- “ ties than we do already without the Bill of “ Commerce; that he will tell us, if he can, “ what Sorts of Goods are to amount to 6 or “ 700,000 *l.* which he says would be the Va- “ lue of our Exports, if the Treaty of Com- “ merce were made effectual.

One thing I think I ought not to pass without Notice, which is, “ that his Majesty has “ in a manner disfranchiz’d his very free Ports “ in the Ocean, by this Article, on purpose “ to exclude our Fish; since even at the very “ free Ports, the Duties of Landing and Con- “ sumption must be paid, as well as the exor- “ bitant Duty of 40 Livres *per* Last. But e- “ ven with all those Duties, he has not thought “ fit to allow us any Port in the *Mediterra- “ nean.*”

Our

Our Legislators are good Witnesses of the Facts mention’d in the Preamble of the Prohibition Act, 30 Car. II. and no Custom-house Account, which can be now produc’d, is sufficient to overthrow their Evidence.

The Petition of the People of Lyme-Regis: What Allegations in it good, and what not.

I Have ever considered the Authority of Persons as the lowest kind of Proof, and such as ought never to be credited against Demonstration or Probability. I believe Persons to be very proper Witnesses of Facts; and when I have no Reason to suspect their Fidelity, or Capacity, or that they have been imposed on or mistaken, I am ready to give Credit to their Evidence.

It is for this Reason, that I have cited the Preamble to the Prohibition Act, 30 *Car. II.* The Lords and Commons in Parliament Assembled, in the Reign of King *Charles II.* had better Opportunities of knowing, than we can possibly have at this time of Day, the State of the *French Trade*, as it was then carried on; no *Custom-house* Books could be denied to them. They had a Power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records. They had a Power to send for the Records of the *Custom-house*, before the Court could give any Directions, or the Officers of the Customs could have time to falsify any of their Entries. And therefore, since the Legislative Power then asserted, That *the importing of French Wines, Brandy, Linen, Silks and Paper, and other Commodities of the Growth,*

Pro-

Product, or Manufactures of France, did exhaust our Treasure, and lessen the Value of our native Commodities and Manufactures; I am forced to believe, that vast Quantities of those Goods were imported, and such as very much overballanced our Exports to that Kingdom. The Lords and Commons had, no doubt, sufficient Knowledge of the Fact; and if the Fact was true, I do not want their Assistance to reason from it; I am my self able to determine, that our Importations from France exhausted the Treasure, and lessened the Value of the Native Commodities, and Manufactures of this Kingdom.

The *Mercator* affirms, that the Ballance of our Trade to *France* was always on the *English* side, that our Exports to that Nation always exceeded their Imports hither. If so, why was not such a Ballance made out to that Parliament? It is well known, that the Court, and the Ministers were not at all pleased with the Prohibition, they did all they could to oppose it. Certainly, if they had been able to shew, that the Ballance was on our side, the Lords and Commons would have desisted from desiring a Prohibition of a Trade which was beneficial to the Kingdom.

He has not in all his Papers, produced the *Custom-House* Accounts of any one whole Year, to shew, that the Ballance of the *French* Trade was on our side; tho' this he promised with all the Confidence in the World, at his first setting out: And if he had made good his Promise, it had been worth all his other Arguments; and indeed, without this, his other Arguments are good

good for nothing. Our Legislators, therefore, in the Reign of King *Charles II.* were good Witnesses, that we were over-ballanced by the *French* Trade; and so much the better, because neither this Man nor those that employ him, have yet produced any Evidence to the contrary.

And yet, if any such Evidence could be now produced, if any Account from the *Custom-House* could be offer'd contrary to this Assertion of our Legislators, it would not deserve the least Credit. For I must here repeat my Questions, If there had been any such Account at the time of making that Prohibition, why was it not produced before those Legislators, in order to prevent it? Were the Court, and the Ministers at that time, so very fond of the Prohibition? Is it not notorious, that they did all they could to oppose it? And if they could have opposed it by plain Evidence of the Fact, would not that Evidence have been then produced? So that, if any *Custom-House* Account should be offered now, contrary to that Assertion of our Legislators, it would be a very violent Presumption, that such an Account has been forged since, and that it was not then in being, when that Prohibition was made.

I am far from suspecting, that any such Forgery would be attempted in the present Age, that any such Orders would be given by the present Court, or obeyed by the present Officers of the *Customs*. But presently after the passing of that Prohibition, might not the Court, that was then against it, use their utmost Endeavours to falsify the *Custom-House* Accounts,

The Ministers opposed the Prohibition Act, but cou'd produce no Account against it.

Accounts, by which it was supported? For example, if the Exports and Imports, between *Michaelmas* 1668 and *Michaelmas* 1669, and the great Over-balance against us in that Year, was the chief Argument made use of for passing that Prohibition, might not the Court then give Orders to the Commissioners of the *Customs*, to take away the old Entries, and to substitute others in their room; making the several Quantities of exported Goods much greater, and those of Goods imported much less than were really made in that Year? might they not do this to get rid of that Prohibition, which was so very displeasing to them? And is it likely, that such Orders would not be obeyed at that time by the Officers of the *Customs*? The *Mercator* himself has led me to this Argument, by telling us, that Sir *Nicholas Butler*, of *fla-grant Memory*, set a little after at that Board; that in defiance of the Prohibition, the Court gave Orders for entering the Wines imported from *France*, as if imported from other Countries; that the Orders were obeyed, and the false Entries made accordingly. What would not a Court be guilty of, that could do this? What Orders could they give, that such Officers as those would not obey? I do not pretend to affirm, that the thing I have suggested was ever done; because no Account from the *Custom-House* has yet been produced contrary to the Assertion of our Legislators. But if any such Account were now to be trumped up, I should certainly believe, that it was forged for the Reasons I have given; and that our Legislators could not be mistaken in the Facts which they have asserted. It

It is for Facts only, that I have cited the Preamble of the Prohibition: Our Legislators could not but know, that a great Over-balance of Manufactures was imported from *France*, and I have cited them as Witnesses of this Fact. They have also reasoned from it very right; but if they had not done so, every Man in his right Senses, might very justly argue, that a great Over-balance of such Imports, must needs have *exhausted the Treasure, and lessened the Value of the Native Commodities and Manufactures of this Kingdom.*

Again, I have cited the *Inspector-General* of the *Customs*, as a Witness, that there remains in the *Custom-House* a Manuscript of the Imports and Exports between *England* and *France*, from *Michaelmas* 1668 to *Michaelmas* 1669; which I have shewn to be utterly inconsistent with an Account transmitted by the Commissioners to the last Parliament. I have cited him too as a Witness, that he was not able to gain any Light into the Transactions of that Year, but from the aforementioned Manuscript. These were undoubtedly Facts within the knowledge of the *Inspector-General*, and I therefore cited him as a Witness. But if the same Gentleman should tell us, that in his Opinion, the old Scheme is false, without alledging one single Fact or Argument, to induce me to be of his Opinion; or if he should tell us, that we may import annually an Over-balance of Manufactures of two Millions more than we export, and yet be no losers by such a Traffick, I must assure the *Mercator*, I cannot yield to his Authority; I should not believe such Assertions of

V O L. II. H the

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the Inspector-General, tho' they were declared to be true by all the Legislators of *Great Britain.*

Again, if a Merchant whose Veracity is not at all to be suspected, should tell me that he has gained a hundred Thousand Pounds by trading to *France*, he is the proper Judge of this Fact, and I would believe him. But if he should argue from hence, and therefore this is a profitable Trade to the Kingdom, even tho' it should import upon us the Value of a Million more in Manufactures than it takes from us, by which we should be obliged to pay so great a Ballance; I should not be moved by his Authority, let his particular Gain be ever so great; I should believe the Nation lost a Million by such a Commerce.

Lastly, if a whole Town should represent that they had exported formerly to *France* the Value of fifty Thousand Pounds *per Ann.* in Woollen Manufactures; they may be proper Evidences of this Fact, and I should be ready to give them Credit. But if they should argue hence, that the whole Trade with *France* was beneficial to this Nation, and that the Exports from the whole Kingdom exceeded their Imports, and that we consequently received a great annual Ballance from *France*, I must take leave to disagree with this last part of their Representation, I could not yield to their Authority. I might believe their Evidence as to Facts which are properly within their own knowledge, but how can they be Judges for the whole Nation? Or how can they argue from the particular Gain of their own Town, to the univer-

sal

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sal Gain of all *England*? Upon this Occasion I think my self obliged to present my Readers with a Copy of a Representation of the Mayor, &c. of *Lyme-Regis*, concerning a Prohibition of *British* Commodities from being imported into *France*, which is as follows.

To the Honourable Commissioners of Trade,

The humble Representation and Petition of the Mayor, Burgeses, and principal Inhabitants of the Town of Lyme-Regis, in the County of Dorset,

Humbly sheweth,

“ **T**HAT the Trade to France with the
“ *Woollen Manufactures* was an enrich-
“ *ing Trade to this Nation, and was the best*
“ *this Part of the Kingdom had for Employment*
“ *of People, Shipping and Navigation; there*
“ *having been yearly for several Years toge-*
“ *ther shipped in this Port for the PRO-*
“ *VINCE OF BRITANY in France in*
“ *Drapery, to the value of fifty Thousand*
“ *Pound Sterling and upwards; and that this*
“ *Trade was enjoyed Time out of Mind, and*
“ *DRAPERY was imported into the said*
“ *PROVINCE CUSTOM-FREE till the*
“ *Year 1687, in which Year the Importation of*
“ *all Woollen Manufactures whatsoever was pro-*
“ *hibited; and afterwards several great Duties*
“ *were laid on all Goods and Commodities of*
“ *the Growth, Product or Manufacture of*
“ *this Kingdom, by an Edict, a Copy where-*
“ of

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“ of truly translated from the Original is here-
 “ unto annexed. And we also crave leave to
 “ acquaint your Honours, that a Month *before*
 “ *the said Prohibition took place*, several great
 “ Quantities of Drapery to the Value of two
 “ Thousand Pounds and upwards, which had
 “ been imported into the said Province in two
 “ Ships from this Place, were *seized and de-*
 “ *tained* during all the last War, which were
 “ all *spoiled*. Your Petitioners therefore hum-
 “ bly pray, that in the ensuing Treaty of
 “ Peace, Care may be taken to get the said
 “ Prohibition taken off, and that your Peti-
 “ tioners may be restored to the said Trade,
 “ and be at Liberty *to import Drapery*, and
 “ other Goods and Commodities of the
 “ Growth and Product of this Kingdom
 “ Custom-free as formerly ; and that the
 “ Owners of the said *Drapery so seized and*
 “ *spoiled*, may have *Satisfaction* made for the
 “ same. *And your Petitioners shall ever pray,*
 “ &c.

Signed by

John Symen, *Mayor*. Nicholas Nowell,
 Mat. West, Jonas Whetcomb, and 89
others.

The People of *Lyme* without doubt are very
 good Witnesses that their DRAPERY till the
 Year 1687, was imported into the PRO-
 VINCE OF BRITANY CUSTOM-FREE ;
 they were certainly able to distinguish between
 paying Customs, and paying none at all : this
 is

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is agreeable to what I have said before, that
Britany was formerly a free Province, and as
 no Customs were paid there, so there was the
 chief Consumption of our Woollen Manufac-
 tures. But as *Britany* now, by the Articles
 subsequent to the late Treaty, can have our
 Manufactures only by the way of other Pro-
 vinces, so she must receive them after they
 have paid the Customs from thirty to fifty *per*
Cent. according to the Tariff of 1699, which
 is to be the Rule by our late Treaty. If we
 exported to *France* any considerable Quantities
 of Woollen Manufactures where they paid no
 Duties at all, it is no Argument that we can
 export any under a heavy Load of Duties, and
 especially now the *French* themselves since that
 time are arrived at such Perfection in their own
 Woollen Manufactures which pay very easy
 Duties.

Again, the People of *Lyme* are very good
 Witnesses that the *French* Prohibitions of our
 Woollen Manufactures began in the Year
 1687 ; this was a Fact that they could not but
 be well acquainted with by their own feeling.
 Strange ! that *France* should then prohibit our
 Woollen Manufactures, so soon after King
James and his Parliament had obliged her by
 taking off our afore-mentioned Prohibition !
 But this shews, as the Inspector-General has
 said, that they have all along treated us, as if
 the Genius of *France* had got a perfect Ascen-
 dant over that of *England* !

Again, I believe the People of *Lyme*, when
 they tell us that their own Goods which were
 exported to *France before the Prohibition* were

H 3

seized

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seized and spoiled, tho' the Prohibition did not take place till after their Importation. This was a Fact which they felt, and had therefore very good Reason to remember. But I ask, Did the French seize their Goods by virtue of the Prohibition? That had been first to make it lawful to import those Goods, and then by a Law *ex post facto* to condemn them. There can be no trading with such a Nation.

Again, the People of *Lyme* may perhaps be good Witnesses that they formerly exported yearly to *France* the value of fifty Thousand Pounds in Woollen Manufactures, tho' I am afraid they have at a venture lumped it at so great a Sum; for this would amount to almost the third part of all that ever were exported to *France* in one Year from the whole Kingdom.

But lastly, I can by no means allow the Evidence of the Good People of *Lyme*, when they tell us that *the Trade to France with the Woollen Manufactures, was an enriching Trade to this Nation, and was the best Part of the Kingdom had for Employment of People, Shipping and Navigation.* For do they conclude that the whole Nation was enriched by the *French Trade*, because the single Town of *Lyme* was enriched by exporting to *France* the yearly Value of fifty Thousand Pounds in Woollen Manufactures? Does this prove that the Ballance of the whole *French Trade* was on the *English* side, that our Exports exceeded our Imports from that Country? And as for Shipping and Navigation, one single Ship was sufficient to carry at once that whole Value of Woollen Manufactures :
So

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So that in great Numbers of Ships were employed in the *French Trade*, they must have been employed to import upon us a great Overballance of Wines and other Goods from that Nation, perhaps to the enriching the single Town of *Lyme*, but certainly to the impoverishing the whole Kingdom.

And now as to the Prayer of their Petition, that our Woollen Manufactures may be imported CUSTOM-FREE into the *Province of Britany as formerly*, and that the Owners of the *Drapery* which was heretofore seized and spoiled, may be repaired of that Loss. Alas poor People of *Lyme*! *Britany* is no longer Custom-free, all the Woollen Manufactures that *Province* is to take from *Lyme*, she must take under the intolerable Duties of the Tariff of 1669, that is, the Prohibition of them still remains.

A Letter concerning the Mercator's Over-valuation of our Exports.
Part of an Answer to the Mercator's Whimsies about Perpets.

IN stating an Account of Profit or Loss by Trade between two Nations, it is not sufficient to tell us of our Exports only, as the *Mercator* generally does, without saying one word of the Goods imported, that is trying a Cause by hearing the Evidence only of one Side. Neither is it sufficient to give us an exact Account of both Exports and Imports, without giving the Valuation of every Parcel of Goods; for how shall the Reader judge to which a Bal-

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lance is to be paid in Mony, without knowing the Value of the Parcels ?

And yet I am afraid it is not in the Power of any Man alive, whether Gentleman or Merchant, to know the Value of every thing. I believe no Man's Knowledge is so univerfal ; and therefore in my Account, Vol. I. called several Gentlemen of Experience to my Assistance ; and yet in spite of all this Care, I believe I have been mistaken in some of my Valuations. I am ready to be corrected as often as any such Error shall be discovered : But I shall never submit to any Correction upon the single Authority of the Mercator, that Authority is always to be suspected ; it appears plainly that he knows very little or nothing of the Matter, almost all his Valuations will be found to be made at random.

But I believe it will appear at last, that I have been generally so fair as not to undervalue our Exports, or overvalue our imported Goods, to make our Loss by the French Trade seem greater than it really was. As I have formerly produced a Letter from Exeter, with relation to some of our Woollen Manufactures, the following Letter from Bristol testifies the same thing in respect to the Tobacco exported from this Kingdom.

S I R, Bristol, Dec. 14. 1713.

Letter from Bristol about Tobacco.

“ Since we see you are willing to receive Letters, and insert them in your British Merchant, with Intention to inform the Nation how the Mercator endeavours to delude the People ; we thought it our Duty to

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“ to join with the honest trading Part of the Kingdom, and true Lovers of their Country, to detect that Hireling of France, the Mercator.

“ The Letter from Exeter is certainly a great Discovery of the ill Designs of that Writer, as it is also a Demonstration to all the trading Part of Great Britain, that you have acted with Candor, and that in your Account of Exports to France in the Year 1685-6, you have rather chose to overvalue our Goods, than leave room for an honest Man to object ; for 'tis plain what the Exeter Men say is worth but 30,654 l. 12 s. you have rated in your British Merchant, at 36,865 l. 8 s. 8 d. But the Mercator in his Account, No. 63, has rated the same Goods in his Valuation at 60,521 l. about as much again as they are worth.

“ In your Account, you have valued 131,733 lib. of Tobacco on Board at 3½ per Pound ; in which you have also very much exceeded the Value. We shall therefore give you the Prizes on Board for re-exported Tobacco for four Years, viz. from 1684 to 1687.

The Price of Tobacco for 4 Years from 1684.

“ In 1684, Tobacco on Board,		
“ with the Duty drawn back	————	2½ per lib.
“ In 1685, Ditto	————	2¾
“ In 1686, Ditto	————	2½
“ In 1686, Ditto	————	2¼ to ¾

Note, “ The Advance in the Year 1685, continued but for a little time on Tobacco H 5 “ for

“ for Exportation: for in *May* 1685 the Par-
 “ liament laid on a further Impost of 3*d.* per
 “ Pound, which Duty commenced the 24th
 “ of *June* following, which occasioned the en-
 “ grossing the old Tobacco at a greater Price
 “ than the former Year; but as soon as any
 “ Tobacco that paid the additional Duty was
 “ entered and landed it fell again to 2 $\frac{1}{4}$; and
 “ therefore, there is no Reason to think
 “ *France* would buy any till the Price came to
 “ be settled. Here that Writer has also serv-
 “ ed you as he did in the Woollen Goods of
 “ *Exeter*; for he has charged the said 131,-
 “ 783 *lib.* Tobacco at 4 $\frac{2}{4}$ per Pound, which
 “ is about double the Value. Where any
 “ Person will take such Liberty, the unskilful
 “ Part of Mankind may be easily misled, till
 “ the Author comes to be found out, and
 “ their Judgment better informed; and then
 “ they will agree with us, that there cannot
 “ be so wicked an Enemy to his Country in
 “ the whole Kingdom.

Your Humble Servants,

D. P. and J. M.

I think I need make no Reflections upon
 this Letter; it is as plain that I have not un-
 dervalued these Goods, as that the *Mercator*
 has grossly overvalued them. I shall therefore
 now proceed to another Subject, and that is,
 his imaginary Disability of *France* to rival us
 in our Woollen Manufactures. His two last
 Papers

Papers but one, are taken up in labouring this
 Point, in the Case of *Perpets* and *Bays*. I
 shall here answer his Whimsies concerning the
 former.

“ It is evident, *says he*, No. 106, the *Per-*
 “ *petuanas* made in *France* have not been able
 “ to sell so cheap as the *English*; or else they
 “ are not so good as the *English*; how else
 “ comes it to pass, that we have such a Vent
 “ for ours, and that every Day at the *Custom-*
 “ *House* we see vast Quantities of *Bays* and
 “ *Perpetuanas* enter'd both for *Spain* and *Ita-*
 “ *ly*, whereas the *French* are at the Door?
 “ And could they undersell us, they can up-
 “ on all Occasions pour in their Goods before
 “ us, and with much less Expence, the Vo-
 “ yage from *Marseilles* to the Coast of either
 “ *Italy* or *Spain* being not above two or three
 “ Days Sail.

In answer to this, I must affirm, that the
French King for 60 Years past has been encour-
 aging the Woollen Manufactures in his King-
 dom. And as his People succeeded therein, he
 increased the Duties on ours that were import-
 ed into *France*.

The In-
 crease of
 Duties on
 our Woollen
 Goods in
 France.

In 1654, the Customs on Cloth		
were raised	to 30	<i>Livres.</i>
In 1664, ——— —	to 40	
In 1667, ——— —	to 80	
In the first Year on a Serge	to 5	
In the second ——— —	to 6	
In the last ——— —	to 12	

Under these Discouragements our Exports
 decreased annually, and their Manufactures
 exceedingly

exceedingly flourished. Our Trade came down to almost nothing every where, except in *Britany*, where, as I have said, they were always Custom-free, till the Year 1687, and where they had almost no Woollen Manufactures of their own.

Besides, about this time, their *Perpets*, which both *France* and we call *Imperial Serges*, being brought to very great Perfection, they became our Rivals in that Trade, even in the Foreign Markets; and therefore no doubt, were well enough able without our help to supply those of their own Country, which they were still the more able to do, by excluding us out of *Britany*.

France sends more Perpets to Turkey than England does.

But as to Foreign Markets, to begin with our Trade to *Turky*, which has been always very justly a Favourite of this Nation; it is manifest they export vast Quantities of *Perpets* to *Turky* from *France*, in comparison of those from *England*, and such as cannot chuse but disturb the Sale of our Goods in that Market: so that it is plain, we have almost lost the Trade of *Perpets* to that Country.

Our last Fleet, which will be allow'd to export the Bulk of our Goods for one Year to *Turky*, yet exported no more than 400 *Perpets*, which cannot exceed 16 or 18 Bales.

But I have also seen an Account of the *Perpets* exported from *France*, for the Years 1711 and 1712, to the Port of *Smyrna* only, in which the Bales were 400, that is, 200 Bales per Ann.

Will the *Mercator* say now, that they do not rival us in our Trade of *Perpets* to *Turky*?

That

That we are in no danger in Foreign Markets? May it not be said here in the *Mercator's* own Words, that it is evident, that our *Perpetuanas* are not sold so cheap as the *French*, or else that they are not so good as those of that Country? But we need not light a Candle to the Sun.

A Letter concerning the Mercator's Personal Evidence of two Kings and a Queen.

A Postscript concerning his pretended Drawback of Duties on French Goods re-exported to our Plantations.

S I R,

“ THE *Mercator's* first Argument, and
“ in his first Paper, to prove the *French*
“ Trade was always beneficial to this Nation,
“ and that our Exports, by a Medium of any
“ three Years, have exceeded their Imports,
“ was his pretended Personal Evidence of two
“ Kings and a Queen. No less, says he, than
“ the Evidence of two Kings and a Queen! who
“ could not chuse, no doubt, but be very
“ competent Judges of our Profit or Loss by
“ the Trade between both Nations.

“ The *Custom-House* has been ransacked for
“ an Account to this Purpose, the Medium
“ of three Years is not yet found, nor indeed
“ any one in which our Exports have exceed-
“ ed. All his other Hopes have failed him;
“ and therefore in his Yesterday's Paper, he
“ is come back again to his principal Strength,
“ the Evidence of two Kings and a Queen. I
“ would

“ would advise him to make the most of this,
“ for I am very confident he will not be able
“ to support his Paradox by any other Argu-
“ ment; he seems to triumph a little that no
“ Answer to it has ever yet been attempted.

“ Tho’ I can by no means desire your Time
“ should be spent upon this ridiculous Subject,
“ yet I cannot think it reasonable to leave him
“ and his Party even this little Argument for
“ the *French* Trade, or the Bill of Commerce;
“ and therefore to save your Pains, I have re-
“ solved to bestow an Hour upon an Answer,
“ which you may please to use or let alone at
“ your Discretion.

“ The Princes he has thought fit to call to
“ bear Witness for the *French* Trade, are the
“ late King *William* and Queen *Mary*, and
“ the present most Christian King. There
“ can be no doubt of the Wisdom of all the
“ Three, and we are well assured of the Love
“ of the two first to this Nation. But are
“ Princes of all others the most competent
“ Judges of a Country’s gaining or losing by
“ Trade? or are they more likely to know
“ than the Officers of their Customs, when
“ the Imports are over-ballanced by the Ex-
“ ports?

“ But after all, what if these Princes have
“ never passed any Judgment in this Matter?
“ First, it does not appear that the *French*
“ King was ever of Opinion that his own
“ Country lost, or that *England* was a Gainer
“ by the Commerce of both Nations. Yes,
“ says that Author, he has tacitly owned it,
“ by raising his Customs, and laying his Pro-
“ hibitions;

“ hibitions; and that he could do this for no
“ other Reason, than to put a Check to the
“ Imports of our Goods, that his own Sub-
“ jects might not be impoverished, and *Eng-
“ land* enriched at their Expence.

“ But this Writer must be told that that
“ Prince might do this for another Reason;
“ he might do it, that the Trade which was
“ before carried on to the Advantage of
“ *France*, and Disadvantage of *England*,
“ might be rendered still more beneficial to
“ *France*, and more ruinous to this Kingdom.
“ To explain this Matter by an Example:
“ Suppose that our Exports to *France* had
“ been of the yearly Value of half a Million,
“ and that the Goods imported thence were
“ three times that yearly Value, it is plain
“ our Trade in that Case had been a losing
“ Trade, and that upon the Ballance we must
“ have paid a Million *Sterling* to that King-
“ dom; indeed you have made it probable
“ that we paid a great deal more. But if his
“ Prohibitions or high Duties had still lessened
“ our Exports, must not the Ballance against
“ us have still increased? must not the Trade
“ have become still more ruinous to this Nati-
“ on, by reason of those Prohibitions? That
“ Prince therefore might still lay on his Prohi-
“ bitions, not to deprive us of a gainful Trade,
“ but to make it still a more losing one to us,
“ and a more beneficial one to his own Peo-
“ ple. So that it cannot be concluded from
“ the Prohibitions and Increase of the Duties
“ in *France*, that the *French* Trade was bene-
“ ficial to us, or ruinous to the *French* Nation.
“ He

“ He supposes the *French King* would not
 “ be the *Aggressor* in this Case, lest we should
 “ have retaliated upon him by high Duties,
 “ and Prohibitions upon the *French Imports* ;
 “ so that by grasping at greater, he might
 “ have lost the present Advantages of that
 “ Trade.

“ Not to insist here upon the Inspector-
 “ General’s Answer to this, which you have
 “ cited upon some other Occasion, that *France*
 “ has all along treated us, as if the *Genius of*
 “ that Nation had got a perfect *Ascendant over*
 “ that of *England* ; I must give this Answer
 “ to the *Mercator*, That that wise Prince has
 “ generally known how much his Neighbours
 “ would endure before they would be provok-
 “ ed to retaliate ; and besides, there are Ways
 “ and Means to keep off this Retaliation. The
 “ Pensions in the Reign of *King Charles II.*
 “ are too notorious to be forgotten, they are
 “ the Subjects of some of the *Memoirs and*
 “ Letters of our *Ambassadors and Ministers of*
 “ State at that time. It was certainly worth
 “ the while of the *French King* to have given
 “ then a hundred Thousand Pounds *per Ann.*
 “ among the *Ministers* to hinder a Prohibition
 “ in *England*, and to save a Trade which per-
 “ haps was above ten times that value to his
 “ own Subjects, that is, to himself, since he
 “ has the absolute Command, and is the Ma-
 “ ster of every one’s Property. If his most
 “ Christian Majesty would have thought fit
 “ to part with a hundred Thousand Pounds
 “ *per Ann.* for such a Purpose, I believe we
 “ have formerly had *Ministers of State in Eng-*
 “ land,

“ land, who would have been ready to sell him
 “ a very good Penny-worth, and perhaps ten
 “ times as great a Value from their native
 “ Country.

“ Without some such Reason as this, it
 “ will not be easy to account why it was so
 “ hard to obtain the Prohibiting Act in that
 “ Reign, and why in 1678 there was no o-
 “ ther Way to come at it, than by tacking it
 “ to a Capitation.

*The Prohibition Act
 pass'd by a
 Tack.*

“ His most Christian Majesty therefore,
 “ might very well be the *Aggressor* in this
 “ Case, he might load our Trade with Customs,
 “ and interrupt it with Prohibitions, because
 “ he might have the Address and Skill to pre-
 “ vent the like Practices in *England*, not be-
 “ cause he thought our Trade either ruinous
 “ to his own Country, or beneficial to this
 “ Kingdom. Our Legislators in the Pream-
 “ ble of their Prohibition Act, in the Reign
 “ of *King Charles II.* have expressly affirm-
 “ ed, that the *French Importations* were ruin-
 “ ous to this Nation ; but his most Chri-
 “ stian Majesty’s Prohibitions or high Du-
 “ ties, are no Demonstration, that he ever
 “ thought his People lost upon the Ballance of
 “ their Trade with *England*, or that they were
 “ not always very great Gainers by that
 “ Trade.

“ The Truth is, the *French Nation* has
 “ been now above 50 Years labouring at the
 “ Woollen Manufactures ; and as fast as they
 “ increased in Skill, the *French King*, like a
 “ wise Prince, made it his Endeavour to re-
 “ move every Obstruction. The Woollen
 “ Manu-

*Reasons
 why France
 laid Tariffs
 on foreign
 Manufactures.*

“ Manufactures of *England* and other Coun-
 “ tries were the chief Obstruction, there-
 “ fore first, high Duties were laid on the fo-
 “ reign Manufactures by the Tariff of 1664,
 “ these were doubled by the Tariff of 1667 ;
 “ and when at last the *French* Manufactures
 “ came to be able to supply that whole Coun-
 “ try, then the foreign Manufactures were
 “ prohibited. In the whole Progress of this
 “ Matter, he has shewn a Resolution to make
 “ Trade as beneficial as possible to his own
 “ People ; but has given no Opinion at all,
 “ that upon the Ballance of the whole Exports
 “ and Imports between *England* and *France*,
 “ the former was the Gainer.

“ So much for the Evidence of his most
 “ Christian Majesty. His other personal Evi-
 “ dence is that of the late King *William* and
 “ Queen *Mary* ; they it seems, declar'd their
 “ Opinion, that the *French* Trade was always
 “ beneficial to this Nation, before the In-
 “ terruptions given on that side by Prohibi-
 “ tions and high Duties. A wonderful Ar-
 “ gument this ! And such as must needs
 “ force the Assent of every Man in the King-
 “ dom !

“ And when was it these Princes declared
 “ their Opinion in this Matter ? In the Be-
 “ ginning of the Year 1689. They came
 “ into *England* the latter End of the Year
 “ 1688, and they had a long time, and a
 “ great deal of Leisure to instruct them-
 “ selves in the whole Value of the *French*
 “ Trade, by the Beginning of 1689. To
 “ such wretched Stuff as this, are the Advoc-
 “ cates

“ cates of the *French* Trade reduced for their
 “ Support !

“ But in what have King *William* and
 “ Queen *Mary* declared their Opinion for
 “ the *French* Trade ? Why, in their Decla-
 “ ration of War, in the Beginning of the
 “ Year 1689, against the *French* King, they
 “ charge this Prince with a Design to destroy
 “ our Trade with *France*, upon which the
 “ Wealth and Safety of this Nation so much de-
 “ pend.

“ As for Queen *Mary*, she had no part of
 “ the Administration. Her Name was join-
 “ ed to the King's for Form sake. But it is
 “ highly probable that the Declaration of War
 “ was never read to her for her Approbation :
 “ So that here is an End of her Personal Evi-
 “ dence.

“ But how shall this be said to be an Evi-
 “ dence of the King's Judgment concerning
 “ the *French* Trade ? The Declaration is a
 “ Declaration of War ; that is the principal
 “ thing. It is indeed customary in such Cases,
 “ to heap up as many Aggravations as possi-
 “ ble, so that those Words in the Declaration
 “ concerning our Trade, will rather be thought
 “ to be the Words of a Secretary, than of the
 “ late King, who cannot be presum'd, after
 “ so short an Acquaintance with *England*, to
 “ have had any clear Knowledge of our Pro-
 “ fit or Loss by our Trade with *France*. For
 “ this, he might very well content himself
 “ with the Suggestions of his Council ; and
 “ by what has happened in our Memories, it
 “ is very possible for a Prince's Council to be
 “ mistaken.

“ But

“ But after all, what if there is nothing in
 “ the Declaration which either suggests or im-
 “ plies, that the *French* Trade was ever bene-
 “ ficial to this Kingdom? The Words cited
 “ by this Man, to be a Part of the Declarati-
 “ on of the King are these, *His forbidding the*
 “ *Importation of a great Part of the Product and*
 “ *Manufactures of the Kingdom, and imposing*
 “ *exorbitant Customs upon the rest, are sufficient*
 “ *Evidences of his Design to destroy the Trade on*
 “ *which the Wealth and Safety of this Nation so*
 “ *much depend.*

The Decla-
 ration of
 War by
 William the
 Third, shews
 France had
 vast Advan-
 tages by our
 Trade.

“ Now to shew the Honesty of this Wri-
 “ ter, even this Argument, as poor a one as
 “ it is, he durst not offer to his Readers, till
 “ he had mangled the Words, and left out the
 “ most Principal of that Part of the Declara-
 “ tion. The very Words, as they stand in
 “ the Declaration of War, are as follow:
 “ *Forbidding the Importation of a great Part of*
 “ *the Product and Manufactures of the King-*
 “ *dom, and imposing exorbitant Customs upon the*
 “ *Rest, NOTWITHSTANDING THE*
 “ *VAST ADVANTAGES HE AND THE*
 “ *FRENCH NATION REAP BY THEIR*
 “ *COMMERCE WITH ENGLAND, are*
 “ *sufficient, &c.* Here he has artfully enough
 “ left out these last Words, because they did
 “ not make at all for his Argument. For
 “ could the Trade be so very beneficial to
 “ *England*, and yet the *French* King and his
 “ Subjects reap such vast Advantages by our
 “ Commerce? Forgeries, and Omissions of
 “ the most principal Parts of Records, are
 “ small things with him.

“ But

“ But the Words (whether as quoted by
 “ the *Mercator*, or as they stand in the De-
 “ claration) do by no means imply, that
 “ the Wealth and Safety of the Nation de-
 “ pend on our Trade to *France*. They do,
 “ no doubt, upon our Trade with the whole
 “ World, tho’ that with *France* is very rui-
 “ nous; and if the last is made still more
 “ ruinous by the *French* King’s Prohibitions
 “ and high Duties, the Profit of our Trade
 “ with the whole Commercial World is so
 “ much the less, and the Wealth and Safety
 “ of *England* cannot depend so much upon
 “ it. This is the most that can be imply’d
 “ by the Words; it can never be the Mean-
 “ ing of those who penn’d the Declarati-
 “ on, that the Wealth and Safety of this
 “ Nation depended on our Trade to *France*;
 “ if it had, King *William* would never have
 “ begun that War, which was an entire
 “ Interruption of that Trade. But these
 “ People, I believe, are the very first that e-
 “ ver brought a Declaration of War, to prove
 “ the great Advantages of any particular
 “ Trade. I am, Sir, &c.

P O S T C R I P T.

“ I am sorry, Sir, I have taken up so much
 “ of your Time upon an Argument that
 “ does not deserve an Answer. I will endea-
 “ your to make you amends by a short Post-
 “ script.
 “ The *Mercator* has affirm’d, that we are
 “ in a lamentable Condition, for want of the
 “ Treaty

“ Treaty of Commerce; for our Goods,
 “ say he, are prohibited in *France*, where-
 “ as the *French* Linens, and other Manu-
 “ factures, may be imported here with high
 “ Duties, and after having drawn back the
 “ Duties, may be re-exported to our Planta-
 “ tions.

No Draw-
 back on
 French
 Goods.

“ But you ought to have told this Writer
 “ long ago, that the Act of Parliament has
 “ laid the high Duty of 25 per Cent. *ad valo-*
 “ *rem* on *French* Goods, and that no Provisi-
 “ on is made in that or any other Act, for a
 “ Draw-back of any Part of that Duty. So
 “ that they cannot be exported to our Planta-
 “ tions, but with that whole Load of Cu-
 “ stoms. When the Law imposes a Duty,
 “ and makes no Provision for a Draw-back,
 “ the whole Duty still remains; and as long
 “ as it does, there is no great danger of our
 “ Plantations dealing much in the Manufac-
 “ tures of that Nation.

*Reasons why the French ought not to insist on
 any Reduction of Duties on their Wines.*

*Neither the Price nor Quantity of French
 Wines have been abated by any of our for-
 mer high Duties.*

Reciprocal
 Duties con-
 sider'd, to
 make Trade
 equal be-
 tween two
 Countries.

I Shall proceed to consider the chief Articles
 of Exports and Imports between us and
France; and first, what reciprocal Duties will
 be sufficient in each Country, to make the
 Value of the one as great as the other, and to
 hinder a Ballance in Gold or Silver going from
 either

either Country; and secondly, Whether such
 a Reciprocation of Duties is provided for by
 the late Treaty of Commerce between us and
France.

In the first Place, I ought to observe what
 Goods of both Countries ought to be excepted
 from this Equality or Reciprocation of Duties.
 To which I make this general Answer, that all
 such ought to be excepted as are peculiar to the
 Growth of either Country. For example, Sup-
 pose that equal Duties of 5, or 10, or 15 per
 Cent. of the real Value, were sufficient to ena-
 ble us to sell as great a Value of Woollen Ma-
 nufactures to *France*, as *France* could import
 upon us of Silks and Linens; then in these two
 Articles, an Equality of Duties were all that is
 to be required in either Country. But this can
 be no Reason why no more of the real Value
 shall be imposed on the Wines that shall be im-
 ported from *France* into *Great Britain*, because
 we have no Wines of our own Growth, and
 can import none so good as those of *France*
 from any other Country. So that if equal Du-
 ties on the Woollen Manufactures of *Britain*,
 and the Silks and Linens of *France*, would
 make the Ballance even between both Coun-
 tries in those two Articles, and only equal Du-
 ties should be imposed on *French* Wines, or
 not enough to amount to a Prohibition, the
 whole Value of the Wines that shall be impor-
 ted, will be a Ballance against *Great Britain*.
 Wines therefore ought to be excepted out of
 this Equality or Reciprocation of Duties.
Great Britain ought to be left at Liberty to
 impose on Wines at her Discretion, to prevent
 the Payment of any Ballance. This

This is admirably well treated by the Merchants in 1674, who made some Proposals to the Commissioners then appointed for a Treaty of Commerce with France, in the Explanation of their Proposals.

Their third Proposal was, that there might be an Equality of Duties according to the true Value of the Goods exported and imported between both Countries. But then foreseeing that France would object against this Equality of Duties to be laid on the Manufactures of each Country,

That his Majesty hath laid great Impositions on French Wines and Brandy, which (as they may suppose or pretend) may be prejudicial to France both in QUANTITY and PRICE. To this the Merchants answer as follows,

“ First, That in Fact it is far otherwise; “ for that since his Majesty’s imposing those “ Duties, the Quantities of Wine and Brandy imported into England from France have “ been far greater, and purchased at much “ higher Prizes than before.

Imports of French Wine, and the Price, for sundry Years.

“ From Michaelmas 1663 to Michaelmas 1664, there were imported into the Port of London 6828 Tuns of French Wine: “ And the Quantity of Brandy was then so “ small, that it deserves not to be noted.

“ From Michaelmas 1667 to Michaelmas 1669, being after the raising the Duties on those Commodities, there were imported into the Port of London in the said two “ Years,

“ About 17,000 Tuns of Wine.

“ About 3000 Tuns of Brandy.

“ From

“ From Michaelmas 1672 to Michaelmas 1674, being two Years, were imported “ into the Port of London, upwards of 22, “ 500 Tuns of Wine.

“ In Anno 1667, the Year preceding the “ last great Imposition, the Price of Langone “ Wines in France was not above 43 Crowns “ per Tun clear on board.

“ In Anno 1668 the Price was 47 Crowns

“ In Anno 1669 ———— — 54 Crowns

“ In Anno 1670 ———— — 53 Crowns

“ In Anno 1671 ———— — 55 Crowns

“ In Anno 1672 ———— — 50 Crowns

“ In Anno 1673 ———— — 56 Crowns

“ And this Year, Anno 1674, 70 Crowns “ per Tun, clear on board.

“ And all Sorts of Clarets are risen double “ in Price since the Year 1667; so that it is “ evident that the Impositions on Wines and “ Brandy in England are only on his Majesty’s Subjects, on the Consumption, and do “ no ways impair the Trade of those Commodities, either in Quantity or Price, to “ the People of France.

“ 2. We answer, That Impositions in “ England on Wine and Brandy cannot properly be objected against the Reduction of “ the Impositions on English Manufactures in “ France; for that the French Manufactures “ imported into England do not only answer, “ but exceedingly much surmount in Value “ the English Manufactures imported into “ France: So that the Wine and Brandy “ stands upon a distinct Foot, and the French “ have wholly the Advantage thereof above “ the

The British Merchant.

“ the *English*.” That is, they have a Balance against us upon all the other Goods exported and imported between the two Nations; and therefore the whole Price paid for *French* Wines is so much added to that Balance, so much clear Gain to that Country. And for this Reason then the Merchants thought the *French* Wines ought not to be comprehended in the above-mentioned Reciprocation or Equality of Duties between the two Nations, but be left to our Discretion to deal with them as we thought fit.

But many things are very remarkable in the above-mention'd Allegations of the Merchants, and every one against the *Mercator*.

First, That the Increase of Duties did not lessen the Consumption of *French* Wines, the Importation of them increased presently after the Imposition of the high Duties; they were before not above 6850 Tuns, they increased presently after to 8500, and so on to above 11,000 Tuns.

What then is become of his Maxim, That Dearness of Commodities lessens the Consumption? Here it is plain the Consumption increased, notwithstanding the Price. I have shewn that it still increased even after the last high Duties were almost doubled, in the first Year of King *James II*. How then will he be able to maintain his Maxim against so plain a Matter of Fact? But the Truth is, as Luxury increases, sumptuary Laws are hardly able to provide against it.

The next thing is, as to the Price of the Wines, the *Mercator's French* Wines are never

The Trade with France.

ver above 8 or 9 *l.* at a Medium; and therefore by turns he has been very angry with the OLD SCHEME for the Valuation of *French* Wines at 12 *l.* 10 *s.* per Tun in the Year 1669, with the *British Merchant* for 17 *l.* 10 *s.* per Tun in 1685, and with the *Guardian* for 25 *l.* per Tun at this time of Day.

Behold here the Prices of *Languon* Wines, the cheap White Wines of *France*! In 1668, 47 Crowns, or even tho' the Exchange were at Par, 10 *l.* 11 *s.* 6 *d.* per Tun; in 1669, 54 Crowns, or 12 *l.* 3 *s.* per Tun; in 1670, 11 *l.* 18 *s.* 6 *d.* in 1671, 12 *l.* 7 *s.* 6 *d.* in 1672, 50 Crowns, or 11 *l.* 5 *s.* in 1673, 56 Crowns, 12 *l.* 12 *s.* and in 1674, 75 Crowns, or 16 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.* By which we may see that the Prices of *French* Wines have been gradually increasing since the Year 1668, and that even the Prices of the lowest Wines are very little short of that in the Scheme for the best and the worst together.

But the Quantities of *Graves* Clarets, *Pontacks*, and other dear Wines, being added to the *Languon* Wines, will make it hard to believe that the Price of all Sorts of Wine imported in 1669, could come out at less than 12 *l.* 10 *s.* at a Medium, especially since Clarets have been generally the Draught in this Kingdom; and of these the Merchants say in 1674, the Price of 1668 had been quite doubled.

My Adversary takes his Price of 8 or 9 *l.* per Tun from the Inspector-General, who appeals to the Merchants of that Time. The Merchants of that Time, to whom he makes

The British Merchant.

his Appeal, know of no such Price as 8 or 9 *l. per Tun*, and have accordingly here justified the very Price of 12 *l. 10 s.* in the SCHEME. The gradual Rise from that time makes it credible, that the *British Merchant* was in the right in his Price of 17 *l. 10 s.*

His Objection against this Price, as if it would justify the Breach of the *Portugal Treaty*, since *French Wines* at such Price were likely to give very little Obstruction to those of *Portugal*, has been already answered; and I demonstrated, that the Price of *French Wines*, even with *Portugal Duties* upon them, would be 40 *s. per Tun* cheaper than those of *Portugal* for several Years last past at a Medium; and that even tho they should be at the *Guardian's Price* of 25 *l. per Tun*, they would not be above Two-pence *per Quart* dearer: And can any Man then imagine that they would not be the common Draught of this Kingdom?

For my own part, I can see nothing less than 10 or 12000 Tuns of *French Wines* at 20 to 25 *l. per Tun*, to be imported either fairly or clandestinely, to our Loss of 2 or 300,000 *l. per ann.* if the Treaty of Commerce should be made effectual; that is, if *France* shall in all things be as much favoured as the Nations the most favoured. But the Value of her other Goods and Manufactures imported upon us will so much surmount, as our Merchants say, that of all the Goods we shall be able to send to that Country upon the Foot of the late Treaty, I make no doubt she will easily give up the Article of Wines for the

The Trade with France.

the sake of the Ballance she is likely to gain in other Articles; unless she should resolve to adhere to it, not only for the sake of her own Profit, but that we may break with *Portugal*, and destroy one of the most profitable Trades we ever had in *Europe*.

They were Merchants, and *French Merchants* too, and indeed all that were eminent in that Trade in the Year 1674, who made the Representation from whence I have taken this Extract. Some of them too were very much in the Favour of the Court; one of them, as I remember, was made a Commission-Alderman by the late King *James* for the City of *London*, after that City had been illegally deprived of her Charter; so that they could not be all said to be a PARTY, or a FACTION against the Court. Yet in this they agreed one and all, That the *French Manufactures* (even without *Wines and Brandy*) imported into *England*, did not only answer, but exceedingly much surmount in Value the *English Manufactures* imported into *France*; so that, said they, the *Wine and the Brandy* stands upon a distinct Foot, and the *French* have wholly the Advantage thereof above the *English*. The Meaning of this Part of the Representation is, that the *French Manufactures* imported into *England* vastly over-balanced all our Exportations to that Country, and that the whole Cost of *Wine and Brandy* was so much added to the Ballance against *England*: That *France*, besides a vast Profit by the rest of our Trade, gained clear the whole Cost of *Wine and Brandy* from this Nation.

The Consumption of French Wine considered.

The Representation shews, that notwithstanding the high additional Duties imposed on French Wines in England, notwithstanding the Increase of their Cost in France from the Year 1663 to 1674, yet the Importation continued every Year increasing.

The Duties were doubled in the first of King James II. in the Year 1685: and by the Invoices of that Time it appears, that the Cost of Wines clear on board in France was vastly increased beyond that of the Years before-mentioned; and yet the Quantity imported in that and the following Years, and entered at the Custom-House, was vastly greater than at any time before, when the Cost and the Duties were a great deal less.

The Use I would make of this is, that small Impositions may be sufficient to restrain Luxury in its Infancy; but when it is once grown up, and has taken hold of a Nation, it grows out of the Reach of the severest sumptuary Laws that can be made.

We have indeed since made the Duties as high again upon the Wines of France as those of other Nations; and yet it is very much to be questioned whether even this would have much lessened the Consumption, if a War at the same time with France had not made a total Interruption of all manner of Commerce with that Nation, if this had not made it very penal to the Importer: and yet we remember, even during the War, how greedily these Wines were sought after by Gentlemen at sometimes double, often at treble the Cost of those of Portugal and other Nations.

Peace

Peace at last has opened the Trade to France, but the high Duties still remain, and the Customs are pretty well looked after by the numerous Officers at the Port of London. And yet we see the Importation of French Wines has increased at the Port of London; but for the Coast of Great Britain, which is of vast Extent, and not so well attended, what Quantities must we believe have been clandestinely imported? Every Gentleman upon the Coast drinks his French Wine at less than the very Cost of the Duties. If these then should be levelled to those of the Nations the most favoured, according to the late Treaty of Commerce, can we be so fond as to imagine that they will not be the common Draught of this Kingdom? and that the Importation of Portugal Wines will not be reduced again to the Quantity of 2 or 300 Tuns per Ann.

Clarets, formerly the Drink of almost no other Country except Great Britain, are now arrived at such Reputation in so many other Places, that the Cost of them in France has been gradually increasing above forty Years; and if the Merchants would produce their Invoices of some of the last Years, the Prices would appear double to what is represented by the Merchants in the Year 1669; and yet even at this double Price they have been demanded. But if the Duties shall be levelled to those of the Nations the most favoured, even at the advanced Price, they will be imported almost as cheap as the Wines of Portugal; and if the Qualities of both shall be considered, a great deal cheaper. And can we question

The British Merchant.

tion then that they will be the common Draught of Great Britain?

It is therefore excessively foolish in the Mercator to argue from 40 or 50 Years past to the present Time; to argue from the Quantities then imported, that we shall now import a great deal less, because of the Increase of the Duties from 7 l. 10 s. to 27 l. and of the first Cost of the Wines from 12 l. 10 s. to double that Cost, that we shall import less than we did in those Years. Experience and Fact are against his Argument. The Consumption has increased with the Cost and the Duties. Sumptuary Laws are scarce sufficient to restrain the growing Luxury of a Nation; and I must believe that I have been modest in my Calculation of 10 or 12000 Tuns of Wine to be annually imported from France even at the first Cost of 25 l. and under the Duty of 27 l. per Tun, which added to the Profit of the Importer and Retailer, will not altogether make those Wines above 18 or 20 d. per Quart. If this should be the Case, France will drain us every Year of 250000 l. for Wines.

And of Brandy.

The next Article is their Brandy. The Importation of this was inconsiderable in 1663, according to the Representation of the Merchants, and not worth their Notice. The Duty then was but a Trifle. But tho' Brandy then could be afforded so very cheap, yet it was in very little use in England; it was not the fashionable Luxury of this Kingdom, it was but then beginning to creep in upon us. Soon after a high Duty was laid upon it, and then the Merchants represent that from Michaelmas

The Trade with France.

Michaelmas 1667 to Michaelmas 1669, about 3000 Tuns were imported, that is, about 1500 Tuns per ann.

The Mercator would have us believe, that so large an Importation was owing to the Consumption of the old Stock by the Fire of the City of London.

To confute this Imagination, we read in the above-mentioned Representation of the Merchants, that from Michaelmas 1671 to Michaelmas 1673, there were imported into London above 7315 Tuns of Brandy, above 3657 Tuns per ann. This for London only, besides what was imported at the Out-Ports. Was this too owing to the Fire of London, which happened so many Years before?

We may see therefore that this Part of our Luxury was then making large Steps into this Kingdom, that it was rushing in upon us in spite of the Duties, which were then thought to be very high.

The Merchants therefore might very well suppose the annual Importation of Brandy to be 4000 Tuns, as they do in the OLD SCHEME, when it was already arrived to that Quantity. The same Merchants that drew this Representation, were the very Persons that presented with it the OLD SCHEME to the Commissioners then appointed for making a Treaty of Commerce with France.

It is manifest that the Merchants never intended to have it thought, that 4000 Tuns of Brandy were imported from Michaelmas 1668 to Michaelmas 1669, since the very same Persons

sons have in their Representation supposed the whole Quantity imported from *Michaelmas* 1667 to *Michaelmas* 1669, two Years, to be no more than 3000 Tuns of Brandy; they could not therefore make the Quantity 4000 Tuns for one of those Years. The 4000 Tuns therefore they supposed might be the Quantity of our future annual Importations, according to the Measure of the two Years from *Michaelmas* 1671 to *Michaelmas* 1673, when almost 4000 Tuns *per ann.* were imported into the Port of *London*. The OLD SCHEME has not fixed just 4000 Tuns of Brandy for the Importation of 1668-9. The Article is worded thus, 4000 TUNS OF BRANDY ONE YEAR WITH ANOTHER; which shews them to have had a particular Eye to the vast Increase of that Importation in succeeding Years.

But that which deserves our chief Observation in the Increase of our Expence of Brandy, is, that it was then growing apace upon the Nation; and perhaps neither Customs nor Excises had been able to hinder the open or clandestine Importation of this Commodity, if at last a War had not come on with *France*, which was a total Interruption of all manner of Commerce with that Nation.

But did this put an end to the Luxury, which was very far advanced? No, from the Loss of this beloved Brandy, we fell immediately to supplying the Want of it with Malt-Spirits, and some drawn from Molasses, far below the Value of *French* Brandy; but yet we made a shift with it, when Brandy could not be imported.

Our

Our Manufacture of Malt-Spirits increased by this means to 1,600,000 Gallons *per ann.* which made a Consumption of at least 80,000 Quarters of our Malt, to the great Improvement of the Landed Interest.

*Malt and
Malt Spi-
rits consi-
der'd.*

But where is the Carman or the Porter, who would not rather chuse a Quart of *French* Brandy than a Gallon of Malt-Spirits? And yet if the Customs and Excises on the former shall be reduced to 51 *l.* *per Tun*, *French* Brandy will not be three times the Price of our Malt-Spirits. Brandy is drawn from the lowest pric'd Wines, and is commonly sold at 20, seldom more than 25 *l.* *per Tun* in *France*; so that tho' the Customs and Excises should be at 51 *l.* *per Tun*, they will be afforded at 6 *s.* and 8 *d.* *per Gallon*. And then can any one imagine, that we shall not bid farewell to Malt-Spirits in this Kingdom? Whether Gentlemen will contentedly hear of the Loss of such a Market for their Malt, or whether they can believe the Value of their Lands will not be impaired by such a Loss, belongs to them to consider; for my own part, I am only considering the Loss of the whole Kingdom. If the Duties should be reduced according to the Terms of the late Treaty, I must believe that 2000 Tuns *per ann.* will be entered at the *Custom-House*; and no Man can be sure that half that Quantity ought not to be allowed for clandestine Importation: At 20 *l.* *per Tun*, the Cost of 3000 Tuns *per ann.* amounts to 60,000 *l.* so much ought to be added to the Ballance against *England*.

These

These two Articles of Wines and Brandy are likely to add above 300,000 *l. per ann.* to the Ballance against *England*, and this too for the Luxury of the People.

The Wines we import from *Portugal* and *Italy* we purchase for our Manufactures, and for the Product of our Lands, since we receive a Ballance from those Countries: And are we sure we shall not abate of our Exportations in proportion to the Quantity of Wines we shall cease to take from them? What will the Lands and the People of *England* suffer by the Loss of these Markets for such a Value of our Manufactures? And will Gentlemen be contented not only with this Loss, but that we should pay *France* 250,000 *l. per ann.* for the Wines of that Country?

Our Malt-Spirits are entirely the Product of our Lands, and the Labour of our People; and will Gentlemen be contented to pay 60,000 *l. per ann.* to *France* for Brandy, that a Market of equal Value may be lost for our Malt-Spirits?

I am glad at all times of sumptuary Laws against Luxury: But since it is hard to provide against it, let our People pay their own Country, and not *France*, for their Luxury.

A Calculation of the annual Value of Linens consumed by England and our Plantations.

The Linen Manufacture made in England, pays the whole Value of it to our Lands, and the Labour of our People.

And so does that imported now from other Countries.

The Value of our own Linen Manufacture.

The Value of foreign Linens imported.

French Linens never paid any thing to the Lands or Labourers of England.

They deprived both of a Value equal to the Value of those Linens.

The Value of French Linens heretofore annually imported.

LINEN heretofore was the largest single Article of our *French Imports* in the *Custom-house* Books, equal to almost thrice the Value of all our *Woollen Manufactures* exported to *France*, equal to almost all our *Exports* to that Nation of all kinds whatsoever. This is clear even by the Accounts from the *Custom-house*, which cannot be defective as to the Quantity of exported Goods, the large Allowances ought to be made beyond the Entries for Goods clandestinely imported, as I have already shewn, and I shall shew more particularly with respect to the Article of *French Linens*.

French Linens equal to all our Exports to France.

If the Duties on *French Linens* are to be reduced by the late Treaty of Commerce to those

on the Nations the most favoured, there is little Reason to believe that this Importation will not be as great as ever ; for what is an Half-penny *per Ell* beyond the former Duty ?

But Gentlemen are in no great Pain upon this Account ; they think we can suffer very little by the Loss of our Linen Manufactures ; and as for what shall be imported from abroad, they think they may be imported from *France* with as little Detriment to *England* as from any other Country whatsoever.

In all this they have too cheap an Estimation of Linens made in *England*, and of the Advantages accruing to us by our Importation of this Manufacture from other Countries since the Interruption of our Commerce with the *French* Nation. I shall endeavour now to give them other Thoughts of this Matter, by shewing,

First, The Value of the Linen Manufactures made in *England* ;

And Secondly, The Advantages accruing to us by our Importation of *German* and other Country Linens since the Interruption of our *French* Commerce.

Computation of the annual Value of Linen consumed in England.

For the First, I believe every Man will readily agree, that the Linens, whether of our own or foreign Manufacture, which are annually consumed in *England* only, are very considerable. If I shou'd affirm, that the *English* People great and small, rich and poor one with another, consume in Shirts, Sheets, Table-linen, and all other domestick Uses, the annual Value of 5 s. I believe there is not one Man in a hundred that wou'd not laugh at me for rating

rating the annual Consumption of the People in Linen at too low a Value.

And yet if the People of *England* are rightly computed at seven Millions, this Number multiplied by five Shillings, will produce thirty five Millions of Shillings, or one Million seven hundred and fifty thousand Pounds *Sterling*. The annual Consumption of every one, at five Shillings *per Head* at a Medium, will amount to so great a Sum.

If to this shall be added, the Canvass for our Shipping, and coarse Cloths for the Package, and embalging of Goods and Merchandizes, and also the Consumption of our Plantations in the *West-Indies*, which before the Union were served only from *England*, I believe no Man will think me extravagant, in rating the whole annual Consumption of Linens at 1,750,000 l.

If all the Linens annually consum'd in *England* were of her own Growth and Manufacture from the Flaxseed to the Draper's Shop, I believe no Man could doubt the Advantages of it to this Kingdom ; the annual Consumption of 1,750,000 l. Value of Linen, all our own Manufacture, wou'd not be brought to pay less for Flax to the Lands than a fifth Part of that Sum, and four fifth Parts to the Labour of our People. A Manufacture which shou'd pay these respective Sums to the Lands and Labour of *England*, wou'd deserve to be cultivated with the utmost Care and Application.

I shall endeavour therefore to shew, that the annual Consumption of Linen at this Time in

Importance of the Linen Manufacture.

in England, and our West-India Plantations, whether made here, or imported from other Countries, does either directly or indirectly pay the above-mentioned Sums to the Landholders and Labourers.

There can be no question of this, with respect to the Linens made in England, in proportion to their Value; but I believe I shall be able to shew, that the Case is the same with respect to all that are imported now from other Countries, since the Prohibitions or high Duties on French Linens, and the total Interruption of Commerce with that Nation.

To begin with our own Linen Manufacture. It is far more considerable than is generally believed. Indeed, because it is not of that Extent, nor the Business of so many Counties as our Woollen Manufactures, as I have expressed myself before, Men have too cheap an Estimation of it, they are in little or no Pain what becomes of the Linen Manufacture.

An Account of Foreign Linens imported.

But to shew the Value of Linens made in England, we must first know the Value of those imported from other Countries. In the first Report of the Inspector-General of the Customs, we read that the Importation of German Linens, by a Medium of three Years, from Christmas 1699 to Christmas 1702, amounted to per ann.

519,737

By his second Report, the Holland Linens imported in 1703, amounted to 213,701 19 11

From

Per Annum.

From Flanders, Muscovy, and other Foreign Countries, I am informed the Value of imported Linens may be 60,000

I am informed too, that the Importation of Scotch Linen, does not exceed 130,000 l. per Ann. nor that of Ireland 80,000 l. in the whole 210,000

So that all the Linens imported into England will not exceed 1,003,438 19 11

If it shall be allowed, that our annual Consumption of Linen amounts to 1,750,000

And that our present annual Importation does not exceed 1,003,438 19 11

It will remain, that the English Linen Manufacture amounts to 746,561 0 1

If the annual Consumption of Linens of our own Manufacture in England, and in our Plantations, to the Value of 1,750,000 l. would be allowed to pay the Sums I have mentioned to our Lands, and the Labour of our People, then our own Linen Manufacture of above one third of that Value, must give above one third of those Sums to the like Uses. If this were the whole Value of the Linens manufactured in England, certainly we should not abandon so useful a Manufacture.

But in the next place, the Consumption of Linens imported from the above-mentioned Countries has the very same, or as good an Effect, in proportion to their Value; for every one of those Countries takes from us an Over-ballacen

Foreign Linens imported pay their Value to the Lands, and the Labour of our People.

ver-balance of our Goods and Merchandizes, and especially of our Woollen Manufactures : and this they could not do, or at the least must abate in proportion to our Importation of their Linens ; *Germany* especially, which already, according to the *Inspector-General's* Report, pays us a Ballance of 170000 *l. per ann.* And can a Country which has little Foreign Trade, and imports very little Gold or Silver from abroad, afford still to take off from us the same Quantity of Goods and Merchandizes, tho' we shou'd cease to buy their Linens ? and instead of 170000 *l. per ann.* pay us a Ballance of that Sum, and 50000 *l.* more than they do at present ? In this case then it must be acknowledged, that we purchase Goods for Goods ; and if the Goods or Manufactures exported hence, for such a Value of Linens, contribute equally to our Lands or Labouring People, it is the same thing as if the Returns of Linens were of our own Manufacture ; whether our Lands or Labourers are paid directly by the Linen Manufacture, or by the Manufacture of Woollen and other Goods which are exported to purchase these Linens, it is one and the same thing. Our annual Consumption of Linen, to the Value of one Million seven hundred and fifty thousand Pounds, whether made in *England*, or imported from the above-mentioned Countries, in exchange for our own native Product and Manufactures, does either directly or indirectly pay that whole Sum to the Lands, and the labouring People of *England*.

Now

Now this can never be said in defence of the *French* Trade, or the Importation of Linens from that Country. We NEVER sold, I will venture to say NEVER, no *Custom-House* Account can shew that we EVER sold an Over-balance of Goods and Merchandizes to that Country.

Except from France.

On the contrary, we always purchased thence a great Over-balance of Goods and Merchandizes, for which we paid in Gold or Silver, and this to more than the whole Amount or Value of all the Linens imported from that Nation. How is it possible then to say, that the Linens imported from *France* contributed any thing either directly or indirectly to our Lands, or our labouring People ? They could not do it directly, since they were not the Product of our Lands, nor the Manufacture of our own People : They could not do it indirectly, since they were purchas'd by our Money, and not by the Product of our Lands, nor the Labour of our People ; since they were not purchas'd by any Manufactures of our own, or by any other Goods or Merchandizes which paid the Value of those Linens to our Lands, or our labouring People.

But this was not the worst Part of our Condition ; when almost our whole Consumption was of *French* Linens, they not only exhausted our *Treasure*, and paid nothing to the Lands or the Labourers of *England*, but they lessened the Value of our Native Commodities and Manufactures ; that is, they took off so much from the Value of our Lands, and the Hire of the People, as is now paid to both by the annual

al Consumption of Linens, which are either entirely of our own Growth and Manufacture, or, which is the same thing in effect, procur'd or purchas'd in exchange for our own Product and Manufactures; and which therefore pay our Lands and our Labourers the whole Value of our present annual Consumption.

Is it possible then that Linens shall be hereafter imported from France, without lessening at the same time in proportion our own Manufacture, or our Importation from other Countries? And if this shall be the Consequence, will not our Lands and our People be deprived of the Sums which are annually paid to them by our present annual Consumption?

It may be worth while to consider here, how much was lost to both formerly, when our chief Consumption was of French Linens. The Custom-House Accounts may tell us either 3 or 4, or 500000*l.* Value of Linens were enter'd in their Books, but they can give us no Account of clandestine Importations; and yet these in proportion were as detrimental as the other. But there is another way more certain of coming at this Knowledge, and that is by the Increase of this Manufacture at home, and by the Increase of the Importation from other Countries.

An Account of the Increase of Foreign Linens imported.

Whatsoever is this Increase, it is for our own Consumption, and that of our own Plantations. England exports no Linen to other Countries. Few People will believe that we are richer now, or abound more in Numbers than before the Beginning of the first French War.

War. All that are of this Opinion must necessarily conclude, that our Consumption of Linens was as great then as it is now. All then that we have increased in our own Manufacture, and in our Importations from other Countries, was the very Value that we imported heretofore from France.

From Germany we imported formerly, by the Inspector-General's Account, Linens of the Value of 121,682 *l.* now the Value of 519,737 *l.* per Ann. the Increase is ———— 398,055 0 0

From Holland formerly, 170,972 *l.* 15 *s.* now 213,701 *l.* 19 *s.* 11 *d.* the Increase is ———— 42,729 4 11

From Flanders, and other foreign Countries, I am inform'd our Importations have increas'd, but from Scotland I have heard that our Importation formerly was not above 30,000 *l.* and that it is 130,000 *l.* per Ann. the Increase is ———— 100,000 0 0

The whole Importation of 80,000 *l.* from Ireland, is an Increase of ———— 80,000 0 0

Besides which, there is an Increase of 240,000 *l.* per Annum Linen Manufacture in Lancashire and Cheshire. This is very probable, if the Representations from those Countries are to be credited that they have 10,000 Looms, and 60000 People wholly employ'd and subsisted by that Manufacture ———— 240,000 0 0

Of English Linens.

In

	l.	s.	d.
In like manner it is alledged, that the Increase of our own Li- nen Manufacture in Dorsetshire and Somersetshire is an — —	100,000	0	0
And in other English Counties	40,000	0	0

So that according to this Ac-
count, the Increase of our own
Linen Manufacture, and of our
Importation from other Coun-
tries, amounts to ——— 960,784 4 11

Value of
French
Linen for-
merly im-
ported.

If our Consumption, for the above-menti-
oned Reasons, is no greater now than it was
formerly, then this whole Increase must be
lost to France, and let the Custom-house Ac-
counts say what they will, either fairly or clan-
destinely, our whole Importation of Linen
from France must heretofore have exceeded
900,000 l. per Ann. It is easy then to see of
what annual Sums we were drained by this
Article of French Linens, and how much they
lessen'd the Value of our native Commodities
and Manufactures, of how much Rent they
must have robb'd our Lands, and of how much
of the Hire of the poor labouring People of
this Kingdom. And are we contending like
Madmen for such a Trade as this?

The

The Increase of the Silk Manufacture in En-
gland consider'd.

The Value of it to our own Lands and labour-
ing People shewn.

The Increase of our Silk Manufacture demon-
strates, better than Custom-house Accounts,
the annual Value heretofore imported from
France.

THE second Part of my last Argument
shews, that the whole Increase of the
Linen Manufacture made in England, and of
the Importation from other Countries, is so
much taken off from our Consumption of
French Linens; or that we consume so much
less of French Linens in proportion to that In-
crease. This making 960,000 l. per Annum
in the whole, we want no other Demonstra-
tion that so great a Value of French Linens
was annually imported into England. What-
soever the Entries at the Custom-house make
our Consumption of French Linens short of
that Value, it must be made up by clandestine
Importations.

And I believe there will be as good Reason
to conclude, that the Custom-house Entries, in
the Article of French wrought Silks, have been
exceeding short of the real Importation. If
we have increased in the Importation of Raw
and Thrown Silk, and the Manufacture of
these Commodities in England, or in the Im-
portation of manufactur'd Silks from other
Countries for our own Consumption, France
and

and the *East-Indies* must be allow'd to have lost the selling us wrought Silks equal to that Increase; since, as in the Article of Linens, all who believe the Nation is not richer or more populous than it was before the Beginning of the last War, will easily be persuaded, that our Consumption of wrought Silks has not increas'd; so that whatsoever it has increas'd from other Places, is so much lost to *France* and the *East-Indies*.

As to our Increase of this Manufacture at home, this will appear in some measure by the vast Increase of the Importation of raw and thrown Silks from foreign Countries, from *Turkey*, *Italy*, and the *East-Indies*.

But here I must acknowledge, that the Importation of *Ardafs*, or coarse *Persia* Silk, from *Turkey*, is vastly abated. This has been principally occasioned by the Imposition of such Duties on it as it could not bear. But then this Loss has been in part supplied by a vast Importation of *Grogram* Yarns; and besides this, the Importation of *Bellandine*, or white *Turkey* Silk, and of *Sherbaffee* of *Persia*, is greater now than that of these and the cheap *Ardafs* Silks join'd together ever was before the Beginning of the first War. All the Work therefore that was formerly done with *Ardafs* Silks, and is now performed by *Grogram* Yarn, together with the whole Increase of the Number of Bales imported from that Country more than formerly, must be placed to the Account of the Increase of the Silk Manufacture in *England*.

I will not pretend to determine the Value of this Increase; all I will say here shall be only to explain it. Suppose then, that formerly our annual Importation of *Ardafs* and other Silks imported from *Turkey* amounted to 1500 Bales, and that at this time the Importation of *Bellandine* and *Sherbaffee* amounts to 1600 Bales of Silk; at first sight this would look as if only a hundred Bales of Silk more were brought into the *English* Manufacture: But if the *Grogram* Yarn, which is for the most part a new Importation, should be allowed to supply 500 Bales of *Ardafs* Silk, and that nevertheless 1600 Bales of raw Silk from *Turkey* are imported, then it would be manifest, that not only 100, but 600 Bales of our present annual Importation, must either be re-exported, or added to our Silk Manufacture. If it shall be allowed, that the *Turkey* Trade by this means furnishes 600 Bales of Silk *per Ann.* to our Manufacture more than it did before, I shall be very glad to be inform'd, whether such a Quantity is not sufficient to produce 80 or 90,000 *l.* weight of Wrought Silk? The *Turkey* Merchants or rather the Weavers of *Spittlefields*, might certainly answer this Question; and also, whether at least 600 Bales of *Turkey* Silk are not annually brought to our Looms more than before the Beginning of the first War.

But we are yet more sure of our Importation of *Piedmontese* and *Bergamo* Silks; this amounts to near a thousand Bales in a Year, and is wholly new. Of these and other *Italian* thrown and raw Silks, we use at least 1200 Bales annually at our Looms more than we did before

the Beginning of the first War. And whence is this prodigious Increase of our Silk Manufacture, but from the Interruption of our Commerce with *France*, and the Prohibition of *East-India* Silks?

I have by me an Account of the *East-India* raw Silks imported for several Years last past; the whole Quantity, at a Medium, will make 400 Bales *per Annum*; so much of this as is not re-exported is used at the *English* Looms. If by these several Articles 2000 Bales are used at our Looms more than formerly, the Weavers will be able to answer, whether the Produce will amount to less than 280,000 *l.* weight of wrought Silk, and this Quantity, at 50 *s.* *per* Pound, will make the Increase of our Silk Manufacture 700,000 *l.* *per Annum*. I am very ready to believe that such has been the Increase, from what was asserted at the Bar of the last House of Commons by a Gentleman well skilled in these Matters. He asserted that our Manufacture of Lustrings, Alamodes, and other black Silks for Hoods and Scarves only, amounted to ——— 300,000 *l.* *per Ann.*

Of Silks for Linings of Clothes in Imitation of <i>Persians</i> , to	150,000 <i>l.</i> <i>per Ann.</i>
Of Silk Handkerchiefs to	200,000 <i>l.</i> <i>per Ann.</i>

The whole of these Articles, ——— 650,000 *l.* *per Ann.*

All this, besides the Recovery of Stuffs and Cottons mixt with Silks, which before were almost lost to this Kingdom.

Lustrings

Lustrings and Alamodes are now very little used, the Silks that are used in their stead are *Rastiegeans* and *Mantua* Silks, which are quite a different Fabrick. But the whole Value, it seems, of our black Silks is 300,000 *l.* *per Annum*. This is an entire new Manufacture to *England*, with which before the first War we were wholly served by *France*. This is not such a prodigious Sum as People may imagine; it amounts to little more than 1 *s.* and 8 *d.* *per ann.* for every one of the Female Sex; and we may very well conceive that 300000 of this Sex are in these Silks every one at the Charge of 20 *s.* *per ann.* which makes up the whole Sum: But whatever is the Quantity, *France* served us with the whole before.

For Brocades and other rich Silks, almost the whole Quantity used in *England* were the Manufacture of that Nation, as well as great Part of the *Persians* for Linens: And if this last sort made in *England* amounts to 150,000 *l.* *per ann.* the whole of these two Articles imported may very well be believed to be the Value of 200,000 *l.* *per ann.*

The above-mentioned Articles, and that of Silk Handkerchiefs, make it credible that I am not much mistaken in my Computation of 2000 Bales of Silk manufactured by our own Looms, more than were before the Interruption of the *French* Commerce, and the Prohibition of *East-India* Manufactures. Whether such a Manufacture of so much Value deserves our Care or our Contempt, is the next thing to be considered.

In the first place I must insist upon it, that the whole Price of this Increase of our Silk Manufacture, from the Worm to the Mercer's Shop, is paid to the Product of our Lands, and to the Labour of our People.

There can be no question of the Silks which are imported raw from *Turkey*, and manufactured here in *England*. No Bullion is sent to that Country. The raw Silks are purchased there for our Woollen Manufactures; and as a Part of the Price of these is paid to the Landholder for his Wool, and the rest to the Labour of our People that made it up, it must be affirmed that the whole Value of *Turkey* raw Silk is indirectly paid to our own People, by being paid to them for the Goods that are exchanged for it: And as for the whole new Value that is super-added to it, for the Charge of importing, throwing, weaving, and dying of this Silk, it is entirely and directly paid to the Labour of our own People.

The same thing may be affirmed of the raw and thrown *Italian* Silks; they are both purchased by an Over-balance of *English* Manufactures exported to that Country; and if the whole Value of these are directly paid to the *English* Lands and Labour, and if we could not hope to preserve our *Italian* Markets for them without taking off their Silks, it must be acknowledged that our Landholders and Labourers are indirectly paid the Value of these Silks, by being paid for the Goods that are exchanged for them.

The only Difficulty is concerning *East-India* raw Silks, which are purchased partly by paid

our Silver, and partly by our Manufactures. But of those it must be acknowledged, that the whole Price of importing and working them up is paid to the Labour of our People. But as *East-India* raw Silks are the least Part of our Importation, so it is of these that we make the greatest Re-exportations; and the Countries to which we do it, reimburse us not only our whole Cost of the re-exported raw Silk, but a very great Part of the Price, and perhaps the whole for all the raw Silk that is imported from the *East-Indies*. However, the throwing of raw Silk employs so many little and otherwise useless Hands, that I shall never quarrel with the *East-India* Trade for the little Silver it exports for those useful Materials.

But this can never be said in defence of a Trade which exchanges our Silver for Foreign Silks already manufactured to the very utmost Perfection; for what can these be said to pay to our Lands? what to the Labour of our People? It were better for us to send our Money to the *East-Indies* than to *France* for these manufactured Silks, not only because they are purchased cheaper in the former, but because the Cost of a long Importation is all paid to our own Navigation; besides that, it were less dangerous to enrich a Country so great a Distance, than so near a Neighbour as the *French* Nation.

But that which I am chiefly aiming at is, that this whole Increase of the Silk Manufacture in *England* is so much lost to other

Nations : For all that pretend that we are not richer nor more populous than we were before the War, will grant that our Consumption of wrought Silks cannot be greater than it was before. Whence then is this Increase of a Manufacture to the Value of 700,000 *per ann.* gained? and to what Countries is it lost? It must be wholly lost to *France* and the *East-Indies*, and how is this Loss to be proportioned?

Our whole Quantity of black Silks was heretofore brought from *France*, our own Manufacture of this Commodity amounts to 300,000 *l. per ann.* *France* therefore has lost in this Article the selling us so great a Value.

There is no Reason to believe, that the whole Value of *East-India* wrought Silks annually consumed in *England* ever amounted to 200,000 *l. per ann.* it remains therefore to make up the whole 700,000 *l. per ann.* that the Value of 200,000 *l. per ann.* more in Brocades and other rich Silks must have been imported from *France*.

Then let the *Custom-House* Accounts make the wrought Silks imported from *France* as much or as little as they please; the Increase of the Silk Manufacture in *England* will demonstrate, that our Importation of this Commodity from *France* was heretofore 500,000 *l. per ann.*

The

The Authorities of Puffendorf, De Wit, and Fortry, produced, in order to confirm what has been before advanced concerning the vast Importations from France heretofore.

IF a Matter of Fact is at any time disputed, and cannot easily be determined otherwise than by the Evidence of Persons, I always esteem Witnesses in proportion to their Knowledge and Indifference; I ever think most Credit ought to be given to Witnesses that have been long since dead, or who can neither get nor lose by the Controversy.

The first Dispute concerning the *French* Trade, is, whether that Nation has heretofore sold to this an Over-balance of Goods and Merchandizes? and consequently, whether we did not pay the Balance in Gold or Silver? These Questions are denied by the other side, and affirmed by me.

A *Custom-House* Account I have produced, and it is against them; the *Custom-House* has been searched for an Account on their side, but no such thing can be found.

Custom-house Accounts tell us the Truth, but not the whole Truth. They tell us, that we imported from *France* a great Over-balance of Goods and Merchandizes; they tell us all, or very near all, that were exported, since it could not be the Interest of any Man to export Goods without making due Entries. But very

The Custom-house can give no exact Account of Imports nor of Exports.

great Duties are paid by the imported Goods which are entered at the *Custom-house*, all which are saved by clandestine Importations: The *Custom-house* can give us no Account of these clandestine Importations; and yet I have demonstrated that they were very great in the two Articles of Silks and Linens.

I was so fortunate as to find out Demonstrations in the Case of the above-mentioned Articles. For many other of our clandestine Importations, besides the Reason of saving the Duties, we must content ourselves with the Authority of Persons who from time to time have treated of these Matters, and whose Integrity at least is not to be suspected.

Puffendorf's Account.

The first I shall begin with, is *Puffendorf's Introduction to the History of Europe, English Translation, 7th Edit. pag. 212.* where, discouraging of *France*, he says, " Its Fertility is not only sufficient for its Inhabitants, but also so plentiful enough to be exported into Foreign Parts. The Commodities exported out of *France*, are chiefly Wine, Brandy, Vinegar, Salt, innumerable sorts of Silks, and WOOLLEN Stuffs and Manufactures, Hemp, Canvas, Linen, Paper, Glass, Saffron, Almonds, Olives, Capers, Prunelloes, Chestnuts, Soap, and the like: Scarce any Metals are to be found in *France*, and no Gold and Silver Mines; but this Want is supplied by the Ingenuity of the *French*, and the FOLLY of FOREIGNERS; for the *French* Commodities have drawn FLEETS of their MONEY into *France*, especially since *Henry IV.* set up the Silk
" Manu-

" Manufactory there. There are some who have computed that *France* sells Stuffs *Ala-*
" *mode* yearly to Foreigners only to the Value of 40 Millions of Livres, Wine 15 Millions, Brandy 5 Millions, Salt 10 Millions, and so proportionably of other Commodities. Mr. *Fortry*, an *Englishman*, says the Commodities which were brought from *France* into *England* exceeded what were carried from *England* to *France* in the Value of 1,600,000 *l.* Sterling; and it is notorious, that by what they send into *Spain* they get a great Part of their *West-India* Plate Fleet. But after all, Navigation does not flourish so much in *France* as it might. The Reason seems to be, that the *French* Nation is not so much addicted to the Sea, and that other Nations have been before-hand with them in the *East* and *West-Indies*; which is the Reason that the King, tho' he has above a hundred Capital Ships, yet cannot set out so great a Fleet hitherto as the *English* and *Dutch*. They apply themselves also to fishing upon the great Sand-bank before *Newfoundland*. The King's Revenues are computed at 150 Millions of Livres, whereas in the last Age it did not amount to above 9 or 10 Millions; at the time of *Henry IV.* to 16 Millions; and in the Year 1639 to 77 Millions: which vast Difference is in part to be ascribed to the different Value of Money since those Times, and the great Taxes which were imposed upon the Subjects: but without question the chief Reason is, that *France* since that time has found out new

The Silk Manufacture first establish'd in France.

The Revenue of France.

“ Ways to draw Money out of other Coun-
“ tries.”

Thus far Mr. Puffendorf, who was a Swede, and therefore without any Biass towards us or France. For my own part, I believe he must have been mistaken, or at least the Translator, in his Valuation of Stuffs *Alamode* to the Value of 40 Millions, because he has made the Exportation much greater than other Authors. For the rest of his Articles, he differs from them very little; especially from Mr. De Wit's *Maxims of Holland*, the *English* Translation of which, pag. 269, is thus.

De Wit's Account.

“ As to France, we are to observe, that
“ formerly that Country subsisted wholly by
“ Tillage; but since the Reign of *Henry IV*,
“ many heavy Impositions have been laid on
“ all imported Manufactures; and the weav-
“ ing of Wool, Silk, and Linen, with many
“ other mechanick Works, is so considerably
“ improved there, that the *French* can supply
“ others with more made Stuffs, and other
“ Manufactures, than Foreigners take off.”

And again, pag. 270.

“ I find myself obliged to draw up a List
“ of Manufactures and Commodities export-
“ ed out of France into Foreign Parts, espe-
“ cially into *Holland*, according to a Scheme
“ presented to the King of France by the So-
“ ciety of Merchants in *Paris*, when a new
“ and very high Imposition was laid upon all
“ Foreign imported Goods, and especially
“ Manufactures, fearing lest the like Imposi-
“ tions would be laid by *Holland* and *England*
“ upon all *French* Goods; and also from an
“ Imposition

“ Imposition exhibited by the Lord Ambassa-
“ dor *Boreel* in 1658, to the Lords States-
“ General of the *United Provinces*.

“ 1. In the first Place, great Quantities of
“ Velvet, Plushes, Sattins, Cloth of Gold
“ and Silver, Taffaties, and other Silk Wares
“ made at *Lions* and *Tours*, which amount
“ to above six Millions.

The Amount of the Exports for France to other Nations, and particularly to Holland in 1658.

“ 2. In Silk, Ribbands, Laces, Passe-
“ ments, Buttons, Loops made about *Paris*
“ and *Roan*, and those Parts, to the Value
“ of two Millions.

“ 3. Beaver-Hats, Castors, Hats of Wool
“ and Hair, which are made in and about
“ *Paris* and *Roan*, to the Value of one Mil-
“ lion and a half.

“ 4. Feathers, Belts, Fans, Hoods, Masks,
“ gilt and wrought Looking-Glasses, Wat-
“ ches, and other small Wares, to the Value
“ of above two Millions.

“ 5. Gloves made at *Paris*, *Roan*, *Ven-*
“ *dosme*, and *Clermont*, to the Value of above
“ a Million and a half.

“ 6. Woollen Yarn spun in all Parts of
“ *Picardy*, worth more than one Million
“ and a half.

“ 7. Paper of all sorts, made in *Auvergne*,
“ *Poitou*, *Limousin*, *Champagne*, and *Nor-*
“ *mandy*, for upwards of two Millions.

“ 8. Pins and Needles made at *Paris* and
“ *Normandy*, and Combs of Box, Horn, and
“ Ivory, for a Million and a half.

“ 9. Childrens Toys, and such as *Nurem-*
“ *burgh* Ware, or, as the *French* call them,
“ *Quincallerie*, made in *Auvergne*, for up-
“ wards of 60,000 Florins.

“ 10.

- “ 10. Linen, Sailcloth, made in *Britany*,
 “ and *Normandy*, for upwards of five Milli-
 “ ons of Florins.
 “ 11. Household Goods, Beds, Matrasses,
 “ Hangings, Coverlids, Quilts, Crespins,
 “ Fringes, and Molets of Silk, above 5 Mil-
 “ lions of Florins.
 “ 12. Wines from *Gascony*, *Xantoigne*,
 “ *Nantois*, and other Places, for above five
 “ Millions.
 “ 13. Brandies, Vinegar, and Cyder, for
 “ 1,500,000 Livres.
 “ 14. Saffron, Woad, Soap, Honey, Al-
 “ monds, Olives, Capers, Prunes, Prunel-
 “ loes, for above two Millions.
 “ 15. Salt, yearly the landing of 5 or 600
 “ Ships, exported from *Rochel*, *Brouage*,
 “ *Maran*, the Islands of *Oleron* and *Ree*.”

At the Foot of this Account stands this
 Marginal Note: *Of these Goods there are yearly*
transported above 30 Millions, whereof Holland
takes off the greatest Part.

The Question then is, what these Millions
 shall be understood to be, whether Livres,
 Florins or Crowns?

First, it cannot be Livres; for without the
 last Article of Salt, the rest made above 37
 Millions of Livres.

Secondly, it cannot be meant of Florins;
 for that too, besides the last Article, will
 make very little Alteration. Therefore,

Thirdly, it must be meant of *French*
 Crowns; for the two Articles mentioned in
 the Account of 5 Millions of Florins each,
 and one of 600,000 Florins, and one of a
 Million

Million and a half of Livres, being reduced
 to Crowns, will, with the other Articles a-
 mounting to 25 Millions, without denomina-
 ting any particular Species of Coin, if they
 shall all be understood to be Crowns, make
 the whole Sum upwards of 29 Millions and a
 half, besides what is to be added by the last
 Article of Salt, and consequently make the
 whole Computation of above 30 Millions
 very just.

Fourthly, to this ought to be added, that
 since three of the Articles are specified to be
 either Livres or Florins, the rest, which are
 not so specified, ought to be understood of
 Crowns.

Fifthly, Livres are the most common Pay-
 ment in *France*; yet, as appears by the Course
 of Exchange between that and other Countries,
 Crowns are the only usual Way of Exchang-
 ing.

Sixthly, the reckoning thus by Crowns, will
 make *Puffendorf's* fifteen Millions of Livres,
 and *De Wit's* five Millions, for *French* Wines,
 to be the very same Sum; and their Difference
 in Brandy to be no more than a Trifle.

This Account of *De Wit* will make the
 whole Exportations of *France* to be 6,750,-
 000 *l.* Sterling, which indeed is less than they
 have been valued at by other Writers, and of
 this the abovementioned Mr. *Fortry*, cited by
Puffendorf, makes the *French* Importations in-
 to *England* amount to 2,600,000 *l.* One
 Thing I ought to observe of Mr. *Fortry's*
 Book, that it was dedicated to King *Charles II.*,
 in the Year 1663, and it must have been a
 strange

strange Presumption in him to dedicate to his Prince an Account at random, and which had no Foundation at all to support it.

It is not possible by any Custom-House Accounts to find out so vast a Value of imported Goods and Merchandizes from the French Nation: but if I have justly proved, even against Custom-house Accounts, that the two Articles of French Linens and Wrought Silk annually imported into this Kingdom must have exceeded 1,400,000 l. per Annum; then a moderate Allowance for clandestine Importations in other Articles, might swell the whole to Mr. Fortry's 2,600,000 l. per Ann. And yet I can see no Reason why other Articles of Goods should not be run in upon us in as great a Proportion, to save the Duties, as well as those of Silks and Linens.

But it may be very well worth the Reader's while, to observe how it is that Mr. Fortry makes upon his Account, and the Authority he pretends for it. His Preamble to his Account is as follows:

Mr. Fortry's Account.

“ 1. In the next place, our Manufactures are to be consider'd, on which chiefly depend both the Wealth and Prosperity of this Kingdom; for by the Increase and Encouragement thereof, the Subjects are employed in honest and industrious Callings, maintain'd and preserv'd from Want, and those Mischiefs which commonly attend Idleness: The People furnish'd at home with all things both of Necessity and Pleasure, and by the Overplus procured from abroad, whatever for Use or Delight is wanting.

“ 2. The

“ 2. The chief Manufactures amongst us at this Day, are only Woollen Clothes, woollen Stuffs of all Sorts, Stockings, Ribbandings, and perhaps some few Silk Stuffs, and some other small things, scarce worth the naming; and these already nam'd, so decay'd and adulterated, that they are almost out of Esteem both at Home and Abroad.

“ 3. And this, because foreign Commodities are grown into so great Esteem amongst us, as we wholly undervalue and neglect the Use of our own; whereby that great Expence of Treasure, that is yearly wasted in Clothing, Furnitures, and the like, redounds chiefly to the Profit of Strangers, and to the Ruin of his Majesty's Subjects.

“ 4. And this will more plainly appear, if we examine the vast Sums of Money the French yearly delude us of; either by such Commodities as we may as well have of our own, or else by such others, as we might as well in great part be without: Whereby no doubt our Treasure will soon be exhausted, and the People ruin'd, as this Particular may make appear, which not long since was delivered in to the King of France, upon a Design he had to have forbidden the Trade between France and England, supposing the Value of English Commodities sent into France, did surmount the Value of those that were transported hither.

“ 1. There is transported out of France into England, great Quantities of Velvets plain and wrought Sattins plain and wrought, Cloth

“ of

The British Merchant.

“ of Gold and Silver, Armoysins, l.
 “ and other Merchandizes of Silk,
 “ which are made at Lyons, and
 “ are valued to be yearly worth 150,000
 “ 2. In Silks, Stuffs, Taffaties,
 “ Poudusfoys, Armoysins, Cloths of
 “ Gold and Silver, Tabbies plain
 “ and wrought, Silk-ribbands, and
 “ other such like Silk Stuffs as are
 “ made at Tours, valued to be worth
 “ by the Year above ——— 300,000
 “ 3. In Silk-ribbands, Galloons,
 “ Laces, and Buttons of Silk, which
 “ are made at Paris, Rouen, Chai-
 “ mont, St. Estiennes in Forrefts,
 “ by the Year about ——— 150,000
 “ 4. A great Quantity of Serges,
 “ which are made at Chalons, Char-
 “ tres, Estamines, and Rbeimes, and
 “ great Quantities of Serges made
 “ at Amiens, Crevecoeur, Blicourt,
 “ and other Towns in Picardy, by
 “ the Year above ——— 150,000
 “ 5. In Beaver, Demicafstor and
 “ Felt Hats, made in the City and
 “ Suburbs of Paris; besides many
 “ others made at Rouen, Lyons, and
 “ other Places, by the Year about 120,000
 “ 6. In Feathers, Belts, Girdles,
 “ Hatbands, Fans, Hoods, Masks,
 “ gilt and wrought Looking-Glaf-
 “ fes, Cabinets, Watches, Pictures,
 “ Cafes, Medals, Tablets, Brace-
 “ lets, and other such like Mercery
 “ Ware, by the Year above — 150,000
 “ 7. In

The Trade with France.

“ 7. In Pins, Needles, Box-
 “ combs, Tortois-shell-combs, and
 “ such like, by the Year about 20,000
 “ 8. In perfumed and trimmed
 “ Gloves, that are made at Paris,
 “ Rouen, Vendosme, Clermont, and
 “ other Places, by the Year about 10,000
 “ 9. In Papers of all Sorts, which
 “ are made at Auvergne, Poictou,
 “ Limosin, Champagne, and Nor-
 “ mandy, by the Year, above 100,000
 “ 10. In all Sorts of Ironmon-
 “ gers Wares, that are made in
 “ Forrefts, Auvergne, and other
 “ Places, by the Year, about — 40,000
 “ 11. In Linen Cloth that is
 “ made in Britany and Normandy,
 “ as well coarfe as fine, there is
 “ transported into England, by the
 “ Year, above ——— 400,000
 “ 12. In Houfhold-Stuff, con-
 “ sifting of Beds, Matrasses, Co-
 “ verlids, Hangings, Fringes of
 “ Silk, and other Furniture, by
 “ the Year, above ——— 100,000
 “ 13. In Wines from Gascoigne,
 “ Nantois, and other Places on the
 “ River of Loire, and also from
 “ Bourdeaux, Rochelle, Nantes,
 “ Rouen, and other Places, are
 “ transported into England, by the
 “ Year, above ——— 600,000
 “ 14. In Aqua Vitæ, Cyder,
 “ Vinegar, Verjuice, and such
 “ like, by the Year, about — 100,000
 “ 15. In

The British Merchant.

Imports from France.

“ 15. In Saffron, Cattle-Soap,
 “ Honey, Almonds, Olives, Ca-
 “ pers, Prunes, and such like, by
 “ the Year, about ——— 150,000

“ 16. Besides five or six hun-
 “ dred Vessels of Salt, loaded at
 “ Maron, Rochelle, Bouage, the Isle
 “ of Oleron, and Isle of Rhee, trans-
 “ ported into England and Holland,
 “ of a very great Value. So that,
 “ as by this Calculation, it doth
 “ appear, that the very yearly Va-
 “ lue of such Commodities as are
 “ transported from France to Eng-
 “ land amounts to above ——— 2,600,000

Exports thither.

“ And the Commodities exported out of
 “ England into France, consisting chiefly of
 “ Woollen Cloths, Serges, Knit Stockings,
 “ Lead, Pewter, Allom, Coals, and all else,
 “ do not amount to above Ten hundred
 “ thousand Pounds a Year clear Loss to this
 “ Kingdom.

Ballance to France.

“ Whereby the King of France, finding it
 “ would prove to his Loss, to forbid the Trade
 “ with England, soon laid aside the Design ;
 “ however, raised the Customs of some of
 “ our English Commodities, by which means
 “ the Vent of those Commodities is very much les-
 “ sened and hinder'd.

“ Hereby it may appear how insensibly our
 “ Treasure will be exhausted, and the Nation
 “ beggar'd, whilst we carelessly neglect our own
 “ Interest, and Strangers abroad are diligent to
 “ make their Advantages by us.”

In

The Trade with France.

In the second Paragraph, where Mr. For-
 try mentions the different sorts of Manufac-
 tures we had then in England, he does not so
 much as name those of Silk, Linen and Paper;
 from whence we may infer that they were,
 either so inconsiderable as not to be worth no-
 tice, or that we had then none at all, and that
 they have been since that time brought to the
 great Perfection they are now in. Must they
 for the sake of France be destroyed ?

From the fourth, I must beg leave to ob-
 serve, that it was the Intention of the French
 King, for his Country's Good, to have forbid
 the Trade between France and England, had
 he, upon this Examination, found it prejudi-
 cial to his Kingdom, as he suspected it was.
 Yet notwithstanding he found it, upon this
 View, so extremely advantageous to France,
 and so greatly prejudicial to England, he was
 so far from being satisfied with the great
 Gain he made, that he loaded our Commodi-
 ties with farther Duties, to prevent the Con-
 sumption of them in France, and to encourage
 his own Manufactures.

We have the same reason on our side, at
 least, to continue the high Duties and Prohibi-
 tions on all his Commodities, that are prejudi-
 cial to our Manufactures : Especially since we
 seem to have lost an Opportunity of settling
 that Trade upon an advantageous Foot. What
 can we now expect from France ? Is it to be
 supposed that France will do any thing in mere
 favour of our Trade, to the Prejudice of its
 own, that once intended wholly to have prohi-
 bited it, had it been the least detrimental there-
 to ?

Mr.

Mr. *Fortry* has shew'd us, how detrimental the Trade of *France* was in the Year 1663, he gives it from the State the *French* themselves took of it, and that State must, by all impartial Men, be allow'd to be true. If this is to be contradicted by the *Mercator*, what must we believe? It is probable that the *French* at that time took an Account of the State of their Trade with all Nations. They were then considering, how to lay their Duties on Importations and Exportations equally over all Parts of their Country, and to establish a general Tariff: At this time the Duties were various in fundry, nay in most Parts of *France*, some Provinces paid more, and others less, for the same Commodities; and the Confusion was so great, that the Merchants in *France* hardly knew what Duties they were to pay, and the King's Collectors General were unable to state any exact Account of that part of the Revenue arising from the Customs. This occasion'd the settling the Tariff of 1664, which was the first general Tariff that ever was settled in *France*. I hope from hence, no body will think it improbable, that the *French* in or before the Year 1663, should take a true State of their Trade.

The confident Authors of the *Mercator*, notwithstanding, in their very first Paper, they say, it is hard to contend with a general receiv'd Notion, that the Trade to *France* was always prejudicial, yet undertake to make the contrary appear, and that it always was, and always will be beneficial. Why would they have Mankind (contrary to all known Facts) believe

believe that that Trade always was beneficial? I am sure I have Reason on my side to affirm directly otherwise, that the Trade to *France* always was prejudicial, and will be so again, whenever their Commodities are re-admitted by taking off the high Duties and Prohibitions.

The Mercator's bold Assertion, That tho' the French King were Monarch of all Europe, Trade would run as it does, considered and exposed, with several other Paradoxes he has advanced in No. 126, and the Methods by which France has increased in Trade and Navigation.

THE most remarkable Thing, and that with which I shall begin, is this, **THO' THE KING OF FRANCE WERE TO BE MONARCH OF ALL EUROPE, TRADE WOULD RUN MUCH AS IT DOES.**

But how does he make it out, That Trade would run much as it does? Why by such Paradoxes as these that follow:

“ That *France* neither before the War, nor since, has bid fair for engrossing the Trade of the World.

“ That it cannot but make the most considering Men smile to hear People talk of a Nation engrossing Trade that has no WOOL for their Manufactures, and but a poor deal of Shipping for their Navigation.

“ That

The British Merchant.

" That their Situation is an effectual Bar a-
 " gainst their so much as meddling in several
 " considerable Trades in the World.
 " That the Rivers of *France*, except the
 " *Rhofne*, and its Branches, give them no
 " Navigation into any other Country.
 " That by her Situation, *France* is cut off
 " from Trade with the Heart of *Europe*.
 " That several Rivers, whose Course is out
 " of *France* thro' other Countries, give those
 " Countries an Inlet into the Heart of *France* ;
 " by which she is so far from engrossing the
 " Trade of the World, that she cannot carry
 " on her whole Trade within her self, with-
 " out exporting her Goods to Foreign Coun-
 " tries from one part of *France*, that they may
 " be re-exported into another.
 " That the Wines, Wrought Silk, Olives,
 " Oil, Fruit, &c. of *Gasconne*, *Languedoc*,
 " *Anjou*, cannot be sent to the North of *Cham-*
 " *pagne*, or to *Alsatia*, but by the way of
 " *Holland*, or by along Voiture by Land, at
 " an intolerable Expence, and such as would
 " ruin Trade it self.
 " That, with the greatest Part of *Europe*,
 " *France* has no Correspondence, nor can
 " trade with, but by the Help of her Neigh-
 " bours.
 " That she cannot sail without Ships, nor
 " carry by Water without Sea or Rivers, or
 " make Manufactures without Wool.
 " That the *French* are incapable of being
 " considerable in Trade, because they have no
 " Ships for their Trade, and no Trade for
 " their Ships ; that is none, comparatively to
 " the

The Trade with France.

" the Trade and Shipping of the two Mari-
 " time Powers, much less to all *Europe*.
 " That the *Dutch* employ more Shipping
 " in their Fisheries, than all the Shipping in
 " *France* ; and so do the *English* in the *West-*
 " *India* Trade.
 " That the very Coal Trade of *England*
 " employs more Tuns of Shipping, than the
 " whole Amount of *French* Shipping, either
 " at Home or Abroad.
 " That *France* has no Trade to employ
 " such Numbers of Ships, as are employed
 " either by the *English* or *Dutch*.
 " That the *French* were nothing at Sea du-
 " ring the last War ; that they carried on on-
 " ly a Piratical War, or if they ever fitted out
 " a Fleet, they were forc'd to lay up their
 " Privateers ; or, when these were mann'd,
 " to lay up their Men of War.
 " That wheresoever we met their Fleets,
 " we blow'd them out of the Sea ; that they
 " durst not meet us there, or always had the
 " worst, and at last left us the Dominion of
 " that Element.
 " That a Nation that dares not look us in
 " the Face at Sea, is not likely to prevail o-
 " ver the World in Trade.
 " That so long as the *English* and *Dutch* are
 " the chief in Maritime Power, they will com-
 " mand the Trade of the World.
 " That as long as we encourage and im-
 " prove our naval Strength, this will be the
 " Security of our Trade ; this will be our Se-
 " curity against all Pretenders and Invaders in
 " the World."

These

These are a Set of very curious Maxims : But in defiance of them I must inform the *Mercator*, that the Dominion of *Spain* and the *Spanish West-Indies*, join'd to the natural Fertility and Industry of *France*, would soon enable this Prince to make himself the sole Monarch of all *Europe*, and to leave *England*, *Holland*, and all other Countries, no more Trade than what he shall please not to take from them.

First, for Dominion ; if before the last War, and the surprizing Victories of the Duke of *Marlborough*, *England*, *Holland*, *Spain*, and *Germany*, had so much Difficulty to preserve themselves against the single Power of *France*, what should we be able to do if *France* and *Spain* should come to be united under one Prince, and all the Treasures of the *Spanish West-Indies* should be made to flow into *France* ?

But the *Mercator* is in no pain for our Trade, tho' it should be broken, and tho' *England* should be made a Province to the *French* Nation ; for even then, says he, *France* cannot engross the Trade of the World.

And for what Reason ? why, first, because they have no Wool for their Manufactures ; or, as in another Place he expresses it, they cannot make Manufactures without Wool.

Now tho' I have several times told the *Mercator*, that Mutton is eaten in every Village in *Europe*, that their Sheep every where wear Fleeces, and that these Fleeces are generally manufactured in the Countries where they grow ; nay, tho' he has been often told, that better

better Wool is imported from *Spain* than ever grew in *England* ; yet all this is still forgotten : Wool is the peculiar Growth of this Kingdom.

I have shewn by the Authority of Mr. *Puffendorf*, that innumerable Sorts of Woollen Stuffs and Manufactures are exported out of *France* ; the Authority of Mr. *De Wit*, that Woollen Yarn spun in all Parts of *Picardy*, worth more than a Million and a half, was annually exported out of *France* ; the Authority of Mr. *Fertry*, that the Serges of *Chalons*, *Chartres*, &c. and from *Amiens* and other Towns in *Picardy*, imported into *England*, were worth 150,000 *l. per Ann.* Yet all goes for nothing. *France* has no Wool, and can make no Manufactures.

But if all this were true at present, would it continue to be a Truth, if we were to become a Province to that Kingdom ? Should we then be able to continue our Laws against the Exportation of Wool ? No certainly, we should be obliged to obey our Masters, and to grant a Bounty on the Exportation of our Wool, as we do on our Corn, that *France* might have it cheaper than our People.

But lastly, if there were no Wool in *France*, why must *France* be said to have no Manufactures ? Are there none but Woollen Manufactures ? Are not Silks, Linen, Paper, and divers other things Manufactures ? and are not the Exportations out of *France* of these things superior to our whole Exportations of the Woollen Manufacture ? But if *France* were to have the Dominion over *England*, she would

not suffer the Exportation of *English*, any more than we do of *Irish* Woollen Manufactures.

The next thing is, that the Situation of *France* is inconsistent with engrossing the Trade of *Europe*, quite contrary to *Puffendorf*, who places it in the Center of *Europe*, and makes the Carriage of their Goods so much easier to other Countries.

But, it seems, the Rivers of *France* let other Countries into the Heart of *France*, but not *France* into other Countries: These are strange Rivers indeed! I must desire the *Mercator* to explain them; for my own part, I think the *Soame*, the *Seine*, the *Loire*, the *Rhosne*, are an Outlet for the Goods of *France* to other Countries, as much as the *Thames* for *England*. And the *Maese*, the *Rhine*, and the *Moselle*, are as much Rivers for the Carriage of *French* Goods to *Holland* and *Germany*, as for bringing back the Goods of those Countries into *France*. But 'tis ridiculous to spend Words in proving that 'tis Light at Noon-day.

But one of the merriest things (if it were possible to be merry when such Men as these would persuade us that our Trade may be safe under the absolute Power of *France*) is, that *France* is not able to convey her Goods from one Part of that Country to another, but either through *Holland*, or by a chargeable Land Carriage. May not the Goods of *Gascogne*, *Anjou*, or *Languedoc*, be carried up the *Seine*, and the Branches that run into that River, to the Neighbourhood of *Alsace* and *Champagne*?

And

And will the little Land Carriage then be so very chargeable? Or will the Conveyance by the way of *Holland*, the Duties in and out of that Country, and the several Tolls upon the *Maese* and the *Rhine*, be less Expence? Or is the Land Carriage for Silk, Linen, and Paper, so very dear? Yet this round about way must be taken to save it: But nothing is too absurd for the *Mercator*.

With what Face can he say, that *France* has no Outlets for other Countries, that has such Rivers running into the Ocean or *Mediterranean*? Has one of the most fertile Countries no Product to send abroad? one of the most ingenious and polite People no Manufactures for Foreign Markets? We have found otherwise to our Cost.

But in the last Place, this Man says the *French* have no Shipping for their Manufactures. This indeed was formerly the Case, but we have little Reason to think it will ever be so again. They have of late Years made wonderful Application to the Sea; they have met the united Fleets of *England* and *Holland*, and come off without any great Disadvantage. If they quitted the Sea during the last War, it must be own'd that they did it to bring their whole Strength to bear against the Confederate Army under the Duke of *Marlborough*: God knows whether we may ever have another Duke of *Marlborough*; I hope we shall never want one: But how the *French* can ever want either Shipping or Seamen, that have more Goods to export in Bulk than any other single Nation in the World, and that have such a Nursery for

L 2

Seamen

Seamen yielded up to them as Cape Breton, is past my Reason to imagine.

The Mercator, No. 128. is grown outrageous upon my having affirmed, That it would be possible for France to engross the Trade of the World, if we should become a Province to that Kingdom. The very Supposition of such a thing has put him into the greatest Disorder imaginable. He has my free Consent to be as angry as he pleases with this Supposition, for it is his own; his Words, No. 126. are, FOR WERE THE KING OF FRANCE MONARCH OF ALL EUROPE, he could not do it, (i. e. engross the whole Trade) he could not sail without Ships, carry by Water without Sea or Rivers; he could not make Manufactures without Wool; he might have the Dominion of the Country, BUT THE TRADE WOULD RUN MUCH AS IT DOES.

Certainly it was very lawful for me to confute this extravagant Paradox; but if the Author of that Paper had just Reason to believe his Readers would be startled at his Assertion, I might justly expect the Rage he has poured out for exposing it to them in so clear a View as I have done; yet I must declare my Hopes, that we shall not become a Province to the French Nation, tho' I said before, That GOD KNOWS whether we may ever have another Duke of Marlborough; and I must agree with the Mercator in this, That WE KNOW that God is able to deliver us whether we have or no.

But observe the Mercator's Reasons why the French cannot engross the Trade of Europe, even

even tho' we were to become a French Province; they cannot sail without Ships; they cannot carry by Water without Sea or Rivers; they cannot make Manufactures without Wool. His Arguments of sailing without Ships, and making Manufactures without Wool, are fully answered; France has Ships sufficient for her Trade, and can increase them as her Trade increases. She is not deprived of the Power of doing this by the late Treaties; and as for making Manufactures without Wool, France has Wool of her own Growth; I have given the Mercator some Reasons to believe it, I shall give him other Reasons now. In the Tariff of 1664, among the Duties of Exportation out of France, besides the Duties of exported Wool, there is a Duty of 4 Sols per Head upon all Yews that are exported. France exacts so small a Duty upon exported Yews, and yet shall it be said that Nation has no Wooll?

But since he has not only asserted this, but that France by her very Situation, and for want of Rivers and Water Carriage, is incapable of much Trade; and since I have mentioned the Tariff of 1664, I think it will not be amiss to give him an Extract out of the Introduction to that Tariff, which in the French Book of Rates lately translated into English, begins pag. 10. in the following Words.

“ But finding that these Abatements would only lessen the present Miseries, and give our People the Opportunity to live with more ease, but did not tend to bring in Wealth from abroad, and that Trade alone is capable of bringing this to pass; for this purpose

The Encouragement the French King has given to Trade and Navigation.

“ pose we have therefore from the beginning
 “ apply’d ourselves to the proper Means to
 “ support, encourage and increase the same,
 “ and to give all possible Ease to our Subjects
 “ therein : And in order thereunto have caus’d
 “ a general Inquisition to be made in all
 “ the Tolls which are rais’d upon all the Ri-
 “ vers in our Kingdom, which any way hin-
 “ der the Commerce, or the transporting
 “ Goods and Merchandizes from Place to
 “ Place, and having enquired into all the Pre-
 “ tences every where made for the raising and
 “ levying the said Tolls, we have suppress’d
 “ so many of them, that the *Navigation of our*
 “ *Rivers is thereby made extraordinary easy.* At
 “ the same time we have established Commis-
 “ saries in all our Provinces, to examine the
 “ Dues of all our Communities or Corporati-
 “ ons ; upon which we have made such Regu-
 “ lations as would reduce the same for the
 “ present, and afterwards entirely discharge
 “ them : And in the mean time we have gi-
 “ ven a general Liberty of Trade to all Peo-
 “ ple, which they had been deprived of by
 “ the Violences aforesaid.—After this
 “ we have endeavour’d to cause all our *Bridges,*
 “ *Causeways, Moles, Banks, Peers, and other*
 “ *publick Buildings to be repaired ;* the bad
 “ Condition whereof have been a great Hin-
 “ drance to Trade, and to the carrying of
 “ Merchandize from Place to Place. Also
 “ we have powerfully established the Safety
 “ and Liberty of the Highways, appointing
 “ severe Punishments to Highway-men, and
 “ obliging the Provosts of our Cousins the Mar-
 “ shals

“ shals of *France* to a careful discharge of their
 “ Office. And after having thus done every
 “ thing that was in our Power to restore
 “ Trade within the Kingdom, we have ap-
 “ ply’d the greatest of our Care for the encourag-
 “ ing *Navigation and Commerce also without,* as
 “ the only Means to enrich our Subjects. To
 “ this end, having found by Experience that
 “ Strangers had made themselves Masters of all
 “ the Trade by Sea, nay even of the Coast-
 “ ing Trade from Port to Port of our own
 “ Kingdom ; and yet the small Number of Ships
 “ which remained in the possession of our Sub-
 “ jects were every day taken just at our own
 “ doors, as well in the *Levant Seas* as in the
 “ *Western Ocean ;* we have established the *Im-*
 “ *position of 50 Sols per Ton on the Freight of*
 “ *all Strangers Ships, at the same time discharg-*
 “ *ing those of our own Subjects ;* encouraging
 “ them thereby to build and fit out sufficient
 “ Numbers of Ships for their Coasting Trade :
 “ At the same time we have put to Sea so con-
 “ siderable a Fleet, both of Ships and Gallies,
 “ as should oblige the Coastlers of *Barbary* to
 “ keep their Ports and Places of Retreat. And
 “ the better to suppress all manner of Piracy,
 “ we have resolv’d to attack them in their
 “ Country ; to the end, that having fortified
 “ some considerable Ports, we might be able
 “ to keep the same in possession.
 “ At the same time, we have secured the
 “ *Navigation of our Subjects* against all other
 “ Pirates, by allowing them Convoys of our
 “ Men of War. We have fortified and aug-
 “ mented the *French Colonies* settled in Ca-
 “ uada,

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“ *nada*, and the Islands of *America*, by having
“ sent our Ships thither; making them ac-
“ knowledge our Authority, by settling of
“ Courts of Justice among them. Also we
“ have laid the Foundation for the Settlement
“ of our *East-India* and *West-India* Companies,
“ which are now set up in our Kingdom, to
“ our entire Satisfaction.

“ But altho’ all these great things are very
“ much to our Satisfaction, yet the said Love
“ which we have for our People, as it is eve-
“ ry day stirring us up to forget what is past,
“ and look forward to what may further be
“ done, to the Increase of their Happiness;
“ we have resolved to erect a Council of Trade,
“ to meet in our Presence, and to employ to
“ that end one of the Councils of the Finan-
“ ces, which for that Purpose we shall dissolve:
“ In which Council of Trade shall be confi-
“ dered all the Means possible for the Increase
“ and Encouragement of Trade both within and
“ without our Kingdom; and also OF MA-
“ NUFACTURES, which having been hap-
“ pily performed in the first Day of their
“ Meeting, we have made known to all our
“ Companies, as well Sovereign as Inferior,
“ to all Governours of Provinces, and their
“ Intendants, how tender a regard we have to
“ the Prosperity of the said Commerce, with
“ Orders to them to employ all that Authority
“ which we have committed to them, for the
“ Protection of the Merchants, and to do Ju-
“ stice to them, even with preference to o-
“ thers, that they may not be injured or chea-
“ ted, or any way discouraged in their Busi-
“ nefs.

The Trade with France.

“ nefs. And we have by Circular Letters in-
“ vited the Merchants to address themselves
“ directly to us, upon all Occasions, and
“ to depute some one of their Body near our
“ Person, to present to us their Memorials and
“ Petitions; and in case of Difficulty, we
“ have appointed a Person to receive all their
“ Petitions, and solicit for them at our Ex-
“ pence. And we have ordained there shall
“ always be a House appointed for that pur-
“ pose. We have also resolved to employ a
“ Million of Livres yearly for the Settling of
“ Manufactures, and the Increase of Navigati-
“ on. But as the most effectual Means for
“ the restoring of Trade, is the lessening and
“ regulating the Duties upon Goods and Mer-
“ chandizes coming in and going out of the
“ Kingdom, we have appointed our Trusty
“ and well-beloved the Sieur Colbert, Coun-
“ sellor in our Royal Council, and Intendant
“ in our Finances, &c.

Has the French King taken such Care to
render easy the Navigation of his Rivers? Has
he applied the greatest of his Care for the encou-
raging Navigation also without? Has he laid
such Impositions on Strangers Ships, discharging
at the same time those of his own Subjects? Has
he been at the Charge of Convoys, to secure the
Navigation of his Subjects against Pirates? Has
he erected a Council of Trade for the Increase and
Encouragement of Trade both within and without
his Kingdom, and also of Manufactures? Has
he employed a Million of Livres yearly for the set-
tling of Manufactures, and the Increase of Navi-
gation

gation? And does the *Mercator* go on to tell us that *France* is incapable of Trade or Navigation?

The convenient Water-Carriage they have in France.

There is not a Country situate more than *France* in the Center of all *Europe*? And does her Situation then disqualify her for increasing her Trade and Navigation? Does she want an Outlet to the Sea, when she has at least 700 Miles of Coast to the Ocean, and between two and three hundred to the *Mediterranean*? Or does she want an Inland Navigation from the very Heart of that Country to the Coast? I have the Map of *France* lying before me at this very time and besides numberless other Rivers emptying themselves on the Coast, when I view the *Seine*, the *Loire*, and the *Garone* in the Ocean, and the *Rhosne* in the *Mediterranean*, and the innumerable Branches running into those Rivers, I am not able to see a Town or City of any Note in all *France*, at any considerable distance from Navigation, except in the Province of *Languedoc*; and the Want there has been supplied by a Royal Canal, at the Cost of the *French* King, by which he has made a Communication by Water thro' the very Heart of his Country between the Ocean and the *Mediterranean*. I cannot conceive of any Country how it can be rendered, either by Art or Nature, more capable of Navigation. Can *France* send from all Parts by Water-Carriage to the Ocean, or the *Mediterranean*, her Product or Manufactures, which are too much for the Consumption of her own People, and by the same Conveyance

The Advantage of Water-Carriage in France by a Canal.

veyance back again, receive things of foreign Growth, which are useful for her Manufactures? And then is she not capable of performing the whole Exportation and Importation between her self and other Countries, in Shipping of her own? I desire then this Man will explain to his Readers what it is he means, when he tells them, that the *French* cannot carry by Water without Sea or Rivers: She has both Sea and Rivers sufficient for her Water-Carriage; and CAPE BRETON IS YIELDED TO HER, which will prove a perpetual Nursery for Seamen.

I hope there is no manner of Danger of our ever becoming a Province to *France*; but let us continue as Independent as we can desire, I believe I have said enough to demonstrate, that there is no want of Sea or Rivers in that Nation, to render her considerable in Commerce or Navigation. We have seen and felt, that her Increase in both in this last Age, has been prodigious by the wise Maxims of her present King. But he judged very rightly, as is expressed in the Extract I have mentioned, that Trade was the only Way of bringing in Wealth from Abroad.

Extract

Extracts of two Edicts of the French King, concerning the Paper Manufacture.

Paper is made in France for less than half the Price it is in England, and why it is.

A Demonstration that the French Manufacturers work cheaper than the English, with respect to the Quantity and Quality of their Work.

If the French Bill of Commerce should pass, the English Paper Manufacture must be ruined.

An Essay proving the Value of Paper heretofore annually imported from France, either fairly or clandestinely.

ARRET of the King's Council, prohibiting the Exportation of old Linen, old Clothes, Rags, &c. 1697.

“ **T**HE King having been informed,
 “ That the Exporting old Linen, old
 “ Clothes, Rags, &c. is a very considerable
 “ Prejudice to the Manufactures of Paper and
 “ Cards of this Kingdom, had ordained, by a
 “ former Arret of the 28th of *January*, 1697,
 “ That the said Goods should pay 12 Livres
 “ *per* hundred Weight upon their Exportation,
 “ instead of 6 Livres *per* hundred Weight,
 “ payable by the Tariff of 1664 : but his said
 “ Majesty having since that being informed,
 “ That notwithstanding double Duty, divers
 “ particular Merchants continue to export
 “ such great Quantities out of the Kingdom,
 “ as would cause a Scarcity thereof to the
 “ Manu-

“ Manufacturers in the Provinces aforesaid ;
 “ for Remedy whereof his Majesty ordains,
 “ and hereby makes an expresse Prohibition to
 “ all Persons, of what Rank or Condition so-
 “ ever, to export out of the Kingdom, with-
 “ out his Permission, any old Linen, old
 “ Clothes, or Rags, from the Day of the Pub-
 “ lication hereof, upon Pain of Confiscation,
 “ and three thousand Livres Fine, of which
 “ the third part to the Informer.

*Done at Versailles,
 May 29. 1697.*

Signed,

Du Jardin.

ARRET of the King's Council, taking off the Duties of Exportation upon all Cloth of and Silver, and Silks, and upon Paper, Past-board and Cards ; and moderating the Duties upon Stuffs of Wool, and Thred Linnen-Cloth, and other Merchandizes, December 24. 1701.

“ **L**ikewise his Majesty ordains, That for
 “ Paper of all sorts, White, Brown,
 “ Blue, and all other Colours; Books print-
 “ ed, bound, and not bound ; Cards, Past-
 “ boards, and Cards to play with, going out
 “ of this Kingdom into foreign Parts, there
 “ shall not be paid any Duties at all.

*Done at Versailles,
 Decem. 24. 1701. Sign'd,*

*Philippeaux.
 By*

By these two Abstracts of the *French King's* Arrets it may be perceived how careful he is of his Manufactures in general, and of that of Paper in particular.

The Provinces in France where Paper is made.

There are seven Provinces in *France* where the Manufacture of Paper is settled, viz. *Champaine, Normandy, Brittany, Augoumois, Perigord, Limousin* and *Auvergne*; the three last Provinces are full of large Forests of Chestnut Trees, and abound so much in that kind of Fruit, that the common People have no other Food all the Year round, and no other Drink but Water; so that they can afford their Work very cheap, and do it next to nothing, except some of the upper Workmen, who earn a small Salary by the Week. This is so true, that considerable Parcels of Paper were imported lately from thence, altho' the Duties paid here exceed one hundred *per Cent.* on the first Cost, notwithstanding which the *French* Merchants are able to undersell us; and some of them do brag, that as soon as the Parliament is up, they will import great Quantities, whether the high Duties be taken off or no; but being in hopes to succeed in having them taken off, they forbear a-while importing, to see the Event, and to save, if they can, the 45 *per Cent.* Duty which is now paid upon *French* more than upon any other Foreign Paper; which, if it should happen, would prove the entire Ruin of the Paper Manufacture of this Kingdom.

A Comparison between the Food of the French & English Manufacturers.

If Chestnuts, and such-like spontaneous Productions of the Earth, for which we are chiefly beholden to Nature, very little to the Labour of Man, are the greatest part of the Subsistence of

of the People employ'd in the Paper Manufacture of *France*, there can be little doubt of their living at less Wages than our *English* labouring People: Even my Adversary would not have the Confidence to assert that a Bellyfull of Chestnuts, which grow without the Labour of Man, shall cost as much as a Belly full of Bread, which pays so much to the Ploughman, the Seedsmen, the Reaper, the Thresher, the Miller, the Baker, and innumerable other Labourers, who have bestowed some Work upon every Loaf that was ever eaten. Our People therefore are subsisted at a great Charge, and the *French* Manufacturers for almost nothing.

But for all this, he will not yield that the *French* can work cheaper: That they may (says he, No. 67.) work a Day for less Money than an Englishman, may be true; that they may live on an Onion and a Draught of Water, a Bunch of Grapes, and a Piece of Bread, while the English Workman has his Beef and his Pudding, this may be true: But there is a great Difference between working a Day, and doing a DAY'S Work; and that without boasting of our own, he undertakes to say, that tho' other People will work a Day for less Money than the English, no Nation in the World will DO SO MUCH in a Day as the English, or do THAT WORK SO WELL. And he to avoid being partial in favour of his own Country, appeals for the Truth of it to the very Foreigners themselves that live among us.

He acknowledges here that the English Workman must have HIS BEEF and HIS PUDDING, while he is contented to allow the

the *French* Manufacturer only an *Onion* and a *Draught of Water*, a *Bunch of Grapes*, and a *Piece of Bread*, which is certainly the cheaper Diet of the two; and yet as cheap as it is, the People employ'd in their Paper Manufacture, are very few of them so well fed: Their chief Diet is *Chestnuts*, which is not quite so dear as what we give our *Hogs*. Here then we have his Confession, that the Subsistence of the People in *France* is much cheaper than it is in *England*; and yet if that of their Paper Manufacturers is chiefly *Chestnuts*, it is still a great deal cheaper than he has acknowledged: Without having recourse to the Reduction of their Coin in *France*, and the cheaper Wages there upon that account, there can be no question that a *Bushel* of *Chestnuts* is to be purchas'd for less Silver than a *Bushel* of *Bread Corn*.

But then the *Mercator* urges, that there is great Difference between *working a Day* and doing a *Day's Work*, between working for less *Daily Wages*, and doing as much *Daily Work*; and he undertakes to say, That *no Nation in the World will do so much Work in a Day, or do that Work so well*; and for the Truth of this, he *appeals to the Foreigners themselves that live among us*. I accept of his Appeal, and will be content to abide by their Determination.

I have had the Curiosity to enquire into the Paper Manufacture, and I find that five Pair of Hands are employ'd at every Fat; that so many Hands are necessary in *England*, and that more cannot be used in *France*. I am taught too by our own Manufacturers, that they

they do not dispatch here above eight Reams of Paper in a Day at a single Fat, and that they dispatch above nine in *France* with the same Number of Hands; and yet I believe there is not any Man in *England* so hardy as to affirm, that either ours, or indeed any Paper in the World, exceeds that of *France*.

I would not be thought to affirm, that a *Frenchman*, with his Bellyfull of *Chestnuts*, or with this Man's *Onion* and a *Draught of Water*, with his *Piece of Bread*, and a *Bunch of Grapes*, can have as much Strength as an *Englishman* with his *Beef and Pudding*: but there is a Slight of Hand in almost every Manufacture that is much more necessary than Strength; and 'tis plain, that we are not yet arrived at that Slight, if a Fat with five Pair of Hands, in *France*, is able to work off more Reams of Paper than the same Number of Hands can do in *England*.

If the *French* Manufacturers can live on *Chestnuts*, possibly not a fourth part of the Price of our *English* Diet, surely they may be able to work for a third part of the daily Wages that are given in *England*. And if with all this the same Number of Hands can dispatch more Reams of Paper in a Day than can be done in *England*, it is not to be wondered at, that with the present Duties exceeding *Cent. per Cent.* on *French* Paper, the *French* are nevertheless able to undersell our *English* Manufacturers. But their very underselling of us, under the present Load of Duties, is another Demonstration, that the *French* work

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work more and better Paper, for less Wages, than the Paper-makers in this Kingdom.

What then must be the Consequence, if 45 per Cent. of the present Duties on French Paper should be taken off, pursuant to the late Treaty of Commerce? Then there is an End of our English Manufacture.

Before the Revolution, there was hardly any other Paper made in England than brown; but the War ensuing, and Duties being laid from time to time on foreign Paper, it gave such Encouragement to the Paper-makers, that most of them begun to make white Paper fit for writing and printing; and they have brought it by degrees to so great Perfection both for Quantity and Goodness, that they make now near two Thirds of what is consum'd in Great Britain; and several of them make it as white and as well bearing as any comes from abroad, as Sir William Humphreys, Mr. Baskett, and several others, can witness. And I make no doubt, if further Encouragement was given them, by taking off the 12 per Cent. Excise, which was lately laid upon home-made Paper, and which by the Multitude of Officers brings in little or nothing to the Queen, and the said 12 per Cent. (for an Equivalent to the Fund) was laid upon Outlandish Paper, but that they could in a little time make enough to supply all the Occasions of the Nation, there being above 120 Fats within 60 Miles of London, besides several more in Yorkshire and Scotland, which all (more or less) make white Paper, and will undoubtedly go on daily improving and increasing

Number of Paper Fats in Great Britain.

The Trade with France.

creasing that useful Manufacture, if the present high Duties be kept on French Paper, being that which they dread most, by reason of its extraordinary Cheapness.

The necessity of having writing and printing Paper is well known to every body; but it will not perhaps be amiss to make it appear how profitable and beneficial that Manufacture is to Great-Britain.

The Benefit of the Paper Manufacture, and the way to make Paper.

Rags are the main Ingredient Paper is made of, which were formerly cast away, and thrown to the Dunghill, but are now gathered with great Care by poor People, who get honestly their Livelihood by it, and would otherwise beg their Bread: This employs abundance of Hands. When these Rags are gathered, they are brought to the Mill, and this still employs more Hands. After they are in the Mill, they let them lie a while till they are sufficiently mellow or rotten, and then put them into the Tubs under the Hammers, to be beaten into a kind of Jelly or white Substance looking like Milk; and being thence carried into the Fat, the chief Workman, upon a Pair of Molds for that Purpose, takes up the Sheets or Water Leaves, (of which he makes 4 or 5000 more or less, according to the Size and Weight of the Paper.) These Water Leaves, after being well pressed between two Felts, and the Water well drained out, are carried up into the Garrets or drying Rooms, and there hung upon a Multitude of Ropes to dry: and from thence being brought down again into the sizing Room, a Liquor is there prepared for sizing or gumming every Sheet; the Paper which is for printing

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ing being but moderately fiz'd, but that which is for writing nicely, that it may bear Ink.

This Paper, after fizing, is a second time prefs'd, and carried up into the Garrets, and hung upon the Ropes to dry once more; and then, with a great deal of Care, and hard Labour, prefs'd a third, a fourth, and a fifth time, to make it smooth and of a good Grain; and then put up into Quires and Reams.

Now considering how many Hands every individual Sheet of Paper goeth thro' before it is brought to Perfection, 'tis plainly perceived that a great Number of People is employ'd in each Mill: then those who gather the Rags up and down in all the Counties of England, and bring them to the Mills; those who make the Felts, which takes up a good Quantity of Wool, being very thick, and for every Sheet of Paper, a Piece of Felt of the same Size, or a little larger; the Rope-makers, the Mould-makers, the Carpenters, Wheel-wrights, Timber-Merchants, Smiths, (for this Work consumes a great deal of Iron, by the Hammers bearing perpetually upon the Iron Plates) and several other Trades, who depend upon the building and keeping the Mills in repair; those who sell Allum, Copperas, Cuttings and Parings of Gloves, Parchment and Leather; all which are used in the fizing or gumming of Paper: All these Things considered, it cannot be denied, but a vast many People get their Livelihood, or receive a Benefit, by this useful and ingenious Manufacture.

There is still one farther Use I would make of this Information, which I have received from

The Trade with France.

from the Paper Manufacturers of this Kingdom; and that is, to compute by it, as I have done in the Articles of Linen and wroughtSilk, the Value of Paper which was heretofore annually imported from the French Nation.

Upon the Interruption of our French Commerce, we have increased our Importation of Paper from other Countries, and the Manufacture of this Commodity in Great Britain. Indeed the Manufacture of white Paper is almost entirely new in this Kingdom.

If it shall be said we are not richer now than we were formerly, and if our late Excises on Paper make it credible that our Consumption of it is not greater than before our first War with France, then whatsoever we have increased in this Manufacture at home, or in the Importation of it from other Countries, is so much lost to France, then the whole Quantity of this Increase was annually imported from that Kingdom.

One hundred and twenty Fats within 60 M. of London for white Paper, at 8 Reams a day, must produce near 300,000 Reams per Ann. and if those of Yorkshire and Scotland, together with the Increase of our Importations from Italy and Holland, shall be allowed to produce above 100,000 Reams more for the Consumption of this Kingdom, (as they certainly do, if the whole Paper Manufacture of Britain is but two Thirds of our whole Consumption) the whole Quantity made in this Kingdom, or imported from other Countries instead of French Paper, will amount to 400,000 Reams per Annum: then such therefore must have been our annual

The State of the Paper Manufacture in Great Britain, and the Quantity made here.

The British Merchant.

And the Value of it. annual Importation from France, and the Value of this, at 5 s. per Ream, must have amounted to 100,000 l. per Annum.

Our Custom-house Accounts then may tell us the Value of 20 or 30 or 40,000 l. per annum, was annually imported from France, the rest of the Sum of 100,000 l. per Annum must be made up by clandestine Importations.

A Letter, shewing by the Authority of the Review, (writ by the Author of the Merchant) that the Ballance of the French Trade was formerly against England: with some Reflections upon several Passages in that Author.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

YOU have lately given us the Authority of Puffendorf, De Wit, and Fortry, for the vast Extent of the French Trade and Manufactures. I have sent you here the Words of a living Author upon the same Subject, and the vast Ballance France formerly had against England. My Author, I believe, would take it ill not to be thought as considerable as any of the Persons you have cited; and for my own part, I think he has treated this as well as ever he did any other Subject. My Author is the Review, and his Words are as follow:

Re-

The Trade with France.

Review, No. 82. Saturday Decem. 16. 1740.

It lies before us to consider our Trade, as it stands with relation to France. It is apparent that, except as hereafter excepted, our Trade with France, suppose the War over, stands on a better Foot than ever it did these last 50 Years, or indeed ever before. French Fashions, French Wine, and French — grew up so much in the Reign of King Charles the Second, that in spite of all the English Goods we could vend in France, we traded with them to our Loss, and the Ballance run 800,000 l. per Annum against us, which we were obliged to make good by Bills. I desire to lay this Case a little open as short as possible, and be particular in the Goods we sent thither, and received from thence, because it will be very informing to the Schemes I shall have occasion to draw.

We sent to France in chief,

- Woollen Manufactures, as, Cloth, Stockings, Hats, &c. Leather, Tin, Sugars, Tobaccos, Wrought Iron, Herrings, Coals, Lead, East-India Goods, Copperas, Wool in abundance.

Sorts of Goods exported to France.

We

The British Merchant.

We received from thence,

And im-ported from

Salt,	Paper,
Wine,	Rozin,
Brandies,	Pruans,
Linens,	Pickles,
Wrought Silks,	Perfumes,
Gloves,	Preserves, and num-berless nameless
Hats,	Toys.
Glas,	

Their Wine and Brandies alone exceeded our Exports.

“ The Gentlemen that have been conver-
 “ fant in Trade, know very well, that the
 “ *Wines and Brandies of France so overpowered*
 “ *all our Exports* thither, that there was no
 “ Proportion between the Particulars on ei-
 “ ther Side, but that any single Article of Li-
 “ quids demanded more Money than *all our*
 “ *Trade* to them could pay for.
 “ Thus stood the State of our Trade to
 “ *France* when the late War began; and let
 “ any Man, that says *France* has not lost by
 “ the War, compare the State of their Trade
 “ to *England*, as it was at the end of the last
 “ War, and will be at the end of this (if e-
 “ ver it shall end) and they will join with me
 “ in this, that *France* has an irreparable Loss,
 “ which she shall feel in Trade for 50 Years,
 “ and perhaps ever after the War; a Loss that
 “ has so turned the Scale of Trade against
 “ her, that as she *traded* with us 800,000 *l.*
 “ *per Annum* to her *Gain* before, she must
 “ *trade* as much to her *Loss*, which is above a
 “ Million and a half difference every Year,
 “ general

The Trade with France.

“ general Ballance of Trade. I shall proceed
 “ to make this plain in the next Paper.
 “ Again, *Review* Number 86. *Saturday*
 “ Decemb. 30. 1704.
 “ I am upon the Article of *our Trade with*
 “ *France*, or rather *their Trade with us*. I
 “ have noted how at the beginning of the Rupture
 “ between the Kingdoms, the *French*
 “ Trade to *England* was carry'd vastly to their
 “ Gain and our Loss, by reason of the prodi-
 “ gious Export of their Liquids, Silks, &c.
 “ Before I go on farther with the Particu-
 “ lars of the present State of this Trade, I
 “ am to shew how it is fallen from being so
 “ much to their Advantage, to its being now
 “ as much to ours; and here 'tis necessary to
 “ examine our own Affairs a little. A Multi-
 “ tude of *French* Refugees thronging into this
 “ Nation, on Account of Religion, or Pretence
 “ of Religion, (let the Uncharitable judge which
 “ way they please) these People being, gene-
 “ rally speaking, all Mechanicks, fell imme-
 “ diately to Trade, in order to get Bread, some
 “ to one Employment, some to another: As a
 “ great many of them fell upon our Woollen
 “ Trade, so they generally inclined to work
 “ our Wool into such kind of Goods as they
 “ had been accustomed to work in their own
 “ Countries, rather than to fall into our Ma-
 “ nufactures, which they did not understand.
 “ From hence it appears, that among our
 “ Combers, Wool-Spinners, Broad Cloth or
 “ Serge-makers, you have few or no *French*.
 “ The first Effort of the *French* Refugees,
 “ was our thin *black Crapes, a Manufacture*
 “ VOL. II. M “ purely

Black
Crapes
brought in
by French
Refugees.

“ purely their own; and I refer to the Memo-
“ ry of People conversant in Trade, how u-
“ niversally it pleased our People; so that the
“ least Quantity of Wool that ever was heard
“ of in a Garment, supplying the room of a
“ Suit of Cloth, it became a general Habit,
“ and the Ladies of the best Quality began to
“ appear in a Gown and Petty-Coat under 25
“ Shillings, till the Meanness of the Price giv-
“ ing every Servant an Opportunity to be as
“ fine as her Mistress, it grew a little obso-
“ lete among the Women, then the Men fell
“ into it.

Other Ma-
nufactures
brought in
by them,
that have
sunk our Im-
ports from
France in
five great
Articles.

“ And again, in the same Review: As the
“ French Refugees apply'd themselves to Indu-
“ stry and Labour, they not only introduced
“ Alterations in our Manufactures, by setting
“ up such sorts of Woollen Goods as were before
“ made in France, but as in like Cases it al-
“ ways happened, they began to erect such
“ French Manufactures as we used to have in
“ great Quantities from them, such as Hats,
“ Glass, Paper, Lustrings, Canvas, Sail-
“ Cloths, and several sorts of Wrought Silks.

“ The two first of these we have absolutely
“ mastered, and brought them to such a Per-
“ fection, as that in open Trade they are con-
“ tent to receive them from us; and the other
“ are in a great measure improv'd, and in a
“ prospect of Increase.

“ By this Method, five exceeding great
“ Articles of our Import from thence are les-
“ sened, if not quite sunk; and here those
“ Gentlemen who cry out our Manufactures
“ sink, and are made abroad, would do well
“ to

“ to consider, whether we do not daily in-
“ crease in making other Manufactures, as
“ well as in losing some Quantities of our own:
“ but these flegmatick Gentlemen are for do-
“ ing any Country Justice but their own.

“ The Manufacture of Glass and Hats we
“ have absolutely and entirely made our own,
“ as is before noted; and I think I need not
“ spend my own Time, or the Readers, to
“ tell them, That Lustrings or plain black
“ Silks, Paper, and Sail-Cloth, are wonder-
“ fully improved, vast Quantities of them
“ made in England, and great Numbers of our
“ Poor daily employed in them. If any Man
“ requires me to descend to Particulars, I can
“ inform them of near 50 white Paper-Mills,
“ which make now extraordinary good Paper
“ for the Press and for the Pen, which with-
“ in these few Years was not to be found in
“ this Nation. The Lustring-Company can an-
“ swer for the Silks, and the Multitude of
“ Looms at work on Canvas and Sail-Cloth
“ will prove much of the other.

Glass, Hats,
Lustrings,
Paper, Sail-
Cloth, and
Canvas.

“ I wave here what Use I could make of
“ this matter with respect to the supplying
“ our People with Manufactures, obtained
“ to this Nation by Encroachment from our
“ Neighbours, as a thing remote from the
“ Purpose: But thus far it answers the pre-
“ sent Affairs; these Articles have sunk ex-
“ ceedingly our Imports of Goods from
“ France.

“ But this was not all; as soon as the first
“ War broke out, the strict Prohibition of
“ Wines and Brandies from France, and more

Prohibitions of French Wine and Brandy, and the high Duties on those taken by Prize, sink French Importations.

“ particularly the *high Duties* on those taken
 “ by *Prize*, but a check to the vast Importations from thence; and that War holding
 “ so exceeding long, the *Portugal* Merchants soon enlarged their Trade, and filled the
 “ whole Nation with their Wines. 'Tis true, their Wines being heavy and strong,
 “ did not at first please, and we hanker'd after the old Claret of *Bordeaux*; but in the
 “ time the Quantities wore off, and the Merchants found out Ways and Means either
 “ to bring the *Portuguese* Wine to our Palates, or Custom brought our Palates to the
 “ Wine: So that we began to forget the *French* Wines, and like the other well enough.
 “ And for this Reason I confess I should like much rather the Act against sophisticating
 “ of Wines should not pass; for we trade in Wine so much to our Advantage now,
 “ to what we did before, that we had better drink almost any thing for Wine, than
 “ fall back into the old Channel of Trade, and buy them with our ready Money from France.
 “ It is a strange thing to observe how Trade runs in Channels and Eddies, and will sometimes,
 “ like the Tide, shift the Course, change the Streams, and remove or fix Banks and Sands
 “ here or there, and on a sudden return to them again.
 “ By these Turns of Affairs the Channel of the Wine-Trade is quite shifted from
 “ France to *Portugal* and *Spain*. It is not for me to enter into the dark Doings of our
 “ Vintners, Wine-Coopers, and Brewing-Merchants: I am not examining what
 “ Quantity

“ Quantity of Cyder or Turnip-Juice is used in that Wine we drink. It is better for
 “ England we should drink all Turnip-Wine, or any Wine, than that we should drink the best
 “ Wine in Europe, and go back to France for it. At present the Gust of the *French* Wine
 “ is laid by, and the gross Draught of the whole Nation is upon *Portugal* Wines.
 “ These the *Portuguese* sell us for our Manufactures, and take a large Quantity of
 “ Goods from us: And all that ready Money we used to pay the *French* for their Wines,
 “ Brandies, and Vinegars, is saved in our Pockets.
 “ Upon the whole it appears, that were we now actually at Peace with *France*, we
 “ should not import any of their Glafs, their Hats or Lustrings, not a fifth part of their Wine,
 “ nor above a Third of their Brandy, nor half their Linens.
 “ And this great Alteration must of course turn the Channel of Trade against them.
 “ 'Tis true, they have prohibited intirely our Trade to them with Herrings in Time of Peace,
 “ and laid high Duties on our Manufactures; but our Lead, our Tin, our Tobacco, our Sugars,
 “ our East-India Goods, our Corn, our Leather, and so much of our Wools. These things
 “ they must have, they will have, and they cannot go without. And it is plain, that for these
 “ and such like, during the Interval of the last Peace, they received from us such prodigious
 “ Quantities as plainly turned the Scale of Trade on our side to a great Value.

Our Trade to Portugal better than that with France.

France has prohibited our tarring, and laid high Duties on our Manufactures.

We had the Balance against France during King William's Peace.

“ To establish the Authority of the *Review*
 “ in Matters of Trade, if I mistake not, there
 “ is a Passage in the Author of *The Essay on*
 “ *Publick Credit*, in which he declares his Ap-
 “ probation of the *Review* in Matters of
 “ Trade much better than in Politicks. How
 “ comes it to pass that he is now gained over
 “ to be an Advocate for the late projected
 “ Commerce, which must have proved the
 “ Ruin of this Kingdom ?

The Re-
 view's Self
 contradic-
 tions,

“ I must be so just to the Author of the
 “ *Review*, as to observe, that in a Treatise
 “ he has since published, intituled, *Some*
 “ *Thoughts upon the Subject of Commerce with*
 “ *France*, pag. 17. he acknowledges himself
 “ to have been mistaken formerly in his Opi-
 “ nion of the Ballance of the *French Trade*
 “ being 800,000 *l. per Ann.* to our Loss.
 “ The Mistake, he says, he owes “ to a Pa-
 “ per which pass'd for current Truth in those
 “ times, called a SCHEME, &c. But, *says*
 “ *he*, I have really been amazed to see that
 “ Scheme detected of such manifest Fraud,
 “ proved to be wholly false, and designedly
 “ imposed on the Nation, even to stripping it
 “ stark naked from all manner of Covering,
 “ and not one Word said in its defence.

“ Sir, you have said more in defence of
 “ that SCHEME, than the Author of the
 “ *Review* and his present Party will ever be a-
 “ ble to answer ; and notwithstanding all the
 “ Objections against it from the *Custom-house*,
 “ the Ballance of *French Trade* was hereto-
 “ fore 800,000 *l. per Ann.* against *England*,
 “ as asserted by the *Review*.

“ But

“ But 'tis probable this Author may have
 “ corrected his Mistake from some secret
 “ Convictions given him by the above-men-
 “ tioned Author of the *Essay on Publick Credit*,
 “ rather than from the Frauds pretended to be
 “ detected in the SCHEME.

“ It remains then, according to the un-
 “ bias'd Sentiments of the Author of the
 “ *Review* in the above-cited Passages, that
 “ *our Trade with France*, by our Prohi-
 “ bitions and high Duties on *French Goods*,
 “ stands on a much better Foot than it
 “ has done these Fifty Years, or indeed e-
 “ ver before ; that the Ballance heretofore
 “ run 800,000 *l.* against us ; that the very
 “ Wines and Brandies imported formerly from
 “ *France* overpower'd all our Exports to that
 “ Nation ; that the *French Refugees* set up
 “ here their black Crapes, a Manufacture
 “ purely their own, and that consequently
 “ they had a Woollen Manufacture in that
 “ Nation ; that by means of their Prohibiti-
 “ ons and high Duties our Luffings or plain
 “ black Silks, Paper, and Sail-Cloth are won-
 “ derfully improved, and great Numbers of our
 “ Poor daily employed in them ; that we had
 “ better drink almost any thing for Wine,
 “ Turnip Wine, or any other Wine, than
 “ fall back into our old Channel of Trade, and
 “ buy our Wine with ready Money from
 “ *France*, or than drink the best in *Europe*,
 “ and go back to *France* for it ; that while
 “ these Prohibitions or high Duties shall re-
 “ main in force, “ we should not import any
 “ of their Glafs, their Hats, or Luffings, not

The British Merchant.

“ a fifth of their Wine, nor above a third
“ part of their Brandy, nor half their Linens:
“ I suppose he means in proportion to what we
“ did formerly; but while all these things
“ stand prohibited here, several things, and to
“ a very great Value, the *French* must buy from
“ *England*, and pay for them with ready Mo-
“ ney. I am,

Sir, your humble Servant.

*A Letter shewing how dangerous Rivals the
French are of our Trade, especially in the
Articles of Fishing, by our Grants to them of
Cape Breton, &c.*

*Wherein is also a State of the extravagant
Duties payable upon Herrings, &c. in
France.*

To the British Merchant.

S I R,
“ THE *Mercator* is frequently essaying
“ against the *Dutch*, and tells us they
“ are very averse to our Trading with *France*.
“ If I should for once agree with the *Merca-*
“ *tor* in the Matter of Fact, I am afraid I
“ should differ with him in the Reason; the
“ Reason he assigns is, that they may have
“ the Opportunity of buying the *French* Goods,
“ and running them in upon us; but this is
“ so ridiculous, nothing can be more so.
“ What! Can the *Dutch* buy *French* Goods,
“ carry them to *Holland*, and then run them in
“ upon us? And cannot the *French* much more
“ easily

The Trade with France.

“ easily from their own Coast do it? The
“ *French* are nearer, their Risque less, the
“ Freight cheaper, than to go so much far-
“ ther a-field, run a double Risque, and pay
“ double or treble Freight and other Charges.
“ Really, in this Instance, it must be said the
“ *Mercator* was hard put to it to find a Stone
“ to sling at the *Dutch*; but supposing the
“ *Dutch* as fond of the *French* Trade as they
“ please, this I am sure of, that since our Pro-
“ hibition of *French* Goods, we have expor-
“ ted more Goods to all the World, than dur-
“ ing their being admitted.

“ The *Mercator* has obliged us with some
“ Instances, wherein the *Dutch* and *French*
“ have been too hard for us in Trade. Had
“ he done this fairly and impartially, he would
“ have been to be commended; and in this I
“ will join Issue with him, that whatever Na-
“ tion, be it *Dutch*, *French*, or any other,
“ that endeavours to over-reach us in Matters
“ of Commerce, ought to be look'd upon by
“ *Great Britain* with a jealous Eye; but I will
“ shew him there is not so much Danger from
“ the *Dutch*, with relation to our Trade, as
“ from the *French*.

The Mercator's Self-contradictions.

“ He has in his Papers, No. 130, 131,
“ and 132. given us eight Instances, where-
“ in he says the *Dutch* are our most dange-
“ rous Rivals; and in his No. 133. he says
“ the *French* are our Rivals only in two Bran-
“ ches of our Trade, viz. The Woollen
“ Manufacture, and our Shipping. But where-
“ fore two? Why, these two are worth all
“ the rest. Surely he forgot when he said this,

“ how often he has told us of the pitiful and
 “ inconsiderable Woollen Manufacture of the
 “ *French*, that there could be no danger of
 “ their Woollen Manufactures, and that, far
 “ from rivalling us at a foreign Market, they
 “ could never cope with us in *France* it self,
 “ tho’ our Woollen Manufactures should pay
 “ the Duties imposed by this Treaty.

“ Again, these great Wits have very short
 “ Memoires. He must needs have forgot how
 “ frequently he has told us, that the *Dutch* are
 “ the only Rivals of our Navigation ; but now
 “ he acknowledges the *French* are so too —
 “ And are the *French* such innocent Crea-
 “ tures, that their being Rivals in our Navi-
 “ gation is not so dangerous to us, as the same
 “ thing would be in the *Dutch* ?

“ But that I may not be misunderstood as
 “ if I were pleading for the *Dutch* ; for where-
 “ insoever they are our Rivals in Trade, they
 “ are to be guarded against. But I am shew-
 “ ing we ought to be more jealous of the
 “ *French*, who are more our Rivals in Trade ;
 “ and in order to do this, I shall shew the
 “ *Mercator*’s Partiality, by representing truly
 “ the State of the *French* Trade, and adding
 “ to the *Mercator*’s two Instances several o-
 “ thers wherein the *French* are our Rivals, at
 “ least equally, if not in a greater degree than
 “ the *Dutch* are.

French ri-
 val us in
 the Fishery.

“ He has omitted to charge to the Account
 “ of the *French* their rivalling us in the Fish-
 “ ery. He charges this to the Account of the
 “ *Dutch*, and tells us very truly, that they are
 “ increased in the Herring-Fishery ; I hope
 “ he

“ he will not say in Red-Herrings, that he
 “ knows is not true, for they make none but
 “ White-Herrings : They catch them in the
 “ open Sea near the Coast of *Scotland*, and car-
 “ ry them to *Holland* and prepare them. Their
 “ Industry in this is to be commended, and
 “ the Supineness and Negligence of the *Scotch*
 “ and *English* to be blamed, not that they do
 “ not hinder them, but that they do not imi-
 “ tate their Industry and Vigilance. He says
 “ they used to pay an Acknowledgment for
 “ this ; I wish they did so still. But I shall
 “ tell him presently of another Nation that
 “ paid a Duty for catching Fish, which has
 “ been long since discontinu’d thro’ the Faults
 “ of some Persons formerly, and that they are
 “ now very far from being again reduced to a
 “ Condition of being ever forced to renew the
 “ Payment of that Duty. He says, the *Dutch*
 “ have beaten us out of Whale-Fishing : He
 “ has forgot that the *French* have a very great
 “ Fishery of that kind ; but it did not serve
 “ his Purpose to say any thing of the *French*
 “ White-Fishery ; that would have made a-
 “ gainst his good Friends, and therefore was
 “ to be passed over in Silence. Notwithstand-
 “ ing the *French* Fishermen of *St. John de*
 “ *Luse*, *Bayonne*, and other Ports in that Part
 “ of the Bay of *Biscay*, are the most expert
 “ Harpooners in the World, without except-
 “ ing the *Dutch* and *Hamburghers*. Whe-
 “ ther the *Mercator* knew this or no, the *French*
 “ know it, and therefore took care by the
 “ late Treaty of Commerce to have the Pro-
 “ duce of Whales excepted (not against us,
 “ says

The Industry
 of the Dutch
 and our Su-
 pineness as
 to the Fish-
 ry.

French
 have a great
 Whale-
 Fishery, and
 are the best
 Harpooners
 in the
 World.

“ says the *Mercator*, but) against the *Dutch*.
 “ 'Tis a Sign they think their own Fishery
 “ sufficient at least to supply themselves with
 “ the Produce of Whales, without being be-
 “ holden either to the *Dutch* or *English*. The
 “ *Dutch* then are not the only Nation that
 “ have wormed us out of this Trade; the
 “ *French* have done it too, to the vast Increase
 “ of their Navigation and Seamen ———

Our Danger
 from the
 French
 Fishery in
 Newfound-
 land, and
 giving 'em
 Cape Breton,

“ But the *French* have not only increased in
 “ the Whale-Fishery, but, which is of much
 “ more consequence to us, they have exceed-
 “ ingly increased their Fishery to *Newfound-*
 “ *land*, as well on the Coast as on the great
 “ Bank. The Consequences of this Increase
 “ of their Fishery we have, to our Sorrow,
 “ too sensibly felt; and yet they have found
 “ Advocates for it, who are ready to answer,
 “ when any thing is represented against grant-
 “ ing the *French* any Liberty of Fishery,
 “ What! must the *French* have nothing? So
 “ very kind are some Persons to them, that
 “ they are angry with their Fellow Subjects
 “ for endeavouring to exclude them that Fi-
 “ shery. The *French* do not only fish on the
 “ great Banks of *Newfoundland* for such Fish
 “ as is cured without drying, as the *Dutch* do
 “ in their White Herring Fishery in the open
 “ Sea, but have had the Address to obtain
 “ that the Island of *Cape Breton* should be
 “ yielded up to them to fortify and do what
 “ they please with; where they may, and
 “ doubtless will, make another *Dunkirk*, and
 “ where they may carry on their Dry Fische-
 “ ry, as well as at *Placentia*. We have an

“ Ac-

“ Account that they have some time ago sent
 “ Men of War to fortify *Cape Breton*: But,
 “ as if this was not Privilege enough for them,
 “ they have obtained that in the Fishing Sea-
 “ son they may resort to the very Island of
 “ *Newfoundland* itself, and erect Stages, &c.
 “ to cure and dry their Fish at. 'Tis a Sign
 “ they think this Liberty sufficient for them;
 “ for they have excepted against all this sort
 “ of Fish, but what shall be in Barrels by the
 “ late Treaty of Commerce. The *Mercator*
 “ cannot be so ignorant as to suppose *New-*
 “ *foundland* Fish, and especially the Dry Fish,
 “ can be carried to *France* in Barrels, but at
 “ such an Increase of the Cost as shall render
 “ the Sale impracticable in that Country,
 “ tho' the Duties there are sufficient to do
 “ this.

“ But this is not all; the World is well a-
 “ mended with the *French* since the Time
 “ that they paid a Tribute for the Liberty of
 “ curing and drying Fish at *Newfoundland*,
 “ which was granted to them by King *Charles*
 “ the First, in the 10th Year of his Reign.
 “ At this present the *French* do not only pay
 “ no Tribute, but by their Neighbourhood
 “ at *Cape Breton* will oblige us to keep large
 “ Garisons at *Newfoundland*, if we will pre-
 “ vent our being surprized there; where they
 “ will have the Liberty of the Fishing Season
 “ equally with us from *Cape Bonavista* North-
 “ ward to the Northern Point of the said Is-
 “ land, &c. by which Situation they will be
 “ our Rivals in another Branch of our Fische-
 “ ry, that of *Salmon*: For at the Harbour of

France paid
 Tribute for-
 merly, but
 none now.

Have a
 good Salmon
 Fishery in
 Newfound-
 land, and
 such Privi-
 leges there
 as endanger
 us.

“ Bo-

“ *Bonavista*, which is to the Northward of
 “ the Cape, and therefore within their Limits,
 “ is an extraordinary good Fishery of *Salmon*.
 “ But this some wise Folks knew nothing of.
 “ Had the late King *William* granted the
 “ *Dutch* any one of the Islands of the *Orkneys*
 “ in Propriety to fortify, or a Liberty of re-
 “ fortifying to, or of erecting Drying Houses
 “ necessary to cure Red Herrings in any such
 “ Island, or in *England* or *Scotland*, it would
 “ have been remember’d with very good Rea-
 “ son a thousand and a thousand times over.
 “ So the *Mercator* may observe here, the
 “ *Dutch* and *French* do neither of them pay the
 “ Duty they used to pay; but the *French* have
 “ had the Cunning to procure for their Fish-
 “ ery such Liberties and Privileges as can scarce-
 “ ly be consistent with our Safety or Interest,
 “ and which the *Dutch* could not obtain from
 “ those whom the *Mercator* counts their
 “ Friends. I leave the World now to judge
 “ who are our GREATEST and MOST
 “ DANGEROUS Rivals in the Fishery.

The French
 should ne-
 ver have
 been allow’d
 to fish in
 Newfound-
 land.

“ Not that I am so much concerned that
 “ they do not now pay that Acknowledgment
 “ they formerly paid for the Liberty of fish-
 “ ing on the Island of *Newfoundland*, as I am
 “ that they at any time paid any such Acknow-
 “ ledgment: For certainly, without the Sha-
 “ dow of that Submission, they would not
 “ have been indulg’d in a Matter that might
 “ in its Consequence prove as fatal to our
 “ Safety, as detrimental to our Commerce;
 “ and I cannot but think, that notwithstanding
 “ the Interest the *French* had in the Court of
 “ Eng-

“ *England*, by means of the *French Match*,
 “ they would hardly, without this seeming Ad-
 “ vantage, have obtained Leave to cure and
 “ dry their Fish upon the very Island of *New-*
 “ *foundland* itself, whatever Leave might have
 “ been granted them of fishing upon the great
 “ Banks thereof, which are as much the De-
 “ pendencies of that Island, as the Coasts and
 “ Banks, where the *Dutch* fish for Herrings
 “ off of *Scotland* and the North Parts of
 “ *England*, are belonging to *Great Britain*;
 “ and for which there was the same Reason to
 “ insist on a Duty to be paid by the *French*,
 “ tho’ they should never set their Foot upon
 “ the Island, as there was for demanding it of
 “ the *Dutch* for what they caught here in the
 “ open Sea—Every body must acknowledge,
 “ that it was extremely the Interest of *France*
 “ submit to pay 5 per Cent. upon all the Fish
 “ they caught and dry’d at *Newfoundland*, that
 “ they might secure to themselves the Advan-
 “ tage of such a Nursery of Seamen.

“ They are now so much our Rivals in this
 “ Trade, and are increased to such a prodigi-
 “ ous Degree, that they employ yearly from
 “ *St. Malo*, *Granville*, *Rochelle*, *St. Martins*,
 “ *Isle of Rea*, *Bayonne*, *St. Jean de Luz*, *Si-*
 “ *bour*, &c. to carry on their Fishery on the
 “ great Banks of *Newfoundland*, and on the
 “ Coasts of that Island, that is, in their Wet
 “ and Dry Fish, upwards of four hundred
 “ Sail of Ships; they do not only now supply
 “ themselves with the Fish they formerly had
 “ from us, but furnish many Parts of *Spain*
 “ and *Italy* therewith, and rival us there to our
 “ pro-

They employ
 400 Ships
 there per
 ann. supply
 themselves,
 and much of
 Spain and
 Italy to our
 great Loss.

“ prodigious Loss. They have the properest
 “ sort of Salt of their own, which renders
 “ their Voyages much shorter than ours; for
 “ we are obliged to go from hence to *Rochelle*,
 “ *Olleron*, *St. Martins*, &c. to fetch that Com-
 “ modity, which they have at their own
 “ Doors; and thereby we most frequently
 “ spend a Month or six Weeks more in our
 “ Voyages than they do.

France rais-
 ed her Na-
 val Power
 from the
 Newfoundland
 Fishery.

“ They are so extremely sensible of the pro-
 “ digious Advantage of this Fishery, and so
 “ very intent upon pursuing it, that from their
 “ first Attempts to make themselves considera-
 “ ble at Sea, they have had it perpetually in
 “ View——They first obtained Leave to fish
 “ upon paying a Duty of 5 per Cent. after-
 “ wards they got that Acknowledgment re-
 “ linquished: But they have lately gone much
 “ further; for in the present Treaty they have
 “ procured a Cession to be made to them of
 “ the Island of *Cape Breton*, a maiden Fish-
 “ ery, that has scarce ever been touch'd, where-
 “ as *Newfoundland* is almost exhausted, and
 “ also several Islands in the Gulph of *St. Law-
 “ rence*: And, not content with that, they
 “ have further obtained a Liberty of curing
 “ and drying their Fish, setting up Stages, and
 “ resorting to OUR Island of *Newfoundland*
 “ during all the time that is of any use to re-
 “ sort thither; that is, during the Fishing
 “ Season. They are indeed to deliver us up
 “ the Possession of *Placentia*, and some other
 “ Places in *Newfoundland*; but then they
 “ have taken care to have a better Place yield-
 “ ed to them in lieu thereof; with this extra-
 “ ordinary

“ ordinary Favour to them more than to us,
 “ that they have the Liberty granted them to
 “ frequent OUR Island of *Newfoundland*, and
 “ erect Stages, &c. thereon for curing and
 “ drying their Fish; but we have not the Pri-
 “ vilege allowed us of doing the same on any
 “ of their Islands, or on the Island of *Cape
 “ Breton*, which they have express Permission
 “ granted them to fortify as they please. Thus
 “ they are our Rivals in the FISHERY by our
 “ own Consent, which is the more wonderful,
 “ in that it is owing to this Fishery that they
 “ dared to contend for the Mastery at Sea with
 “ the Maritime Strength of *England* and *Hol-
 “ land* united. 'Tis true, the *English* and
 “ *Dutch* are most frequently called the *Mari-
 “ time* Powers; but I think it a Jest to appro-
 “ priate the Name of *Maritime Powers* to
 “ *Great Britain* and *Holland* exclusive of
 “ *France*, when we consider what a Figure
 “ that Nation made at Sea before the Battle of
 “ *La Hogue* in 1692. Can we think, that a
 “ few Years of Peace, with such a Fishery,
 “ and such Conditions of Commerce as were
 “ to be granted to *France* by the late Treaty,
 “ will not then enable her to contend again
 “ with our united Fleets? The History both
 “ of *France* and *England* will shew you, that
 “ it is since their procuring Leave to fish at
 “ *Newfoundland* that they have grown so for-
 “ midable at Sea; and that their Navy Royal
 “ has augmented in proportion to the Numbers
 “ of Ships employed in that Fishery — What
 “ have we not to expect then from them now
 “ they have obtained a *Right* to a better Place
 “ by

“ by their Fishery, in the Opinion even of the
 “ French themselves, as you will see by the
 “ inclosed Letter, written by a Minister of
 “ State in France to the Duke de Gramond at
 “ Bayonne, and which I believe is genuine?
 “ The Occasion of it was, that the People of
 “ St. Jean de Luz and Sibour (two Places in
 “ the County of la Bour) being under Appre-
 “ hensions that their Fishery at Newfoundland
 “ was to be delivered up wholly to us, the
 “ Duke wrote a Letter to Paris to be rightly
 “ informed, and received the following An-
 “ swer.

Copy of a Letter written by Monsieur de Pont-
 chartrain to Monsieur the Duke de Gramond,
 from Fontainebleau, 19. September 1713.

“ I Have received, Sir, the Letter you did
 “ me the Honour to write me the third
 “ of this Month, with two Letters that were
 “ directed to you by the Inhabitants of St.
 “ Jean de Luz and Sibour, upon the Subject
 “ of their Fishery of Dry Fish. From the
 “ Account I have given the King of their De-
 “ mand, his Majesty directed me to write by
 “ his Order to Monseigneur the Duke d’Au-
 “ mont, his Ambassador Extraordinay at Lon-
 “ don, to ask of the Queen of Great Britain
 “ a Permission for them to go the next Year to
 “ Placentia, and the Liberty to continue their
 “ Fishery in ALL the Ports and Harbours up-
 “ on the Coast of Newfoundland. I shall give
 “ my self the Honour to acquaint you with
 “ Monseigneur the Duke d’Aumont’s Answer.

“ I

“ I agree with you, Sir, that the Country of
 “ la Bour will suffer very much, should they
 “ be deprived of their Liberty of carrying on
 “ their Fishery of Dry Fish; and you will be
 “ persuaded of the Attention I have to pro-
 “ cure to the Merchants that drive this Com-
 “ merce the Means to continue them in it, when
 “ I have informed you, that the King sent
 “ from Rocheford, in the Month of May last,
 “ one Frigat to go and lay the first Foundation
 “ of an Establishment in the Island of Cape
 “ Breton, where Fish is MUCH MORE A-
 “ BUNDANT than at the Island of New-
 “ foundland, and where one may make the Fish,
 “ and manage the Drying thereof easily. This
 “ Frigat arrived June 26. at Placentia, from
 “ whence she was to continue her Course for
 “ Cape Breton, to which Place I have caused
 “ to be transported one hundred Men to be-
 “ gin the Settlement. His Majesty will send
 “ in the beginning of the Year three Ships to
 “ transport thither the Garrison of Placentia,
 “ and the Inhabitants of the Island of New-
 “ foundland, and to put the last Hand to the
 “ Establishment of that Port. The Merchants
 “ of this Kingdom may then send all such
 “ Ships as they shall think fit to order for the
 “ fishing of dry Fish, and for the Oils that
 “ are made from the Fish on the said Island.
 “ This Favour ought to animate the Mer-
 “ chants that drive this Commerce to carry it
 “ on with Vigour, from the Advantage they
 “ will draw from it. This is all I have been
 “ able to do in their Favour. I desire you to be
 “ persuaded of the great Sincerity wherewith I
 “ have the Honour to be — “ From

Fishery of
 Cape Breton
 better than
 that of New-
 foundland.

French rival us in the Fishery of Dry Cod.

“ From this Letter 'tis plain the *French* never intended to quit the Fishery of Dry Cod, and that they have very much at heart the rivalling us therein.

“ That, to secure themselves against any Accident, they were careful to send a Man of War in the Month of *May*, 1713. which was within a little time after the signing the Treaty the 11th of *April* before, and had sent one hundred Men to lay the first Foundation of their Fortifications at *Cape Breton*; and further assure the Duke, that three other Ships should be sent the beginning of this Year to transport the Garrison of *Placentia* thither, and put the last Hand to the Establishment of that Port; which no doubt they will effect before they deliver up *Placentia*: Not much unlike what they are doing under our Noses, making a NEW Port at *Mardyke*, before they fill up the OLD One at *Dunkirk*.

“ Another thing observable from this Letter is, that the *French* are NOW so *SANGUINE*, as not to content themselves with the Cession of *Cape Breton* and other Islands thereabouts, or with the Liberty of erecting Stages, &c. to cure and dry their Fish, from *Cape Bonavista* Northward, and so on to *Point Riche* on the Western Side; but are asking new Favours, and demand a Permission to *Placentia* this Year, (altho' the time agreed for delivering that Place has been long since expired) and sue for a Liberty to make their Fish in ALL the Ports and Harbours upon the Coasts of *Newfoundland*; which,

“ tho'

“ tho' I make no doubt but was denied them, yet I am amazed that it should ever enter into their Heads so much as to attempt. Sure they think we can deny them nothing!

“ This explains the true Meaning of the third Specification in the late Treaty, where it is said, *That Salt Fish in Barrels only shall be imported into that Kingdom.* They are resolved to cultivate and improve this Fishery to the utmost, and know it is impossible in the Nature of the thing for us to carry any dried Codfish from thence to *France* in Barrels; more especially so long as they themselves can and do always carry it in Bulk.

“ And here, since I have mentioned the third Specification, I will (for the sake of the *West Country Pilchards* and *Yarmouth Herrings*, and to explain more at large what I find you did but just mention of the Duties of Fish) subjoin an Account of the prodigious Duties which must hereafter be paid upon those two sorts of Fish, if this Specification should be rendered effectual. And that your Readers may the better understand how much the said Specification has agreed shall be paid, I shall quote the Words thereof; viz.

“ Salt Fish in Barrels only is to be imported into the Kingdom; and at all Places of Entrance in the Kingdom, Countries and Territories under the Dominion of the King, even at all free Ports, the Duties of Landing and Consumption shall be paid, which were appointed before the Tariff of 1664. and

“ besides,

The Treaty allows no Salt fish to be imported to France but in Barrels.

Extravagant Duties in France on our Herrings, Pilchards, and other barreled Fish by the late Treaty.

The British Merchant.

Duties on Fish in France.

besides, 40 Livres per Last consisting of two Barrels, weighing each three hundred Pounds, for the Duty of Entry.

The Duty of Entry, which is agreed shall be paid on Fish by this Specification, (tho' otherwise rated in the Tariff of 1664. is, for every Last of 12 Barrels, Liv. Sols

	40
Besides the Duty of Landing, which is	33 12
As also the Duty of Consumption, To which may be added 2 Sols per Livre upon those two Duties, being an Augmentation constantly paid thereon	6 19
The Fishmongers Duty 3 Livres per Barrel,	36
Add to this the 2 Sols per Livre as above,	3 12
The Duty of Romaine, (which is payable in the respective Provinces that are included in the Provision reserved in the 9th Article, in these Words, And in the other Provinces the Duty shall not be payable, otherwise than according to the Rule at that time prescribed)	56
Sols per Barrel	33 12
Add to this the Augmentation of 2 Sols per Livre as above,	3 07
	195 02

Which, at 18d. per Livre, is 14l. 9 s. 7 d. per Last of 12 Barrels, or 24 s. 1 d. per Barrel of 300 Pound weight.

But because a Barrel of Herrings seldom weighs above two thirds of that weight, therefore, instead of 24 s. 1 d. per Barrel, I compute

The Trade with France.

compute it only at 16 s. per Barrel of Herrings, the Value whereof is seldom, one Year with another, 15 s. put on board; so that this Duty will amount to about 105 or 106 per Cent. of their Value shipp'd off.

And as a Hoghead of Pilchards weighs generally above 500 Pounds weight, I compute for 300 Pounds 24 s. 1 d. 200 Pounds 16 s.

The Duty on a Hoghead of Pilchards then is 40 s. 1 d.

Which is more than 100 per Cent. of their Value shipp'd off; for they cannot reasonably be esteem'd at 40 s. per Hoghead for any Number of Years. They must be very ignorant who imagine we can send either of these sorts of Fish thither, if ever this Treaty take effect.

I am, Sir, &c.

The Mercator in this whole Controversy concerning the French Trade and Treaty, observes one Method, which is of great use to himself, and that is, never to take notice of any Argument of his Adversary, to which he is not able to offer the least colour of an Answer.

At his first setting out, and in very many of his Papers, he laboured to induce his Readers to have a good Opinion of the Tariff of 1664. This Tariff, says he, No. 1. was esteemed by all the Nations in these Parts of Europe to be very easy, and not the least Interruption to their Trade with France.

The French Tariff of 1661 examined, and the Mercator's Arguments for it confuted.

The

0320

The next thing his Readers are to believe, is, that our late Treaty has obliged *France* not to exceed the easy Duties of that Tariff, and that it has consequently opened to us a most beneficial Trade to that Country.

All Manufactures of WOOL, says he in his first, and he has often repeated it in his following Papers, were rated at 10 per Cent. according to their Value.

And No. 3. and 4. he says, that the Treaty has restored us to this Tariff, except that Broad Cloth, which by the Tariff of 1664. paid but 40 Livres per Piece of 25 Ells, is now to pay by the Tariff of 1699. 55 Livres; and mill'd Serges, which paid 10 Livres by the former Tariff, are to pay by the latter 11 Livres.

All other Woollen Manufactures, says he, No. 6. except Broad Cloth and Cloth Serges, are admitted into *France* by the late Treaty, and are to pay only the Duties of the Tariff of 1664, that is, according to him, not above 10 per Cent. of their real Value; and this is the Doctrine of one of his latest Papers, No. 134. The Duties upon them now are by the Treaty of Commerce reduced to 10 per Cent. except on Broad Cloth and Serges only.

French Tariff of 1699 equal to a Prohibition of our Woollen Manufactures.

Now, what must every Manufacturer in the Country think of the *Mercator*, and of our Treaty of Commerce, if vastly the greatest Part of our Woollen Manufactures are admitted into *France* by the late Treaty only under the Tariff of 1699? and shall be obliged to pay from 30 to 50 per Cent. of their real Value? Will our Manufacturers think themselves obliged for this Treaty? or that any of these Goods

Goods can be exported to that Country under so heavy a Load of Duties, except for Patterns to their own Fabricks? Will our Woollen Manufactures bear from 30 to 50 per Cent. in any Country in *Europe*? They must believe therefore that the Tariff of 1699. is a Prohibition.

Again, I am not now disputing with the *Mercator*, whether any of our Woollen Manufactures are admitted into *France* by the late Treaty under the Tariff of 1664. For the present, to oblige this Writer, I shall take for granted that all such of them as are not obliged to pay by the Tariff of 1699, are admitted by that Treaty under the Tariff of 1664; but are the Duties of this Tariff of no more than 10 per Cent. of the real Value of the Goods? or are they so very easy, that our People might hope to export any considerable Quantities to that Country, especially after *France* has continued for five and twenty Years without our Manufactures, and has made such Progress in their own? I shall now shew the *Mercator* what are the Duties by the Tariff of 1664, and this I shall do not so much to convince this idle Fellow, as to inform my Correspondent who has sent me the following Letter.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,
“ YOU have shewn us the Custom payable on long, short, and Spanish Cloths in *France* by the Tariff of 1664, and also by that of 1699, which is as follows;

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“ By the Tariff of 1664, the Custom on
 “ Long { Cloths a- { 40 } per Cent. on their
 “ Short { mounts to { 37½ } Value ;
 “ And on Spanish Cloth 23½ per Cent. at a
 “ Medium ;
 “ And by the Tariff of 1699, the Custom on
 “ Long { Cloths a- { 55 } per Cent.
 “ Short { mounts to { 51, 16 }
 “ And on Spanish Cloths to 33½ per Cent. at
 “ a Medium.

“ Sir, your *Mercator* so often tells us, that
 “ the Duties on our Woollen Manufactures
 “ in *France* by the Tariff of 1664, do not ex-
 “ ceed 10 per Cent. of their real Value ; and
 “ that all, except Cloth and Cloth Serges, are
 “ to pay according to this Tariff by the late
 “ Treaty, that you will highly oblige us if
 “ you will be at the pains to inform us which
 “ of our Manufactures, by the *Mercator's*
 “ own Account, are to pay by the Tariff of 1699
 “ and how much they are to pay by that Tariff ;
 “ also what shall be accounted Cloth, and
 “ what Serges, and how they are to be tax'd
 “ by that Tariff ; and, in the last place, that
 “ you will be so kind to let us know how our
 “ Manufactures are to pay by the Tariff of
 “ 1664, which, the *Mercator* says, is to be
 “ the Rule by the late Treaty : for if they
 “ should be found to exceed the *Mercator's* 10
 “ per Cent. of their real Value, we could have
 “ little hopes of exporting any Quantities into
 “ *France*.
 “ I am, &c.

I think there would be little hopes, with a
 Duty of no more than 10 per Cent. upon any
 of

of our Woollen Manufactures, of contending
 with the *French* in their own Country, when
 they have been so many years labouring at eve-
 ry fort of Woollen Manufacture ; but I must
 answer my Correspondent.

Cloth (or Mill'd) Serges, by the Tariff of 1664,
 paid 10 Livres for 15 Ells, or Yards 18½, that is,
 at 18 d. per Livre, 15 s. or 9 d. ½ per Yard,
 which

on a Yard worth { s. d. 2 6 is 32 } per Cent.
 { 3 26⅔ }
 { 3 6 22⅔ }
 The Duties on our Woollen Manufactures by the Tariffs of 1664 and 1699.

And by the Tariff of 1699, must pay 11 Livres
 for 15 Ells, or Yards 18½, that is, at 18 d. per
 Livre, 16 s. 6 d. or 10 d. 1¼ per Yard.

on a Yard worth { s. d. 2 6 is 35⅓ } per Cent.
 { 3 29⅓ }
 { 3 6 25⅓ }

Serges (not Cloth Serges) by the Tariff of
 1664, paid 6 Livres for 20 Ells, or 25 Yards,
 that is, at 18 d. per Livre, 9 s or 4 d. 2⅘ per
 Yard, which

on a Yard worth { s. d. 1 2 is 30⅙ } per Cent.
 { 1 4 27 }
 { 1 6 24 }
 { 1 9 20⅔ }

And by the Tariff of 1699, must pay 8 Livres
 for 20 Ells, or 25 Yards, that is, at 18 d. per
 Livre, 12 s. or 5 d. 1½ per Yard, which

on a Yard worth { s. d. 1 2 is 41⅓ } per Cent.
 { 1 4 36 }
 { 1 6 32 }
 { 1 9 27⅓ }

The *Mercator* would have it thought, that *Perpetuanas* are to pay by the Tariff of 1664, and not by 1669; but these are the *Serges* which are called in the *French Edicts Imperial Serges*, and must pay by the latter of those Tariffs according to the aforesaid Valuation. The *Mercator* too would make a Distinction between *Serges* and *Cloth Serges*; but the Treaty has made no such Distinction: *Serges* in general are left to the extravagant Duties of that last Tariff.

And I am informed, that *Stuffs* and *Says* were ever charged in *France* under the Denomination of *Serges*; nor can I find it to be otherwise by the original *French* Tariffs that are now before me. These the *Mercator*, No. 6. would also have us believe are left to the Tariff of 1664; but I must desire him to inform me by what other Name than that of *Serges* they are taxed in that Tariff. If they are taxed by that Name, then by the late Treaty they are to pay by the Tariff of 1669.

Bays (Single) by the Tariff of 1664, paid 5 *Livres* (not 4 *Livres*, as by the *English* Translation) for 25 *Ells*, or 31 $\frac{1}{4}$ *Yards*, which at 18 *d.* per *Livre*, amounts to 7 *s.* 6 *d.*

So that a Piece containing *Yards* 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ paid 11 *s.*

which on a $\left. \begin{array}{l} 30 \\ 40 \\ 50 \end{array} \right\}$ is $\left. \begin{array}{l} 36\frac{2}{3} \\ 27\frac{1}{2} \\ 22 \end{array} \right\}$ per Cent.

Bays (Double or *Minikin*) by the same Tariff, paid 15 *Livres* for 25 *Ells*, or 31 $\frac{1}{4}$ *Yards*, which amounts to 1 *l.* 2 *s.* 6 *d.*

So

So that a Double Bay containing 50 *Flemish* *Ells*, or *Yards* 37 $\frac{1}{2}$, paid 1 *l.* 7 *s.*

which on a $\left. \begin{array}{l} 3 \ 10 \\ 4 \ 00 \\ 4 \ 10 \end{array} \right\}$ is $\left. \begin{array}{l} 38\frac{4}{7} \\ 33\frac{3}{4} \\ 30 \end{array} \right\}$ per Cent.

And a *Minikin* Bay, containing 100 *Flemish* *Ells*, or 75 *Yards*, paid 2 *l.* 14 *s.*

which on a $\left. \begin{array}{l} 6 \ 10 \\ 7 \ 00 \\ 7 \ 10 \\ 8 \ 00 \end{array} \right\}$ is $\left. \begin{array}{l} 41\frac{7}{13} \\ 38\frac{4}{7} \\ 36 \\ 33\frac{3}{7} \end{array} \right\}$ per Cent.

Stockings (Worsted or *Woollen*) by this Tariff, paid 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ *Livres* per dozen Pair, or 5 *s.* 3 *d.* (not according to the *English* Translation 1. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per 100 *lib.*) which on one dozen Pair, valued at 20 *s.* one with the other, is 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ per Cent.

Kerseys by the Tariff of 1664, paid 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ *Livres* for 13 *Ells*, or 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ *Yards*, that is, at 18 *d.* per *Livre*, 5 *s.* 3 *d.*

So that a Piece containing 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ *Yards*, paid 9 *s.* 4 *d.*

which on a $\left. \begin{array}{l} 35 \\ 40 \\ 45 \end{array} \right\}$ is $\left. \begin{array}{l} 26\frac{2}{3} \\ 23\frac{1}{3} \\ 20\frac{2}{7} \end{array} \right\}$ per Cent.

Flannels and *Pennistones*, by the Tariff of 1664, paid 6 *Livres* for 26 *Ells*, or 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ *Yards*, that is, at 18 *d.* per *Livre*, 9 *s.* or 3 *d.* $\frac{2}{3}$ per *Yard*.

Which on a *Yard* of *Flannel* worth 12 *d.* is 27 $\frac{2}{3}$ per Cent.

And on a *Pennistone*, containing 47 $\frac{2}{3}$ *Yards*, the said Duty amounts to 13 *s.* $\frac{1}{3}$.

So that a $\left. \begin{array}{l} 50 \\ 55 \\ 60 \end{array} \right\}$ pays $\left. \begin{array}{l} 26\frac{2}{3} \\ 24 \\ 22 \end{array} \right\}$ per Cent.

I do not pretend here that Bays, Stockings, Kerseys, Flannels, or Pennistones, can be charged by the Tariff of 1699, under the Denomination of either Cloth or Serges; but if it should be allowed, that they are left to the Tariff of 1664, yet my Correspondent will see that even by that Tariff, the Load of Customs was so very heavy, that there was not the least Occasion for making it greater.

Cottons or Plains 100 Goads, by the Tariff of 1664, paid 12 Livres, or 18 s. which, if worth 9 l. is but 10 per Cent.

Friezes by the same Tariff paid 3 Livres, or 4 s. 6 d. for 18 Ells, or 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ Yards, which is 2 d. $\frac{2}{3}$ per Yard; so the Custom on one Yard, at 2 s. per Yard, is 10 per Cent.

I believe upon these two trifling Articles of Cottons and Friezes, which make almost no shew at all in our Exports to France, it is that the Mercator grounds his 10 per Cent. upon our whole Woollen Manufactures by the Tariff of 1664. I suppose this will be his Excuse: but I should be for giving France little or nothing for the Liberty of importing these two poor Parts of our Woollen Goods Custom-free; it is certain, that our Exportation of them, with or without that Tariff, was always inconsiderable; but, as I have shewn, the Duties by that Tariff on Bays, Stockings, Kerseys, Flannels, or Pennistones, were so exorbitant, that France did not find there was any Necessity for adding to them.

There is one thing I had like to have omitted, and that is Cloths called *Dozens*, which is

is not mentioned in the Tariff of 1699; whence the Mercator would infer, that they are to pay according to that of 1664: but I must inform him, that the Tariff of 1667 is made part of that of 1699 for all Goods that are omitted in the latter, and this by express Words, which say, That the Goods not comprised therein shall pay according to that Tariff.

English Cloths called *Dozens* are to pay 10 Livres or 15 s. for 10 Ells, or 15 Yards, by the Tariff of 1667, to which they are subject, being Cloth, and not being mentioned in the Tariff of 1699.

So that they are rated at 14 $\frac{2}{3}$ per Yard.

	s. d.		
which on a Yard worth	}	3	is 40
		3 6	34 $\frac{2}{3}$
		4	30
		4 6	26 $\frac{2}{3}$
		5	24
			} per Cent.

A sufficient Duty to prevent the Exportation of every Ounce of this Manufacture into France, as well as Spanish Cloths, which liable to the same Duty.

But I think for Spanish Cloths the Mercator need not much trouble himself; they are made of foreign Materials, and stand prohibited by the Edict of 1701, notwithstanding any thing in this Treaty.

Our Spanish
Cloths pro-
hibited in
France.

The following Letter, shewing the Unreasonableness of permitting the Importation of French Manufactures, and some of the fatal Consequences thereof; I take to be of the greatest Importance to set this Matter in a true Light.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,
“ SINCE it has been always allowed that
“ foreign Commerce ought to be the chief
“ Object of Great Britain’s Jealousy, and
“ that the Preservation thereof is of the utmost
“ Consequence to her Welfare and Prosperity:
“ It is really surprizing that there should
“ be any among us so very inconsiderate, as
“ to plead for the Restoration of the French
“ Trade, which must unavoidably cramp us
“ in almost every valuable Branch of our fo-
“ reign Traffick, reduce the Rents, and ex-
“ haust the Stock of the Kingdom; that must
“ ruin our Manufactures, and at the same
“ time establish theirs; and which, in short,
“ will enable them to engross the Trade of the
“ Universe.
“ Are we ignorant that France, for many
“ Years past, has employ’d her ablest Mini-
“ sters and greatest Politicians to fix her Com-
“ merce upon a firm Basis and solid Founda-
“ tion? That his most Christian Majesty has
“ apply’d his utmost Care for encouraging of
“ Trade and Navigation, as the only Means to
“ enrich

“ enrich his Subjects? That he is fully deter-
“ mined to maintain this Conquest, and that
“ above 40 Years since he declared, That
“ the Establishments he had made, having in
“ every thing the Success he expected, he thought
“ himself obliged to provide for their Continu-
“ ance?
“ Or has his and his People’s Indolence
“ from that time rendered them so contemp-
“ tible, and us so very secure and safe, that
“ we are content to cherish such a Rival?
“ Is it possible that Britons can thus expose
“ themselves to a Nation that is immoderately
“ bent upon enlarging her Traffick, that is
“ courting Commerce with the heartiest Ap-
“ plications and warmest Addresses that were
“ ever yet made to a Kingdom, whose Navi-
“ gation is prodigiously increased, or to any
“ Potentate, who is convinced by Experience
“ that the BALLANCE OF TRADE,
“ wherever it centers, must secure the BAL-
“ LANCE OF POWER, and whose un-
“ bounded Ambition, when thus supported,
“ shall tempt him to contend for Universal
“ Empire?
“ Have we so soon forgot, that if our Sove-
“ reign had not broke the Chain with which
“ Europe was some Years past threatned, she
“ had long e’er this been an abject Slave, and
“ that among the humble and trembling Croud,
“ we must have fallen upon our Knees like
“ the Camel, and been loaded at the Mercy
“ of the Conqueror?
“ But the Advantages we enjoyed by our
“ Trade, enabled her Majesty to surmount
“ all

“ all Difficulties, and to secure not only her
 “ own Subjects but other Nations also from
 “ the impending Ruin.

“ However *Great Britain* can be only thus
 “ considerable, and hold the Ballance of *Eu-*
 “ *rope*, whilst she is rich and powerful ; and
 “ we can only be said to be a rich and power-
 “ ful Kingdom, as our Riches and Power
 “ bear a proportion with our Neighbour Na-
 “ tions.

“ Can we then be so very unhappy, as to
 “ give *France* a Market for her Manufactures,
 “ whereby she shall be recruited, and we ex-
 “ hausted ? Will not this so sensibly affect us
 “ in the tenderest part, that our Commerce
 “ must immediately wax feeble, and by con-
 “ sequence must not our Power be soon a-
 “ bated ?

“ Our present Security is certainly owing
 “ (next to the Blessing of Providence) to her
 “ Majesty’s Firmness to the common Cause
 “ of *Europe*, to her wise Councils, to the hap-
 “ py Conduct of her great and faithful Gene-
 “ ral, and to the matchless Bravery of her
 “ Forces both at Land and Sea ; but nothing
 “ can more effectually establish our Prosperity
 “ than an Excess and Predominancy of foreign
 “ Trade.

“ Of this her Sacred Majesty was so sen-
 “ sible, that she graciously recommended to
 “ her Parliament last Year, TO THINK
 “ OF PROPER METHODS FOR IM-
 “ PROVING AND INCOURAGING
 “ OUR HOME TRADE AND MANU-
 “ FACTURES, which can alone render
 “ our

“ our Traffick to other Nations considera-
 “ ble.

“ Those therefore who are sensible of the
 “ Importance hereof, and who have the Inte-
 “ rest of their Country only in view, can ne-
 “ ver stoop to such Measures as must necessa-
 “ rily destroy our Manufactures, and at the
 “ same time establish a Staple for all Commo-
 “ dities in *France*.

“ But I am persuaded, if the Advocates
 “ for opening a Trade with *France*, upon the
 “ Foot of the late Treaty, would but confi-
 “ der the Advantages we have enjoyed by
 “ the Increase of our Woollen, Silk and Li-
 “ nen Manufactures, &c. since the Prohi-
 “ bition of our Commerce with that King-
 “ dom in 1678 ; and inquire also into the
 “ State of our Trade, both before and since
 “ that Period, they would soon declare against
 “ the pernicious Consequences of such an Ex-
 “ periment.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
“ Our Exports before the “ said Prohibitions in 1662-3 “ amounted to ————	2,022,812	4 0
“ And in 1668-9 ————	2,063,274	19 0
—————		
“ And our Exports since the “ Prohibition in 1699 amount- “ ed to ————	6,788,166	17 6
“ And in 1703 ————	6,644,103	0 0

“ Whereby it appears that we have export-
 “ ed in the two last Years *nine Millions, three*
 “ *hundred forty six thousand, One hundred eighty*
 “ *two*

The Advance of our Exports since the Prohibition of French Goods.

two Pounds fourteen Shillings and Six-pence, MORE than in the two first Years. This prodigious Increase in our Exportations is certainly owing to the great Increase of our Manufactures, and their Increase to the Prohibition of the French Trade.

And it is very observable, that since our Silk Manufactures have been encouraged, they have greatly promoted the Exportation of Woollen Goods; contrary to an Opinion formerly propagated (to serve a Turn) of their being inconsistent with, and prejudicial to one another.

Value of Woollen Manufactures exported in 1662 and 1668.

For in 1662, or in 1668, our exported Woollen Manufactures could not, in proportion to the general Export as aforesaid, exceed the Value of nine hundred thousand Pounds.

Also in 1699.

But in 1699 they amounted to two Millions nine hundred thirty two thousand, two hundred ninety two Pounds seventeen Shillings and Six-pence.

It amounts then to a Demonstration, that there is an inseparable Dependence between the Woollen and the Silk Manufactures; and that as the unwrought Foreign Materials whereof our wrought Silks are made, meet with Encouragement or Discouragement here, the Woollen Manufactures wherewith they are purchased in Turkey and Italy, will inevitably find the same Fate there.

The said Silk Manufacture having been supported by necessary Laws, is now computed

The Increase of our silk Manufactures since the 14 of Car. II.

puted to be about twenty times as great as it was in the fourteenth Year of the Reign of King Charles II. when the Company of Silk Throwers employed, in and about the City of London, FORTY THOUSAND Men, Women, and Children.

And must this Manufacture, which occasions such vast Exportations of our Woollen Goods and other Products, that gives Employment to such Multitudes of her Majesty's Subjects, be Part of the SACRIFICE that some would make to France? Whatsoever the charitable Part of Mankind may think, the MISERABLE POOR will never conclude they can plead Ignorance for their Excuse.

The Increase of our Linen Manufactures.

But when to this shall be superadded the Destruction of our Linen Manufactures, which are increased in Great Britain and Ireland, since the late Wars, at least 600,000 l. per Ann. and that we shall lose the Exportation of a very great Part of 400,000 l. yearly, to purchase Linens in Germany; besides the total Loss of our Paper Manufacture, and the Prejudice we must suffer in our distilled Spirits, &c. together with the Malignant Influence which the French Commerce will have on our Portugal, Italian and Turkey Trades, that are now carried on to the inexpressible Benefit of the Kingdom:

What an incredible Sum will there be then annually lost to this Nation; and what Misery must it entail upon us?

I must appeal to every unbiass'd Person living,

“ living, who is conversant in Trade, whether these (with many others that might be insisted on) are not the natural Consequences of letting in an INUNDATION of French Manufactures upon us.

“ And if this should ever be our Portion, have we any Reason to flatter our selves, that our present flourishing Trade must not dwindle to the wretched State it was in before the Prohibition of the French Commerce as afore said ?

“ For I shall make no scruple to assert, that the opening a free Trade with France can make us very little or no amends.

“ At present, it's allowed, we enjoy a considerable Advantage by that Trade, by their taking from us what they want ; but this being obtained by the Peace, not by the Treaty of Commerce, will remain, tho' the said Treaty should never be render'd effectual by a Law.

“ What can we further expect from France, if that Treaty was in force ?

What if our Commodities are excluded, and heavily loaded by the late Treaty with France.

“ Are not our salted Fish, Sugar, and the Product of Whales, excluded by the Articles subsequent to the Treaty ? Are not our Woollen Cloths, Serges, Perpets, Stuffs, and Says, (our principal Manufactures) liable by the Tariff of 1699 to an exorbitant Duty, from 30 to 50 per Cent. which will amount to a Prohibition ? And tho' it is pretended, that our other Manufactures are to pay by the Tariff of 1664 ; can it be imagined, that a Custom of 23 to 36 per Cent. (on all but Friezes and Cottons) as

“ you

“ you have already proved, will not effectually prevent their Importation ?

“ Again, are not all our foreign Goods, and all our Manufactures made of foreign Materials, actually prohibited in France ? and has not the 5th Article of that Treaty establish'd those Prohibitions ?

“ Where then is the Equivalent for this monstrous Evil ? Can such Politicks as these procure it ? Is this the best Method our Mercator can prescribe to increase the Trade and the Stock of the Nation, and to repair the Damages sustain'd in the late War ?

“ But farther, after this Kingdom has been at a vast Expence for 20 Years together to fix our Manufactures, after our Legislators have made so many wise and excellent Laws to encourage the same, and with great Difficulty have settled such profitable Employments for the Poor ; is it just or reasonable to unravel the Constitution of our Home Trade at once, and force many thousand Families upon the LANDED INTEREST for a Maintenance ?

“ Can the most sanguine Abettors of the French Interest imagine, that any Gentlemen are so egregiously stupid, as to give the Nation such an incurable Wound ?

“ I remember it was observed by a late ingenious Author, that all Nations concur in this Maxim, *That the less they consume of foreign Commodities, the better it is for them.*

“ To which I will add another, tho' to the same purpose, *That the Expence of foreign Manufactures is the worst Expence a Nation*

“ can

“ can be inclinable to, and therefore ought to be prevented as much as possible.

“ Shall we then be cajoled into such a Commerce as this, which will send us again to France for Manufactures that will soon drain us of our Treasures, and augment the Grandeur of that Nation, whose exorbitant Power has cost us very lately so many Millions to reduce, and which grew to such a Magnitude by pursuing steddily her Interest in foreign Trade?

France gain'd five Millions by Trade in the North of Europe before the late Wars.

“ Before the late Wars, is it not notorious that France gain'd, upon the Ballance of her Trade with the Northern Parts of Europe, at least five Millions Sterling? And has she not since introduced her Woollen Manufactures into many distant Countries, in great abundance, to our vast Prejudice?

Their Turkey Trade exceeds ours.

“ How many are there of our Turkey Merchants, who remember the Time when the French Imports into the Grand Seignior's Dominions did not exceed 2 or 300 Cloths per Ann. whereas now, the Value of their Woollen Goods imported annually thither, is greater than what ours, for several Years past, at a Medium, have amounted to?

“ May it not then be fairly concluded, if this Kingdom will favour them so far as to take off their wrought Silks, which are made of the raw Silks they bring from Turkey and Italy in return for their Woollen Cloths, Perpets, &c. that we could not fall into properer Measures to fix the Woollen Manufacture in France, and to prevent the Exportation of our own? I am, Sir,

Your Humble Servant, J. D. F.

I shall next consider the pretended Advantages we may have by the Exportation of Raw Silk from Great Britain and Turkey to France; in answer to the following Letter.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,
“ THO' you have effectually demonstrated the pernicious Consequences of opening a free Trade with France, and have fairly and fully expos'd many of the Arguments urged in favour thereof; yet we shall take the Liberty to put you in mind of one Argument for that Trade, which we are informed is of considerable Importance, or at least great Stress is laid thereon, viz.
“ That if the French Trade was open as formerly, tho' the French would import their Silk Manufactures into this Kingdom, yet we should thereby retrieve a considerable Market for our Raw Silk in that Kingdom, by exporting great Quantities both from hence, and directly from the Levant.
“ And consequently that such a current Consumption for our Raw Silk would greatly promote our Trade to Turkey, and ruin the French Trade in those Parts, &c.

“ Your Answer to this will oblige

S I R,

Your Humble Servants,

W. L. and S. K.

In

In answer to this Letter I shall assert in general, That if the *French* were permitted to import their Wrought Silks into this Kingdom, (as they will be, if ever the Treaty of Commerce should be rendered effectual) all the imaginary happy Consequences that can be deduced from that ill-grounded Supposition of our supplying *France* with Raw Silk, must prove vain Chimeras, mere empty Notions, tho' really well enough adapted to amuse the Ignorant, or those who are wilfully and obstinately blind.

But to descend to Particulars.

By the *Custom-House* Accounts laid before the last Parliament, it does not appear, that from *Michaelmas* 1668 to *Michaelmas* 1669, there was any Raw Silk re-exported from *London* to *France*; however, after the Restoration *France* did sometimes afford us a Market for this Commodity. But tho' the Quantity was not considerable, and that at least two thirds of all that was ever sold or exported for *France* was *Ardass*, which is worth but about 9 s. per *lib.* weight, being the coarsest sort of *Persia* Raw Silk; yet so intent was the *French* King at this time upon encouraging the *Levant* Trade in his Dominions, that in *March* 1669 he issued out an Edict, whereby a Duty of 20 per Cent. was imposed on Raw Silk, and all other Goods from the *Levant*, which should be imported into *France*, provided they had been landed in *England*, or in any other foreign Country.

20 per Cent. in *France* on all Raw Silk from *Turky*, &c. if landed in any foreign Country.

This was intended as a Prohibition to this Trade; but the Farmers of the Customs finding that this Edict would be prejudicial to their Farms,

Farms, and the Importation of Raw Silk from *Turkey* not being then sufficient to supply the Manufacturers, the Execution of this Edict was for some time conniv'd at, or rather dispensed with.

In this manner therefore the Trade in Raw Silk between *France* and other Countries in *Christendom* continued until *August* 1685, when an Arrest of Council was published, which enjoined a strict Execution of the aforefaid Edict of 1669.

To this the Farmers were obliged to have a greater regard than to the former, and the Importation by way of *French Flanders* was in a manner thereby prevented: But so it was, the Importation both of Raw Silk, and all *Levant* Goods from *England*, was still permitted; probably because if it had been otherwise, it would have sounded very harsh in the Ears of our Legislators, after they had in that very Year repealed the Statute of 1678, which prohibited the Importation of all their Manufactures and Products.

For, as I am informed, the Exportations of Raw Silk from *London* after that Arrest took place, stood thus;

From	{ 1685	to Mich.	{ 1686	lib.	11722
Mich.	{ 1686		{ 1687		1391
	{ 1687		{ 1688		1952

Our Exportation of Raw Silk to France in 3 Years.

In three Years, lib. 15075

which at a Medium cannot exceed 28 or 30 Bales per Ann. so that this was the advantageous Market, which was then enjoyed for our Raw

Raw Silk in France upon taking off that Prohibition.

About this time the Trade between France and Turkey being increased, it was again attempted to promote the Consumption of Raw Silk from the Levant, and to obstruct the Importation thereof at Roan, &c. by engaging the Manufacturers of Lisle, and others, to supply themselves with Raw Silk from Marseilles, as is evident from the Arrests of the 22d of February and 9th of November 1688. And by another Arrest of the 15th of June in the same Year, Transires or Permits were granted them, whereby they could have their Raw Silk from the said Port of Marseilles without paying any of those Duties, either of Importation or Exportation, to which the Traders to other Parts of the Kingdom were subject.

But the said two Arrests were by degrees laid aside, on pretence of facilitating the Importation of Silk and other Goods proper for the Manufactures of Lisle, &c.

This proving prejudicial to the Levant Company in France, (whose Trade begun now to flourish considerably) in 1692 they represented to his Majesty, That unless the Importation of Levant Goods from Flanders could be prevented, it would be impossible for them to carry on their Trade to Turkey, whereby the Exportation of several Manufactures of France would be obstructed, the principal whereof are Woollen Cloths, Perpets, Caps, Paper, &c.

It was further urged, That it was easier for his Majesty's Subjects of French Flanders to have their Raw Silk, &c. from them, than from Fo-

The sorts of Goods France sends to Turkey.

Foreigners, who by this pernicious Traffick drew considerable Sums from the Kingdom.

Hereupon on the 3d of July 1692. his Majesty ordains, That all Silks, and other Goods and Merchandizes coming from the Levant, &c. which have been landed in any other foreign Country, shall pay the Duties of 20 per Cent. ad Valorem. And his Majesty PROHIBITS all the said Goods and Merchandizes to be imported at any other Port or Place of the Kingdom, except only at the Port of Dunkirk and the City of Roan, paying the said Duties of 20 per Cent. And excludes and prohibits all other Ports and Passages, whether by Sea or Land, according to the aforesaid Arrest of the 15th of August 1685, on pain of Confiscation as well of the Goods as of the Horses, Waggons, Boats, Vessels, and other Carriages concerned in bringing the said Goods, and of 3000 Livres Fine for every Offence.

French Edict in favour of their Levant Trade.

Thus the Importation of Raw Silk into France, that had been landed in any Part of Christendom, whether in England, Holland, or Italy, was entirely prevented, not only during the Remainder of that War, but in the last Peace, and even to this present time, as well by the Subjects of France, as by Foreigners.

And in the French Book of Rates lately translated into English, fol. 384. after the List of those Merchandizes from the Levant, which are to pay 20 per Cent. ad valorem, according to the Arrest of the 15th of August 1685, it is noted, That SILK FROM THE LEVANT is not comprised in this present List, because it is PROHIBITED BY THE KING'S ORDINANCE.

How-

The Dutch obtain'd the same Privileges with the French, as to the Levant Trade.

However, it must be observed, That the Dutch, by the 9th Article of their Treaty with France, both at Reswick and Utrecht, did obtain, That as to the Levant Trade to France, and the 20 per Cent. raised on that Occasion, the Subjects of the States General of the United Provinces shall also enjoy the same Liberty and Freedom as the Subjects of the most Christian King; so as that the said Subjects of the States General shall be permitted to carry Merchandizes from the Levant to Marseilles, and other Places permitted in France, as well by their own Ships as in French Ships; and that the Subjects of the States General shall in neither Case be subject to the said 20 per Cent. unless in Cases where the French are subject to it for carrying Merchandize in their own Ships to Marseilles, and other Places permitted, and that no Alteration shall be made herein to the Prejudice of the Subjects of the said States General.

By this Article it is evident, the Dutch had no other Advantage granted to them by the Treaty of Ryswick than the English enjoy'd, (tho' we had no Treaty of Commerce with the French at that time) except a Liberty to import Goods and Merchandizes directly from the Levant to Marseilles, &c. since the Subjects of France, as well as of the United Provinces, were prohibited to import those Commodities from any Place in Christendom, without paying the Duty of 20 per Cent.

But the Interruption, not only of Commerce, but of Correspondence in France, during the late Wars, rendered us such Strangers to the Laws of that Kingdom, that it was apprehended

prehended this Article was of much greater Importance than it really was; and therefore it was insisted on at Utrecht, and obtained under the general Rule in the 8th Article.

However, we have no Relief hereby as to the Exportation of our raw Silk to France; nor should we have had any by the Treaty of Commerce, if it had been rendered effectual by a Law, being prohibited as aforesaid.

For by the 5th Article of the said Treaty it is stipulated, "That the Subjects of each of their Royal Majesties may have leave and license to come with their Ships, as also with the Merchandizes and Goods on board the same (THE TRADE AND IMPORTATION WHEREOF ARE NOT PROHIBITED BY THE LAWS OF EITHER KINGDOM) to the Lands, Countries, &c. And that the Laws and Statutes of each Kingdom shall remain in full Force, and shall be duly put in Execution, whether they relate to Commerce and Navigation, or to any other Right; those Cases being only excepted, concerning which it is otherwise determined in the Articles of this present Treaty."

Our Importing of Raw Silk to France prohibited by the 5th Article.

It is then very obvious, that unless the aforesaid Prohibition of raw Silk is taken off by any subsequent Article in that Treaty, it must still remain in force.

But I cannot find that any other Prohibitions in France are to be repealed, than QUOAD BONA MERCESQUE MAGNÆ BRITANNIÆ, as far as they respect or relate to the Goods and Merchandize of Great Britain, as in the 9th Article. And

The British Merchant.

And therefore I shall conclude, that all Prohibitions in France relating to foreign Goods, or to such as are manufactured with foreign Materials, are allowed, continued, and confirmed by this Treaty.

The Importation of raw Silk from Great Britain into France being prohibited, as aforesaid, it remains to be considered, whether we can reasonably expect any considerable Benefit by importing of raw Silk directly from Turkey to *Marseilles*.

Before these late Wars with France, our Trade from the *Levant* to *Marseilles* was very inconsiderable; however, now and then, a little Silk, some Wax, Sheeps-Wool, Goats-Hair, Drugs, Cotton-Wool, and Yarn, Pintadoes, Hides, &c. were sent thither; but it is much doubted whether, at a Medium, the whole Value of those Exports amounted to 4 or 5000 l. per Annum.

And I am very well assured, that the Dutch, during the last Peace, did not so much as dispatch one Ship from the *Levant* to *Marseilles*; neither were they known to be concerned on the French Ships which were in that Trade; so that their Commerce that way, if they had any, was carried on privately, and could be but of very small Importance.

Neither can either we or they ever expect any Benefit from that Market, unless we had equal Liberty with the French *Levant* Company to carry our Goods by *Transires* into all Parts of that Kingdom, and thro' it into other Countries.

For

The Trade with France.

For thereby they are discharged of the Duties which must otherwise be paid at *Lions*, and in every Province thro' which they pass, the *Peages du Robne*, of the Duty of 2 per Cent. *d'Aides, tiers sur Feaux, Quarantiene*, and other extraordinary Impositions and Duties whatsoever.

But this Indulgence is confined to the said *Levant* Company, and some few others, purely to encourage the Consumption of the Goods they import from *Turkey*, in return for what they export thither.

The *Sieur Magi* and his Partners, (who are Woollen Manufacturers in *Languedoc*) to obtain this Favour are obliged to export annually two thousand *Draps Londres*, or fine Cloths made in imitation of ours, at *Clermont, Septies, &c.* to the *Levant*, as may be seen in the Arrest of the second of *December*, 1692.

Whereby it also appears, "That the Merchants of *Marseilles* were enabled by the said *Transires*, to discharge and sell out of the Kingdom one Part of the Merchandize which they import from the *Levant* to other Countries."

If then there Importations of all *Levant* Goods in 1692 were so great, that they had sufficient for their own Manufactures in France, and a SURPLUS to sell to Foreigners, certainly we have little reason to flatter our selves that *Marseilles* can take off our *Levant* Commodities, when we reflect either on what has been already mentioned, or on the prodigious Increase of their Trade since that time.

Marseilles can't take off our Levant Goods, because they have a Surplus of their own.

Great Increase of the French Trade at Turkey.

My aforesaid Correspondents, and my Readers, may hereafter expect an ample Account of this ungrateful Scene ; but at present I shall only assert, that about 30 Years ago the French Trade to Turkey was very inconsiderable ; whereas, since the Conclusion of the Peace, the French Merchants being encouraged by the Hopes of a free Trade with Great Britain, and probably well supported by better Purfes than their own, have vastly extended their Commerce in the Grand Signior's Dominions, their Ships carrying down great Quantities of Cloth and Woollen Goods, besides divers other rich Commodities.

To which must be added the prodigious Sums they import into Turkey in Pieces of Eight, often 50,000, and 100,000, and sometimes 150,000 by a single Ship ; whereby they are enabled to dispose of their Cloth in Quantity, and have several times since the aforesaid Period engross'd both the fine and coarse Silk upon the first Arrival of the Persia Caravans ; and it's needless to insist on the large Parcels of other sorts of Goods which they daily engage in.

Admitting French Wrought Silk, establishes their Levant Trade, and ruins ours.

Well therefore might one of my Correspondents say, that the French Nation is immoderately bent upon enlarging her Traffick, &c. and I am afraid, if we should grant them a Market for their wrought Silks, we should at the same time establish their Trade, and ruin our own in the Levant.

I must now beg leave to produce another Letter to clear the old Scheme, given by our Merchants to the Lords Commissioners for the Treaty

Treaty of Commerce with France in 1674, from the vile Reflections cast on it by the Mercator : but as the plainest Conviction of the Truth of that Scheme, I must first give some Extracts out of his Papers, wherein he insists on Custom-house Books as infallible, and dares us to appeal to them, as he does ; but afterwards denies their Validity, and calls them all Fallacy and Cheat : To such wretched Shifts were the Authors and Supporters of the Treaty of Commerce, who employed the Mercator as their Amanuensis, reduced.

MERCATOR Numb. 36.

Are not the Custom-house Books open? Have not both Sides given Schemes said to be taken from those Books, &c.

To what Purpose do these Men beat the Bush, and dance in a Circle? THE CUSTOM-HOUSE IS A RECORD OF THESE THINGS, and may be referred to, even back to 1664, and further if they please, &c.

The Mercator appeals to the Custom-house Books, and the Custom-house Books must be right, and may be searched; Now these Men dare not do it, &c.

MERCATOR Numb. 149.

To call then for the Accounts of Exports and Imports from the Custom-house Books, and to make a Judgment from them of the Trade to France, is to covet being cheated, to call for an Evidence, who, we are assured before-hand, can give no true Account of the Matter.

What then is become of all your Schemes, and Draughts, and Sums from the Custom-house,

The British Merchant.

by which the Clamours against the French Trade are supported? It is evident the Judgment made from them is all Fallacy and Cheat.

A LETTER containing a Vindication of the OLD SCHEME.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

THE Letter which I wrote you the 9th of December last, being only intended to remove those vile and infamous Reflections which have been cast upon those Gentlemen, who published in 1674 a Scheme of the Trade between England and France, in the Commodities of the Native Product and Manufacture of each Country.

I was in hopes, after the Inspector-General (who must be allowed to be a proper Judge of the Custom-house Accounts) had upon Oath given such entire Credit to the Manuscript which he mentions, in his first Report to the Commissioners of Accounts, that the Mercator might have at least allowed, it was possible, if not probable, the said Gentlemen had given the best Account they had been able to procure, to those noble Lords of his Majesty's Council who engaged them in that Work.

For I must insist on it, that it's very reasonable to conclude, the said Manuscript, or the Accounts from whence it was drawn, were the Foundation of that Scheme.

And

The Trade with France.

And I cannot omit another Argument to prove Dr. Davenant's firm Belief of the Validity of that Manuscript, which is, That upon this Authority, he not only grounds his Report of the State of the French Trade in 1662-3 and 1668-9, but also the State of the whole Trade of the Nation for those two Years, which stands thus:

		l.	s.	d.	
“ Anno 1662	{ Imports	4,016,019	18	0	A Scheme of our Trade from 1662 to 1663, and 1668 to 1669.
“ to 1663	{ Exports	2,022,812	04	0	
“ The Imports exceed the Exp.		1,993,207	14	0	
“ Anno 1668	{ Imports	4,196,139	17	0	
“ to 1669	{ Exports	2,063,274	19	0	
“ The Imp. exceed the Exports		2,132,864	18	0	

This then is certain, that an Abstract had been drawn out of the Books of Entries, of the Quantities of Goods exported to and imported from all Parts, to which we traded in those two Years; and the Doctor says, It was drawn out almost in the same Form as the Ledgers in his Office are now kept.

Is it not then much more reasonable to believe, that those old Accounts which were regularly and fairly drawn out at leisure, must be exacter than these new Accounts, which were laid by the Officers of the Custom-house before the last Parliament, which were extracted in a hurry, and consequently liable to Errors?

Besides, I cannot reject the Objections you have formerly made against all Accounts

which

“ which are, or may be NOW brought
“ from the *Custom-house* of the Transactions
“ of those times.

“ Tho’ I will not suppose that either the
“ present Commissioners, or the Officers who
“ signed those Accounts, would deliver out
“ any Account that appeared to them to be
“ false or unjust.

“ For which Reason, and to oblige the
“ *Mercator*, since he has taken such pains to
“ justify these *Custom-house* Accounts, I am
“ resolved (whether they are right or wrong)
“ to allow them their full force.

“ For I am not contending, whether the
“ Woollen Manufactures exported to *France*
“ in 1668-9 amount to 61456 *l.* as by the
“ Scheme, or 68521 *l.* 17 *s.* as by Dr. *Davenant*’s Reports, or 93396 *l.* 5 *s.* 6 *d.* according to the *Custom-house* Account, as is calculated in your *British Merchant*.

“ The Difference between the least and the
“ greatest of these Valuations is but 31850 *l.*
“ 5 *s.* 6 *d.* and what a Trifle is this to the
“ Ballance of 965,128 *l.* 17 *s.* 4 *d.* which
“ the Scheme chargeth to the Debtor of the
“ *French* Trade, exclusive of re-exported foreign Goods?

“ But the *Mercator* having with the greatest
“ Assurance declared, not only that this Scheme
“ is manifestly detected of Forgery and Deceit,
“ but that the Trade between *England*
“ and *France* has been always a beneficial
“ Trade to this Kingdom; and having also
“ treated you with the greatest Rudeness and
“ Indecency; I cannot but esteem my self
“ so

“ so far concerned, as to attempt the Support
“ thereof, and to justify as far as I am able,
“ those honest and worthy Patriots, who de-
“ liver’d that Scheme to the Right Honoura-
“ ble the Lords Commissioners appointed for
“ the Treaty of Commerce with *France* in
“ 1674, together with their humble Desires in
“ behalf of the English Merchants trading to
“ *France*, and of the English Trade; and I
“ submit the whole to the Correction of every
“ proper and impartial Person whatsoever.

“ The main Question therefore that ought
“ to be resolved, is this:

“ What will the Goods and Merchandizes
“ exported to and imported from *France* from
“ *Michaelmas* 1668, to *Michaelmas* 1669, to-
“ gether with the Wine and Brandy which are
“ computed by the Scheme, according to the
“ Consumption in 1674, amount to? and
“ then how will the Ballance stand?

“ I shall therefore examine, not what in-
“ duced those Gentlemen to leave us such an
“ Argument against the *French* Trade, but
“ how far the *Custom-house* Accounts, which
“ were laid before the last Parliament, and
“ such others as I shall refer to, will prove
“ sufficient Vouchers, to engage our Assent to
“ the Truth of their Computations.

“ In order then to clear up this Controversy,
“ I shall in the first place present you with an
“ Abstract of the said Scheme, which is enti-
“ tled as follows:

Our Scheme of Trade with France in 1674, as given in by the Merchants, Visited.

A SCHEME OF THE TRADE as it is at present carried on between England and France, in the Commodities of the Native Product and Manufactures of each Country, calculated as exactly as possible, &c.

“ Wherein it is asserted, that there was exported to France from the Port of London, according to the Custom-house Books, from Michaelmas 1668 to Michaelmas 1669.

	l. s. d.
“ In Woollen Manufactures —	61546 0 0
“ In English wrought Silks —	1920 0 0

“ Exported from London in Manufactures —	63466 0 0
“ Exports from the Out-Ports, computed at one third more	21155 6 8

“ Exported from England in Manufactures —	84621 6 8
“ And in several Products, viz.	
“ Lead 2500 Fodder at 12 l.	30000 0 0
“ Tin 6000 Hund. wt. 4 l.	24000 0 0
“ Allum 100 Tuns 24 l.	2400 0 0
“ Calves Skins, and Leather	10000 0 0
“ And in all other Goods to the Value of — — —	20000 0 0

“ Total of the Exports to France in said Year computed at	171021 6 8
“ And the Imports into England from France in several sorts of	
“ Linens amount to —	507250 4 0
“ Wrought Silks 150000 at 2 l.	300000 0 0
“ Wine Tuns 11000 at 12 l. 10 s.	37500 0 0
“ Brandy, Tuns 4000 20 l.	80000 0 0
“ Paper, Reams 160000 5 s.	40000 0 0
“ Pruens, Feathers, Salt and Rozin	16400 0 0
“ Kid-skins	

	l. s. d.
“ Kid-Skins 5000 Hund. 3 l.	15000 0 0
“ In all other Goods —	40000 0 0
“ Total of the Imports from France are computed at — —	1136150 4 0
“ Deduct the Amount of the Exports to France as aforesaid	171021 6 8
“ Ballance gained by the French from us yearly — —	965128 17 4
“ Besides all manner of Toys, Fans, Gloves, Laces, Point Laces, embroider'd Garments and Beds, to an incredible Value.	

Signed by

Patience Ward,	John Houghe,
Tho. Papillon,	John Merwin,
James Houblon,	Peter Paravicine,
William Bellamy,	John Dubois,
Michael Godfrey,	Benj. Godfrey,
George Toriano,	Edmond Harrison,
John Houblon,	Benj. De Laune.

“ These were the Merchants, all of them great Traders to France, who signed the several Papers, which were presented with this Scheme, to the Lords Commissioners, as was before hinted: for their Lordships being entirely satisfied in their great Experience, known Abilities, and unquestioned Integrity, and withal to testify their own Care and Concern for the publick Good and the Welfare and Prosperity of the Trade of the Nation, required these Gentlemen to render them their Opinions, relating to the settling of a fair Commercial Treaty between both Nations.

“ With this Command they honestly and
“ justly complied, without the least regard
“ either to Party or their own private Interest,
“ as may be seen at large in their aforesaid
“ Papers.

“ But such is the Iniquity of the *Mercator*
“ and his Friends, that they have in several
“ of his Papers represented this Scheme as a
“ most unfair and partial Calculation, a design-
“ ed Collusion, than which nothing can be more
“ corrupt; that it was in it self a Design disho-
“ nest, a shameful Paper, a horrid Roguery, a
“ cursed, open, naked Cheat, &c.

“ However he cannot without some Shame
“ and Confusion remember, how grossly he
“ has imposed on his Readers, and how inju-
“ riously he has treated the said Merchants,
“ first by charging their Scheme with a Fraud
“ in its Title, and then branding them with
“ the scandalous Names of Cheats, &c. for
“ giving a Scheme of the Trade as it was then
“ carried on between *England* and *France*, and
“ omitting therein the re-exported foreign
“ Goods. Whereas it is he himself that has
“ falsified the Title, by striking out the three
“ last Lines thereof,

“ *In the Commodities of the native Product*
“ *and Manufactures of each Country, cal-*
“ *culated as exactly as possible, &c.*

“ But by the true Title of the Scheme, as
“ aforesaid, it is obvious at first sight, that
“ they had only a regard to the Trade in the
“ Commodities of the *native Product and Ma-*
“ *nufacture*

“ *nufacture of each Country*; and it appears
“ now by the Manuscript mentioned by Dr.
“ *Davenant*, that they could give no other
“ Account, and therefore they frankly and
“ fairly declare by the Title, what was in-
“ tended, tho' this Man has basely and trea-
“ cherously represented it otherwise.

“ The Scheme being thus vindicated in its
“ Title and Design, I shall in the next place
“ give you an Abridgment of the *Custom-House*
“ Accounts, which were laid, as aforesaid,
“ before the last Parliament.

“ Whereby it will appear, wherein the
“ Scheme and those *Custom-House* Accounts
“ differ.

“ The Valuation of the Particulars is ac-
“ cording to the Rates made use of in the
“ Scheme, as far as they will serve; being
“ satisfied the Authors thereof were perfectly
“ acquainted with the Prices of all sorts of
“ Goods, not only at *home*, but in *France*,
“ from whence they received annually vast
“ Quantities; and the rest is supply'd ac-
“ cording to the best Informations I could ob-
“ tain.

“ And because the Quantities, or total Va-
“ lue of our Manufactures and Products ex-
“ ported from the Out-Ports, and of several
“ Goods and Merchandizes imported at the
“ Out-Ports, could not be ascertained by any
“ other better Rule, they are determined by
“ the same Proportions as the Exports and Im-
“ ports from and at the Out-Ports in 1685-6,
“ bear to the Exports and Imports of the same
“ Year at *London*.

“ Whereby

The British Merchant.

“ Whereby the Objection made by the
 “ Commissioners of the *Customs* against the
 “ Computation in the Scheme, relating to the
 “ Value of what was exported from the Out-
 “ Ports, (being one third of the Value of the
 “ Manufactures exported from *London*) is fully
 “ answered.

“ However, it must be observed, that the
 “ Officers at the *Custom-house*, both before
 “ and after 1674, were generally governed
 “ in their Calculations by that proportion, and
 “ it exceeds the present *Inspector-General's*
 “ Rule, in his first Report, fol. 12.

“ This is mentioned, not because a general
 “ Rule adhered to in the *Custom-house*, is to
 “ be observed either in this, or in many other
 “ particular Cases.

“ But to shew how it came to be made use
 “ of in the Scheme: for this Scheme was
 “ drawn and prepared by the proper Officers
 “ in the *Custom-house*, and is enter'd in those
 “ Books, tho' the present Commissioners can-
 “ not find that the same was prepared by Order
 “ of their Predecessors.

Goods ex-
 ported from
 London
 from Mi-
 chaelmas
 1668 to
 1669, by
 the Custom-
 house
 Account.

“ The Particulars of the Goods and Mer-
 “ chandizes exported from the Port of *Lon-*
 “ *don* from *Michaelmas* 1668 to *Michaelmas*
 “ 1669, as by the *Custom-house* Account, are
 “ as follow:

	l.	s.	d.
Woollen Manufactures valued as a- forefaid at ————	93396	5	6
Wrought Silks, lib. 473½. 2 l. 10 s.	1183	15	0
Lead 970 Fod. 11 hund. wt. 12 l.	11646	15	0
Tin hund. wt 996½. 14 lib. 4 l.	3987	10	0
Allom, 493 hund. wt. 1 l. 4 s.	471	12	0
			Tann'd

The Trade with France.

	l.	s.	d.
Tann'd Leather 4558½ hund. com- puted, viz. ½ part at 6 d. ½ at 9 d. and ½ at 12 d. per lib.	19146	15	0
Unrated Goods ————	9990	15	6
In other Manufactures and Products	11500	0	0
	151323	8	0

Products, Manufactures, and foreign Goods exported from the Out- Ports, according to the Propor- tion of what was exported from the Out-Ports in 1685-6, com- puted at one half part of what was exported in Manufactures and Products from <i>London</i> , a- mount to ————	75661	14	0
	226985	2	0

From the
Out-Ports.

Foreign Goods re-exported from London.

43980 lib. wt Cotton Wool, at 6 d.	1099	10	0	Foreign Goods re- exported from Lon- don.
23615 lib. wt Cotton Yarn, at 12 d.	1180	15	0	
1914½ hund. wt Gauls, at 3 l.	5743	10	0	
50977 lib. wt Goat Hair, at 2 s.	5097	14	0	
160816 lib. Tobacco, at 3 d.	2010	4	6	
204 Tuns of Oil, at 30 l.	6120	0	0	
6080 h. 2 qrs 3 lib Sug. bought at 25 s.	7600	13	0	
224859 lib. wt Pepper bl. at 9 d.	8432	4	3	
7995½ Pieces of Callicoes, at 15 s.	5996	12	6	
8481 lib. Indico, at 3 s. 6 d.	1484	3	6	
765 doz. Goats-Skins, at 2 l.	1530	0	0	
In Drugs and other Goods	17200	0	0	
	63495	6	9	

Total of the Exports to France in
1668-9, computed at 290480 8 9

“ The

Defect of the Custom-house Accounts.

" The Account and Value of the Goods and Merchandizes imported from France in the said Year, is next to be ascertain'd. " But it must be observed, that these Custom-house Accounts are very defective in not taking notice of the Wine and unrated Goods imported at London, nor of any Goods imported in the Out-Ports. " For the Inspector-General has given an Account, fol. 15 and 16, of the Wines imported into the Port of London from France.

" Both in 1662-3. " And in 1668-9. " And therefore it is VERY STRANGE it should be asserted, that the Books of Entries for Wines, ending at Michaelmas 1669 are not to be found; and the Omission of the unrated Goods is so gross, that it's shrewdly to be suspected, they are defective in other Articles.

Supply'd by another of their Accounts.

" However, to supply part of these Defects, I shall take to my Assistance another Custom-house Account, which was formerly laid by the Farmers of the Customs before a House of Commons, and was produced before the last House of Commons, as an Evidence to confirm the Authority of the Old Scheme: It's entitled, An Account of Liquors and French Linens imported at the Port of London and Out-Ports from Michaelmas 1667 to Michaelmas 1669.

Which is signed by Jos. Dawson, per Coll. E. Brewer, per Comp.

Tho.

Tho. Kynaston, per Sr. John Wolstenholm, John Shaw, E. Turner.

" Whereby it appears there were imported into England, in those two Years, Linens of the Manufacture of France, as follows.

	l.	s.	d.
106442 Pieces of Lockrams, at 6 l.	638652	00	00
3003 Pieces dyed Linens, at 1 l.	3003	00	00
10281 Yards Diaper Tabling, at 2s.	1028	20	00
53063 Yds Diap. Napkining, at 1s.	2653	30	00
9753 h. Ells, Norman Canvas, at 7 l.	68271	00	00
34712 h. El. Vitry & Noy Canv. at 6 l.	208272	00	00
4533 Pair of old Sheets, at 5 s.	1133	50	00
2257 Bolts of Poldawies, at 15 s.	1692	150	00
4798 Pcs of Kentings, at 1 l. 10 s.	7197	00	00
155 h. El. packing Canv. at 2 l. 10 s.	387	100	00
800 Shirts valued at	64	00	00

Imported in the said two Years by this Account French Linens, amounting to 932353 15 0 The half part of the said 932353 l. 15 s. being the Medium of one Year, is 466176 17 6

" Imported from the 19th of October 1668 to the 20th of October 1669, other sorts of Linens, which are omitted in the aforesaid Account, but are inserted in the Account from the Custom-house, which was laid before the last Parliament.

	l.	s.	d.
300 h. Ells Cloth of Brittany, at 6 l. 13 s. 4 d.	2000	00	00
	138079	00	00

The British Merchant.

138079 Ells of Courtray, at 5 s.	l.	s.	d.
1185 Ells of Ifingham Cloth, at 5 s.	345	19	15 0
809 Pieces of Quintins, at 10 s.	—	296	5 0
1362 doz. of Buckrams, at 2 l. 10 s.	404	10	0 0
And for several other small Parcels of Cloth	3405	0	0 0
	155	0	0 0

By this Medium of the Farmer's Account, and by the aforefaid Custom-house Accounts, the Linens imported from France in 1668-9 are computed at 506957 7 6

" If it should be objected against this Article, in the Farmer's Account, " That the Out-Ports could not take off " so great a Quantity of Linens, as will appear to be wanting by the said Custom-house Account, to answer this Sum of 506957 l. 7 s. 6 d.

I answer, That the Linens imported in this Year, at the Port of London, as by the said Custom-house Account, according to the aforefaid Valuation will amount to about 247000 0 0

And consequently the Linens imported at the Out-Ports are only valued at 259957 7 6

This being the Total of this Year's Import 506957 7 6

" Whereas, if you compare the Proportion " of what was imported in 1685-6, at the " Out-Ports, with what was imported the " same Year into London,

" You

The Trade with France.

" You will find the Difference between " London and the Out-Ports in that Year, " was much greater than is before-mention- " ed.

For then, according to this Valuation, there was imported into the Port of London, Linens to the Value of 179000 And into the Out-Ports to the Value of 297000

Total Amount of the Linens imported, as by the Custom-house Accounts in 1685-6, 476000

" Which though short of the Value of what " was imported in 1668-9, yet the Value of " what was then imported at the Out-Ports is " 37042 l. 12 s. 6 d. more than is charged " in this Year.

" And if it should be further objected, that " these Linens are valued at higher Rates than " you have valued the Linens imported in " 1685, which I observe was according to the " Custom-house Valuation;

" I shall only add what the Gentlemen who " published this Scheme mention, in their Re- " port to the Lords Commissioners, viz.

" That the Silks and Linens imported from " France into England, are one with another " charged but after the Rate of 5 per Cent. " for though by the Book of Rates for Subsidy " and Additional Duty, the said Commodities " are rated to pay about 7 per Cent. yet they " being undervalued in their Prices, the Du- " ties levied on them, do not in the general " exceed 5 per Cent. of their real and true " Values.

“ I shall proceed to the Article of wrought
“ Silks, of which the Farmers Account makes
“ no mention, and the *Custom-house* Account
“ only takes notice of.

“ lb. 6630 $\frac{3}{4}$ Imported into the Port of
“ *London*; for, as aforesaid, there is no Ac-
“ count of what was imported in 1668-9 into
“ the Out-Ports.

“ (Tho’ by the Commissioners Report to
“ the Lords, *all the Out-Ports Books were not*
“ *wanting*; if therefore they have the Accounts
“ from *Dover* and *Deal*, it would soon be
“ found, what Quantities of wrought Silks
“ were imported that Year.)

“ Neither does the Scheme pretend to give
“ an exact Account of what was imported,
“ but computes it at lb 150000 wt. *per Ann.*
“ which at 2 *l* per lb wt. amounts to 300,-
“ 000 *l*.

“ However the Authors therein note,

“ That in 1674 there was received at the
“ Port of *Dover* only (as they were informed)
“ 15000 *l*. for the Custom of wrought Silks:
“ so that considering what may be conveyed
“ away privately, and that great Quantities are
“ worth from 3 *l*. to 4 *l*. the lb weight, they
“ believe the wrought Silks may amount to
“ much more in value than what is above.

“ And if any one would inform himself from
“ those *French* Factors, who are still living,
“ and were at that time in *London*, of the vast
“ Quantities of *French* wrought Silks, that
“ were then sold in that City, they would be
“ soon convinced, that there was annually
“ imported at least double the Quantity which
“ is mentioned in the Scheme. This

15000 *l*.
Custom paid
at Dover for
French Silk.

“ This is also proved beyond all Contra-
“ diction, by the prodigious Increase of that
“ Manufacture in this Kingdom, and by the
“ yearly Importations of raw and thrown
“ Silk, which are now much greater than in
“ those Days; the Manufacture whereof, ex-
“ clusive of the Cost of the Silk, amount to
“ a much greater Sum than is above-menti-
“ oned.

“ But lest it should be doubted, whether
“ there was ever any considerable Quantity
“ brought to *England* in one Year, you have
“ already proved, that in 1685-6 there was
“ imported into *London*,

5906 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb

“ And into the Out-Ports,
“ besides what might be im-
“ ported, during the *Michael-*
“ *mas* Quarter, in 1686 at

115591

121497 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb

“ Which tho’ a less Quantity than is com-
“ puted by the Scheme, yet according to your
“ Valuation at 50 *s*. *per lb* weight amounts to
“ 303743 *l*. 15 *s*.

“ And he that knows any thing of the
“ Price of wrought Silks, must allow you
“ have not exceeded the Medium.

“ Neither is it to be imagin’d, that the
“ Merchants who drew this Scheme, exceeded
“ the Quantity of what was fairly imported in
“ 1674.

“ So that upon this Foot this Article could
“ not be over-valued; but on the contrary,
“ if

“ if the clandestine Importations were to be added, I have good Reason to believe it would amount to near 800000 l. per Annum.

“ As to the Computation, that 11000 Tuns of French Wine were then annually imported into this Kingdom;

French Wine imported annually.

“ It is plain by the Farmers Account, that from Michaelmas 1667 to Michaelmas 1669, there was imported 21471 Tuns.

“ From Michaelmas 1672 to Michaelmas 1674, the Merchants assert in their aforesaid Report, that there was imported into London 22500 Tuns.

“ By the Custom-house Accounts laid before the last Parliament, the Medium of what was imported into London in 1675, 76, 77, and 78, is 8535 Tuns per Annum. And the Medium for 1686, 87, 88, 89, was 13401 Tuns per Annum.

“ Let the Mercator then add the just Proportion for what was imported at the Out-Ports, and he will hardly be able to persuade any reasonable Man in the Kingdom that this was a partial Calculation.

Brandy.

“ The Brandies are next in course to be considered; the Scheme supposes that we should take from France 4000 Tuns per Annum, not, as the Mercator has been persuading his Readers, that 4000 Tuns were asserted to be imported in 1668-9.

“ On the contrary, the Merchants asserted, that the Quantity imported from Michaelmas 1663 to Michaelmas 1664 was so small, that it deserves not to be noted.

“ That

“ That from Michaelmas 1667 to Michaelmas 1669, there was imported into London but 3000 Tuns: And by the Farmers Account the total Import in the said two Years amounted only to 3775 Tuns.

“ But from Michaelmas 1671 to Michaelmas 1673, there was imported into the Port of London 7315 Tuns, besides what was imported into the Out-Ports; which were the two preceding Years before they made this Calculation.

“ Since therefore the Consumptions of French Brandy encreased yearly very much from 1663 to 1674, they could not conclude that less than 4000 Tuns were then spent, or would for the future be imported.

“ I shall now return to the Custom-house Accounts, to adjust both the Quantities and the Prices of the remaining Goods that were imported in 1668-9.

“ Whereby it is obvious the following Parcels of Paper were imported into London in that Year.

	l.	s.
Bundles 430 Brown, at 3 s.	64	10
Reams 650 Cap, at 7 s. 6 d.	243	15
1593 Demy, at 15 s.	1194	15
355411 Ordinary, at 5 s.	38852	15
33 Painted, 13 s. 4 d.	22	
438 Royal, at 2 l.	876	
	15855	41253 15

The Proportion for the Out-Ports is computed on the Quantity at 14 per Cent. which makes Reams

22197, at 5 s. per Ream	5549	5 0
Total of the Amount of the Paper	46803	0 0

“ By

The British Merchant.

“ By the same Account there was imported
“ into the Port of *London* in the said Year,

	l.	s.	d.
Salt, Rosin, 1346 Weys of Salt, at 2 l.	2692	00	
Pruens, and 5300 hund. wt of Rosin, at 8 s.	2120	00	
Feathers. 9646½ hund. wt Pruens, at 15 s.	7234	17	6
451½ hund. wt Feathers, at 5 l.	2258	15	0
	14305	12	6

And for the Proportion of the Out-Ports since the Amount of the said Commodities imported at *London* in 1685-6, according to the aforesaid Valuation, was 21354 12 3
And at the Out-Ports 57751 12 3
It is computed accordingly at 38687 00

Total of the Value thereof 52992 12 6

Kid-skins. The Kid-skins imported into *London* by the said Account from the *Custom-house*, are 4309 hund. and 70 Skins, which at 3 l. per hund. amounts to 12929 2 0

The Importations at the Out-Ports are computed at 5 per Cent. 646 9 6

The Kid-skins amount to 13575 11 6

And the Value of all other Goods imported into *London*, as by the said *Custom-house* Account, is computed at 28200 00

Unrated Goods, tho' omitted in that Account, concluded to amount to as much as in 1685-6 13558 4 6

The Proportion for the Out-Ports, calculated at one third of what is imported at *London*, 13919 8 2

Total 55677 12 8

“ According

The Trade with France.

“ According to the aforesaid Calculations,
“ the whole Account stands as follows.

IMPORTED.

	l.	s.	d.
Linens of all Sorts	506957	7	6
Wrought Silks, at least	300000	00	
Wine, 11000 Tuns, at 12 l. 10 s.	137500	00	
Brandy, 4000 Tuns, at 20 l.	80000	00	
Paper, 180752 Reams	46803	00	
Salt, Rozin, Pruens, and Feathers	52992	12	6
Kid-skins	13575	11	6
In all other Goods and Merchandizes	55677	12	8

Total of the Value of Goods and Merchandizes imported from *Fr.* in 1668-9, together with the Wine and Brandy, which are computed according to the Consumption in 1674 1193506 4 2
Deduct the total Value of what was exported from *Engl.* to *France* in 1668-9, as aforesaid 290480 8 9

The Imports exceed the Exports, or there was annually lost by our Trade with *France*, 903025 15 5
Difference between this Ball. and the Ballance by the Scheme, but 62103 1 11

Ballance lost by France.

The Ballance, as by the Scheme, being as aforesaid, 965128 17 4

“ Upon the whole, you will observe,
“ that I have made an Allowance for the
“ greatest Objections to which this Scheme
“ was liable:

“ Having

	l.	s.	d.
Having charged for the Amount of our re-exported foreign Goods shipp'd for <i>France</i> , ———	63495	6	9
For the Difference in the Quantity of Woollen Manufactures between the Scheme and the <i>Custom-house</i> Accounts, ———	31850	5	6
And instead of computing what was exported from the Out-Ports at one third, as in the Scheme, I have allowed the half of what was exported from <i>London</i> , the Difference whereof is ———	25220	11	4
In all	120566	3	7

“ Tho’ it is very apparent, the Merchants who drew the Scheme must be discharged from the least Imputation of Partiality in these Particulars, as long as the *Inspector-General’s* Manuscript, and the Rules of the *Custom-house* must vouch for them.

“ The *Mercator* will also observe, that I have had some regard to several of his Objections, against the Valuation of divers Goods and Merchandize, in your Account of the Exports and Imports in 1685-6.

“ I shall therefore offer what has been said, as a fair and probable Argument to support the Authority of this old Scheme, being grounded upon the Authority of the *Custom-house* Accounts, that have been produced for no other end than to destroy it.

“ But the *Mercator’s* irresistable Weapons have been always turned against him; and tho’ I have some Reason to believe, that every Office

“ fice in the Kingdom has been rumaged to equip him, yet hitherto he has not produced one Demonstration, nor published any Matter of Fact, which proves that the *French* Trade was (not always, as he says, but) at any time beneficial to this Kingdom, unless during the last and the present Peace, when it was carried on under the present high Duties: and in this we all agree.

French Trade never beneficial to us, but during the last and present Peace, when their Goods were under high Duties.

“ He formerly indeed promised to exhibit a true Scheme of this Trade; and having had the *Custom-house* Accounts of our Exports to and from *France* from *Michaelmas* 1686 to *Michaelmas* 1688 so long by him, I was in hopes he would have tack’d them to the Accounts of the preceding Year, and obliged his Readers with an impartial Account of those three Years Trade together.

“ But he being now out of humour with all *Custom-house* Accounts, I must conclude they are all as much against him, as the *French* Commerce is against the Interest of this Kingdom.

“ And therefore, if the way to judge of what may be hereafter exported or imported, is to examine what has been formerly exported or imported, as our said *Mercator* has asserted; we may justly determine that the *French*, if ever they have it in their Power to supply us with their Products and Manufactures, will at once ruin both our home and foreign Trade.

S I R, Your Humble Servant,

K. K.

The Arguments about our Exports to Marfeilles confuted. Persecution in England is the way to instruct foreign Nations in the Woollen Manufacture, who have all Materials for it.

THE *Mercator* has kept himself for above a Month in the *Streights*: he seemed to me to have thought himself so very safe, and so well entrenched there, that I did not believe he would be drawn from thence by any Provocation.

I must confess now, that I was mistaken; he has left the *Streights* to defend Persecution, and to shew that how much soever we may persecute our Manufacturers out of *England*, yet if we can but keep our Wool at home, we are sure of keeping our Woollen Manufactures.

I shall not fail to consider his Defence of Persecution, as a *British Merchant*, so far as it is directly contrary to the Interest of Trade.

But for the present I must take up his Argument of the *Streights*, since he seems to have finished all he had to say upon that Subject.

The chief Subject of Dispute between the *Mercator* and myself has been the *French Trade*. I have asserted, that before our Prohibitions or high Duties on the Goods and Merchandizes of *France*, that Trade was always detrimental to this Nation. The *Mercator* on the contrary has asserted, that it was ALWAYS BENEFICIAL; and we have both appealed to the *Custom-house* Accounts in defence of our several Assertions. In

In defence of my Assertion I have produced the OLD SCHEME; I have cleared the Scheme from every Cavil and Objection of the *Mercator*; the *Mercator* has not made the least Reply: So that by the OLD SCHEME the *French Trade* stands condemned of paying a Ballance of 903,025*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.* to that Nation. The OLD SCHEME is a *Custom-house Account*, and proves this.

I have likewise produced the entire Entries of both Exports and Imports between *England* and *France* in the Year 1685-6. The Ballance against us in that Year is not very short of the former, especially if my Valuations of the Linens and some other Particulars were rectified; for having followed the *Custom-house Rates*, they were greatly undervalued.

The Merchants, who drew the Valuations of the OLD SCHEME, first set me to rights in this Matter, by their Representation in 1674 to the Lords of his Majesty's Privy-Council, then Commissioners for making a Treaty of Commerce with *France*.

Dr. *Davenant* has fully made it out, that we lost by the *French Trade*; and adds in his Discourse on the Protection and Care of Trade, pag. 175. "'Tis likewise said, when the " Book of Rates was compiled, that the " *French* knew how to place somewhere a " great Sum very skilfully, by the help of " which they procured, that the Customs and " Duties upon their Product should be light, " and heavy upon that of *Spain*, tho' apparently we got by one Country, and tho' we

French Bribery to make our Duties on their Goods easy.

“ were thought to lose by the other in the general Ballance of Trade.”

Besides the two *Custom-house* Accounts, that of the OLD SCHEME, and that of the Year 1685-6, are two such Objections against the *French Trade*, and so plainly demonstrate that it was detrimental to this Nation, that the *Mercator* has been at great Pains to get rid of them.

The Mercator's Arguments for the French Trade, from our Importations to Marseilles confuted.

A world of Ways he has try'd to no purpose; but his last Refuge is, that now his beloved *Custom-house* Accounts are to be given up, as not being able to give us a true Ballance of the *French Trade*. They give us, says he, a full Account of our Importations from France, but they cannot give us a full Account of our Exportations to that Country.

This has been the Subject of 14 or 15 of his last Papers running, without stepping aside to any other Argument.

His whole Argument collected from the aforesaid Papers, is as follows:

“ That vast Quantities of our Goods are exported to *France* that are not enter'd to that Country.

“ That our Goods, and especially our Woollen Manufactures, are enter'd out for the *Streights*, and a very great Part of them are exported to *Marseilles*.

“ That this is apparent,

First, “ Because some Goods are indeed enter'd for *Marseilles*, tho' no Ships are bound thither, but only for the *Streights*; and the Quantities enter'd for *Marseilles* are so inconsiderable, that the Ships which carry

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“ ry them could not afford to go to *Marseilles*, “ if they were not also to deliver other Goods “ than those which are directly enter'd for “ that Port.

Secondly, “ Because *Marseilles* in *France*, “ as well as *Venice*, *Leghorn*, *Genoa*, *Naples*, “ and *Gallipoli* in *Italy*, *Alicant* and *Malaga* “ in *Spain*, and *Messina* in *Sicily*, are all in “ the *Streights*; and therefore of all our Entries for the *Streights*, *Marseilles* ought to “ have its share, it ought to be allow'd that “ considerable Quantities are exported to that “ City.

Thirdly, “ Because the Goods exported to “ the other Cities are usually entered for those “ Cities, and not by the general Name of the “ *Streights*; whereas we very rarely see any “ Entries for *Marseilles*, and therefore it “ ought to be presumed that the Goods enter'd for the *Streights* are exported to *Marseilles*.

Fourthly, “ Because there can be no Reason “ to conceal our Exports to other Countries, “ as there is to *France*: The *Streights* therefore is a general Name to conceal our Exports to that Country.

From all which the *Mercator* concludes,

First, That great Quantities of our Goods entered out for the *Streights* are indeed exported to *Marseilles*, and he lumps the Sum at one half of our whole Entries for the *Streights*.

Secondly, That the *Custom-house* Accounts are by no means to be depended on for giving us an exact Ballance of the *French Trade*,

since they do not take the least notice of any Goods that are enter'd out for the *Streights*; and yet such of them as are exported for *Marseilles* do as much help to make the Ballance of the *French Trade* on our side, as those which are directly enter'd out for *France*.

And the *Mercator* assures himself, that if all the Goods which were heretofore enter'd out for the *Streights*, *Flanders*, *Holland*, and *Germany*, and either directly or through those Countries carry'd into *France*, were separated and distinguished in the *Custom-house Books*; it wou'd quickly appear, that the Ballance of the *French Trade* was greatly on our side. But since the *Custom-house Books* cannot do this, he resolves that all our Schemes of Trade taken from thence are false and fallacious, and only calculated to deceive our Readers, and to exasperate the People against a Trade which *was always beneficial* to the Nation.

This is the Sum and Substance of those Papers; and I believe that he himself must acknowledge I have not wronged him in the Abridgment, or that I have not omitted any thing that was material to his Argument.

But now 'tis time to give an Answer to this Argument.

And, *1st*, How cou'd this Man have the Confidence to affirm, that the *Custom-house Books* give us a full Account of all our Importations from *France*? Are no Goods then clandestinely imported? Are not the high Duties which are saved by it an Encouragement to the clandestine Importer? Are not innumerable Officers appointed at the vast Charge of the Govern-

Government to seize all such Goods? Are not Seizures made every Day? Shall it be said, that none of them escaped being seiz'd? And all that are thus imported, help to augment the Ballance of Trade against *England*? Yet the *Custom-house Books* give us no Account of these clandestine Importations: I never pretended that they did; I have often said the contrary. So that the *Custom-house Books* may indeed make out a Ballance against *England*, but they cannot make out the whole Ballance.

But, *Secondly*, I am to consider his Reasons why prodigious Quantities of our Goods are exported to *France*, which are not enter'd out for that Country.

The first of which is, that the few Entries for *Marseilles* demonstrate that our Ships which carry those Goods cou'd not afford to go up the Gulf of *Lions* so much out of their Way, if they were not also to deliver other Goods at *Marseilles*, besides those which are enter'd for that Port.

But I must inform the *Mercator*, since he knows nothing of the matter, that nothing is more common than for Ships bound for the *Streights*, in time of Peace, to set out with an inconsiderable Part of their Loading. They are contented for a small Freight to call in at any Place not very much out of their Way: And very often at the Places where they call, they take in Goods to the Places where they are afterwards bound, which at some Freight or other may help to fill their empty Holds. And Ships for this reason may even call at

The British Merchant.

Marseilles, tho' they have very few Goods to deliver there ; and therefore their going to Marseilles with a small Part of their Cargo enter'd out for that Port, is no Argument at all that they have any greater Quantity for that Place.

His second Reason is, That Marseilles being in the Streights, ought to have its Share of all the Goods that are enter'd out for the Streights.

To which I answer, That it is but one of a great many Ports in the Streights, and ought to have a very small Share upon this Account ; nor is it likely it can have so great a one as any of the rest. It is true, Marseilles is a free Port, and no Customs are paid there ; therefore it may receive as much as is consumed there without Payment of any Customs ; but excessive Customs are paid (if sent thence) for all other Parts of France, more than in any other Country in the Streights : so that it is not likely that any Goods are exported to Marseilles but for the Consumption of that Place, or some other, where the Customs are more easy than they are in France ; and whichsoever is the Case, our Exports for Marseilles are no Argument for the Bill of Commerce.

The Mercator's fourth Reason, That we do not export such Quantities of Goods to any other City in the Streights as we do to Marseilles, is, that we have no Necessity of concealing our Exports to other Places as we have to France ; and that therefore to most other Places we make our Entries to the very Places to which we export our Goods. Which is answered, By

The Trade with France.

By saying, That we are under no greater necessity of concealing, now in a time of Peace, our Exports to Marseilles than to any other Port. Our Trade is as free and open there as to any Port in the Mediterranean. If therefore we seldom see any Entries for Marseilles, it is certain it is because we have less Trade there than to any other Port ; and consequently of the Entries to the Streights, we ought to believe that Marseilles has the least Share, and more especially because tho' Marseilles is a free Port, and pays no Customs, yet our Goods cannot be carried farther into France without paying excessive Customs, and more than are paid in any other Country.

Reasons why we can't export Goods to Marseilles to be sold in other parts of France.

I have reserved the Mercator's third Reason to answer in the last Place, which was, That we enter to most other Ports in the Streights by their particular Names ; and therefore a great Part of the Entries for the Streights must be supposed to be made for Marseilles, to which very few Entries are directly made.

To this I answer, The Entries for the Year 1699, from whence the Inspector-General has given the Valuation of all our Exports that Year, were

	l.	s.	d.
To the Streights	409316	7	2
To Italy	100549	7	4
To Venice	34034	10	7
In all	543900	5	1

The British Merchant.

And in 1703 there was exported,

	l.	s.	d.
To the <i>Streights</i> — —	304553	16	2
To <i>Italy</i> — — —	173529	18	10
To <i>Venice</i> — — —	15953	15	6
In all	494037	10	6

So that there was exported in 1699 more than in 1703 — 49892 14 7

Our Entries to the *Streights* but small in time of Peace.

From this Account I must observe, that in 1699, whilst we enjoyed the late Peace with *Spain*, and as free a Trade to *Marseilles* as we can pretend to do at present, we exported into the *Streights* but 49862 l. 14 s. 7 d. more than in 1703, when, by reason of the War, we had lost our Trade to *France*, *Spain*, *Sicily* and *Naples*.

And consequently that no more than 49862 l. 14 s. 7 d. could be exported to *Marseilles*, *Alicant*, *Malaga*, *Barcelona*, *Messina*, *Naples*, &c. all of them at War with us, and to which our Trade was prohibited.

And if this was the Case, how small a Part of that Sum must be said to have been exported to *Marseilles*, when a much greater might reasonably be believed to have been exported to every one of those Places, with which we were at War as well as *France*?

By this Account 49862 l. 14 s. 7 d. is the whole Value of the Goods entered for the *Streights*, which can be supposed to have been sent to *Marseilles*, *Alicant*, *Malaga*, *Barcelona*, *Messina*, *Naples*, &c. And how small a Part of this Sum can be assigned to *Marseilles*, and

The Trade with France.

and consequently to *France* alone? For my own part, I believe very little, and I believe every Reader will be of my mind; especially since 'tis well known to our Merchants, that we made very few Entries directly for the aforesaid *Spanish* and *Italian* Ports, tho' they all knew our Trade was not inconsiderable to those Places, which therefore must be supposed to have been made under the general Name of the *Streights*.

It is manifest now that all our Entries to the *Streights*, *Italy* and *Venice*, in the best of the abovementioned Years, did not exceed 543900 l. 5 s. 1 d. when our Peace was universal.

And that they amounted within 49862 l. 14 s. 7 d. of that Sum, even when by the War our Trade to *Marseilles*, *Alicant*, *Barcelona*, *Messina*, *Naples*, &c. was cut off from us; so that there is no Pretence for assigning to *Marseilles* any considerable Quantities of our Exports to the *Streights*, and perhaps almost nothing.

Will the *Mercator* then conclude, that one half of our Goods entred out for the *Streights* were exported for *Marseilles*? Or is there any more Reason to believe that our Goods which are entered for *Holland*, *Germany* and *Flanders*, are exported to *France*, than that those which are entered to *France* are exported to those Places? tho' it must be confessed the Merchants commonly make wrong Entries to conceal their Trade from one another.

I have proved too before, that he must be a ridiculous Trader that will export to *France* thro'

thro' other Countries, considering the Customs, and other large Charges that must be paid by the way.

And then can the *Mercator* hope by his Entries to the *Streights*, of which very little goes to *France*, or by his wrong Entry to other Countries, or his Exportations thro' other Countries, to fetch up such a Ballance as 900000 *l.* which by the SCHEME, and other *Custom-house* Accounts, we paid to *France*, or indeed any considerable part of that Sum; much less that the Ballance of the *French* Trade can thereby be made to be on our side?

It remains therefore, that the *Custom-house* Accounts are not false nor fallacious, and that they are sufficient to prove that we lose at least the Ballance appearing by them.

And it is certain we lose a great deal more, if the clandestine Importations shall be added.

The *Mercator*, Number 150. said, that all our Entries for *Marseilles* in the space of seven Months were no more than six small Parcels, viz. in the whole 42 C. of Leather and 40 C. of Tin.

From whence he argues, " That it was not worth the while of our Ships to go to *Marseilles* with such inconsiderable Parcels, and therefore it ought to be presumed they were to deliver there a very great Part of their Cargoes, though entered out for the *Streights* and other Places; and consequently that vast Quantities of our Woollen Manufactures, as well as other Goods, were deliver-

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ed and sold at *Marseilles*, and from thence distributed and sold to other Parts of *France*." By this fine Argument he thinks he has very safely lodged our Goods at *Marseilles*, and, with a kind of Triumph, he bids his Adversaries get them thence if they are able. Tho' *Marseilles* is a free Port where no Customs at all are paid, yet he thinks she can spend but a very small Part of the Goods we deliver there; they must either be consumed in other Parts of *France* where they pay excessive Customs, or re-exported to other Countries. And if the *French* can afford to consume our Goods with the present Burden of Customs, he thinks it a Demonstration that they have few or no Woollen Manufactures; but if they are obliged to re-export our Woollen Manufactures, then he is very sure they have none of their own which can contend or vye with ours in any foreign Markets.

I have shewn already that our Ships in time of Peace set out for the *Streights* with a very small Part of their Loading, (every Merchant upon the *Exchange* will tell the *Mercator* this) and therefore for very inconsiderable Freight they will touch at several Ports to mend their Freight, by taking in Goods from one Port to another; and consequently the few Entries for *Marseilles* are no Argument at all that any more Goods are delivered there than entered for that Place.

I have shewn too in the second Place, that of all the Goods entered for the *Streights*, so great a Part was always carried to the Ports of

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of Spain, Italy, and Sicily, that the Share left for *Marseilles* could amount to but a Trifle.

To which, thirdly, may be added, That the Customs on our Goods are easier in every other Country of the *Streights* than they are in *France*; and therefore it is but a natural Presumption, that few or none of our Entries for the *Streights* are intended for *Marseilles*.

But fourthly, How can the *Mercator* tell his Readers, that he has lodged vast Quantities of our Woollen Manufactures, and other Goods and Merchandizes at *Marseilles*; when his whole Entries for that Port are such a Trifle? and amongst them not a Yard, not an Ounce of Woollen Manufactures! *Marseilles* is a free Port, and yet receives none of our Woollen Manufactures! 'Tis wonderful likely then that vast Quantities of them are consumed in *France* under the present intolerable Burden of high Duties! We are wonderful likely to contend with their Woollen Manufactures in other Parts of *France* under the present high Duties, or those grievous ones of the late Treaty, when we are not now, even now, able to contend with them at *Marseilles*, which is a free Port, and where we cannot be made more easy by our late Treaty than we are already!

But lastly, If the *Mercator* were able to produce any Proof, or the least Presumption, that any of our Woollen Manufactures are landed at *Marseilles*, (which he is not able to do) I must insist on it that they are only landed there in order to be re-exported to other Countries, where they are as much, and perhaps more, favoured than those of *France*.

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A Gentleman, who very well understands the Trade of *Marseilles*, gave me the following Account of this Matter.

An Account of the Trade of Marseilles.

“ The *Mercator*, says he, pretends in very many of his Papers, that all the Merchandizes that go from *London* to *Marseilles* are to be sold in *France*, which is false.

“ For there is a Transit from *Marseilles* to *Geneva* belonging to the Messieurs *Fatio* and Company of the said Place; and they are permitted to pass them thro' *France* up the *Rhofne* near *Geneva*, by giving Security to do this, and without paying any Customs.

“ Thus all heavy Merchandizes that are loaded here for *Geneva*, *Switzerland*, *Alsace*, *Swabia*, &c. go this way, such as Tin, Lead, Pepper, Sugar, &c. and 'tis cheaper much in respect of Freight, than to send them by the way of *Holland* or *Hamburgh* in a time of Peace, when the Freight and Assurances are very cheap; and I believe that nine Tenths of the Merchandizes that go to *Marseilles* make no Stay at all in *France*, nor are sold there, but are pass'd from thence by the aforesaid Transit.”

What an inconsiderable Quantity of Goods has the *Mercator* himself shown us to have been entred for *Marseilles*? and among them not one single Parcel of Woollen Manufactures? But if ten times as great a Value had been delivered there, and all of Woollen Manufactures, yet, according to this Gentleman, nine Tenth Parts are re-exported; so that 'tis but a Trifle that is consumed in *France*, and without doubt nothing that is not absolutely necessary

necessary for that People: and in every such Case it is the Policy of that Prince to dispense with his own Prohibitions.

It is the Custom of *France* to dispense with her Prohibitions for the Good of the People. *East-India* Manufactures, and many other Goods, are under Prohibitions, which are not provided against by the late Treaty; and yet we see that some Parcels of such Goods are sent every Day to *France*. The Execution of his Prohibiting Edicts seems to be conniv'd at or suspended for a time, as a Shooing-Horn to the Bill of Commerce, and to gain an easy Admission here of his Wines, his Linens, his Paper, his wrought Silks, to the utter Ruin of very many of our Manufactures. Perhaps not only our *East-India*, but some small Parcels of our Woollen Manufactures may be able to get into *France* under such Dispensations, without paying any Customs, and for the very same Reason. But when his Point is once gained, and the Treaty is made effectual, *France* will have no Ballance to pay to *England*; she will be very strict in the Execution of all her Edicts that are not repealed by the late Treaty; we shall not send so many of our Goods thither as we do now, while infinite Sums shall go every Day out of *England* to pay the Manufacturers of that Kingdom, which are now paid to our own Poor, and keep them from coming upon the Parish.

But let what will happen, the *Mercator* assures us, " That our Woollen Manufactures " must be still safe; tho' a Persecution should " happen to break in upon us, and drive a-
" way

" way our People, drive away the very Artists that are employed in our Woollen Manufacture, yet they cannot set it up in any other Country. All other Countries want the necessary Material; they want the Wool, and let us but effectually secure and keep our Wool at home, all other Nations must buy from us, our Artists may be forc'd away: but if they cannot carry our Wool along with them, we are in no danger of losing our Woollen Manufactures." This is the Doctrine of the last *Mercator*, Number 162.

No Wool in any other Country! I must confess I thought I never should have heard more of this Subject, after I had so often appealed to the Gentlemen, both within and without Doors, who have travelled into other Countries, that they eat Mutton abroad as much and as good as they do in *England*, and that their Sheep there wear Fleeces, and not Dog's Hair; after I had appealed so often to the Testimony of our Woollen Manufacturers, who every Day give a much greater Price for *Spanish* Wool than the very best that grows in *England*; after I had appealed more than once to the Testimony of the famous *Monf. De Wit*, for the vast Value of Woollen Yarn that was annually spun in *Picardy*, a single Province of *France*, and sold to the *Hollanders*; after I had shewn the Commencement, Progress and Success of the Woollen Manufacture in *Portugal* with her own Wool, before it was knock'd on the Head by *Mr. Methuen's* Treaty with that Kingdom; after I had produced so many

French

Wool in other Countries than ours, particularly in France and Portugal.

French Edicts against the Exportation of Wool, and for Encouragement of the Woollen Manufacture; after I had produced the Testimony of the famous Mr. *Mun*, printed and licensed by a Secretary of State in the Reign of King *Charles II.* THAT OTHER NATIONS NEITHER WANT ART NOR MATERIALS FOR THIS PERFORMANCE: After all these Evidences, and without the least Answer given to any one of them, to be still pester'd with the Want of Wool in other Countries, shews THE MIRACULOUS CONFIDENCE OF THE *MERCATOR*.

Woollen Manufacture in Strabo's time in Portugal and in Asia.

Certainly, the Woollen Manufacture is not so new a thing, nor so confin'd to *England*. I do not know any Evidence of the *English* Woollen Manufacture in the Days of *Tiberius Cæsar*; yet *Strabo*, who lived at that time, when he speaks of *Turtedania* (which at most is but a Part of *Portugal*) and her Traffick, says, *That frequens inde primum vestis veniebat, nunc vero Coraxorum amplius Lanificium excellentissimæ pulchritudinis, unde admissarii arietas talento emantur.* Cloths, says he, were heretofore the Exports of that Country, but now a more noble Woollen Manufacture of most excellent Beauty, such as that of the *Coraxi*, whence Rams are bought for Breed at the Price of a Talent. A Talent, above an 100 *l.* of our Money; the Price of a single Ram to propagate this fine Woollen Manufacture! surely this was very fine. The *Coraxi* were a People in *Asia*; and was their Woollen Manufacture so very fine, that *Strabo* could not better commend that of *Portugal*, than by comparing

comparing it with that of the *Coraxi*? And yet the *Mercator* will tell us that there is no Woollen Manufacture but in *England*.

This Man has engaged me whether I will or no to read Books and Papers, that give me no other Pleasure but that of confuting him.

It was very lately that I was forc'd by him to look into a *Spanish* Book of Customs paid in *Castile* on foreign Goods; there I found that the Customs were the very same on the Bays of *Barcelona*, as those that are made in *England*. How! *Barcelona* able to sell her Bays in *Spain* under as heavy a Load of Duties as those that are made in *England*; yet, no doubt, the *Mercator* will say, that Bays cannot be made in any Part of the World, except in *Colchester*.

Bays made at Barcelona.

I have this very Moment a *Marseilles* Price Courant for the 7th of *November* in my Hand, and there I see the Wool of *Castile*, *Arragon*, *Albarasin*, *Barbary* and *Constantinople*, all of different Prices, and the very lowest above the Price of *English* Wool, but no *English* Wool at all in that *Price Courant*; yet, no doubt, this Man will tell us, that *English* Wool is the best and dearest in the World, tho' every *English* Woollen Manufacturer will tell him the quite contrary.

Several sorts of Wool at Marseilles.

The *Mercator* will tell us, as he does in his Paper, that our *English* Sheep and Wool degenerate when they are transported into other Countries, as he does that our *English* Horses lose their Mettle, tho' every Jockey in *Newmarket* can tell him what Prices are given in *England* for an *Arab* or a *Turk*; how much more

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more then was given for an *English* Stallion? but, it seems Sheep, and Horses, and Cocks, and Bull-Dogs, are all peculiar to the Soil of *England*.

Dr. *Davenant*, the *Inspector-General*, in his Treatise, that foreign Trade is beneficial to *England*, fol. 66. was of another Opinion as to Wool. *The Exportation*, says he, of our own Product is indeed the Foundation of all our Trade, but 'tis subject to many Accidents; other Countries may set up the Manufactures which we excel in AT PRESENT; and tho' not by the Goodness, yet by a low Price, beat us down in the Markets abroad. The *Mercator* now, if he pleases, may number the *Inspector-General* among those that are for disparaging the Manufactures of their native Country.

The Mercator's Assertion, that Persecution will not hurt our Woollen Manufactures, ridiculous.

This Man would persuade us, that our Wool is sufficient to preserve to us the Woollen Manufacture, tho' a Persecution should drive the Manufacturers out of *England*; so that it seems they are of no use, our Wool must comb, and card, and spin, and weave, and full, and dress itself. Hands are of no use in this matter.

Yet the *Mercator*, innocent Man, does not say this to promote a Persecution, God forbid! then why did he say it at this time? He knows very well, that the Spirit of a persecuting Party is at this time so much inflam'd, that the Justice of the thing is not half so prevalent to lay this Spirit as the Interest of Persons; and that it is the Interest of all Persons, the Landed as well as Manufacturing Persons, to preserve our Woollen Manufacture, to keep it to *England*, and not to shew it to other Nations. Why then are
are

are we told, especially at this time, that the forcing away our Manufacturing People, is not forcing away our Manufacture?

Since it is not in any Man's power to believe as he pleases, every Man must be suffered to enjoy the Religion which he believes to be the best.

Every Man is obliged in Conscience to educate his Children in the Way which he thinks the safest for himself, and therefore ought to chuse for them such Masters or Teachers as he thinks best qualify'd to educate them in his own Religion.

To force any Man by Penalties to embrace a Religion which he does not think the best, to force his Children from him, or to deprive him of the Means of educating them in his own Religion, or to disable the Teachers whom the Father has chosen for them, is Persecution.

It is natural for Men that are persecuted in one Country, to fly into another where they can be free.

Such as dissent from the establish'd Church, are, as I said before, generally speaking, Mechanicks and Manufacturers.

And as their Arts and Manufactures are their Subsistence, it must be expected they will carry them along with them.

And I have also said enough to show, that the Materials for the Woollen Manufacture are in other Countries, that they want nothing but Artists, and that a Persecution in *England* is the ready way to supply their only Want.

Every landed Person in *England* thinks it his Interest to preserve our Woollen Manufacture,
and

The British Merchant.

and to keep the Knowledge of it as much as possible from other Nations.

For this Reason I had urg'd, that Persecution must naturally drive away our People, and instruct foreign Nations in our Manufactures, because I believed many Gentlemen would more easily be convinced by Arguments of Interest than of Justice.

The *Mercator* did not seem to be offended; a few Days ago he wished me God speed with my Argument; he was mightily against Persecution.

And now all on a sudden, when so many Men are in haste for it, he still declares against Persecution, but says it cannot possibly hurt our Woollen Manufacture; that is, he tells them they should not persecute, but that it would not hurt them if they should. Gentlemen are likely to be convinced by such Arguments.

A Letter from a Clothier, wherein the Fall of the Price of Wool and Woollen Goods is considered.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

THE *Mercator* has frequently said, That the Fall in Price of our *Wool* and *Woollen Goods* is owing to the rejecting the Bill of Commerce; the direct contrary of which is true, viz. That it is owing to the rejecting of that Bill, that they are so high as they are at present; and had that Bill

The Trade with France.

Bill passed into a Law, they must inevitably long before this time have been much lower. Such a Law must have lessened our Exportation of our Woollen Manufacture to *Portugal, Italy, Germany, &c.* in proportion to our Demand from them. Our Demand from those Countries must have decreased by our Importations of Goods from *France*; our Importations from *France* must have increased by our reducing the Duties on them to an Equality with those of the Nations the most favoured: So that with the Demand of our Woollen Manufactures in those Nations, the Price both of our Woollen Manufactures must have decreased, unless our Treaty were the Way to open to us as good a Market from them in *France*, as it must necessarily have taken from us in other Countries.

This we had no Reason to promise ourselves by the aforementioned Treaty, seeing that upon the Foot of the Tariff of 1699 for such of the Woollen Manufactures as are expressly tyed down by the Treaty to pay by the Tariff, and for such other Woollen Goods, as the *Mercator* and his Friends pretend are to pay by the Tariff of 1664, the Duties are so extravagant (whereof you have given a particular Account) that it is beyond Contradiction we could have gained no new Market in *France* to compensate for the old one we should have lost in other Countries; the Consequence whereof must be, that the Demand for Exportation being thereby

Impositions
on our Peo-
ple at the
Cessation of
Arms.

“ thereby lessened, the Price must necessarily
 “ sink in proportion.
 “ I will allow, that upon the Cessation of
 “ Arms between us and *France*, and on the
 “ positive Assertions that were then made,
 “ how advantageous the Treaty of Com-
 “ merce to be settled between the two King-
 “ doms would be to our Trade; a mighty
 “ Expectation was raised here, that we should
 “ have the most flourishing Trade imagi-
 “ nable, and with very good Reason: for
 “ who could expect, that any thing very ad-
 “ vantageous for the Commerce of *France*
 “ should be insisted on by a conquered E-
 “ nemy, whose Interest it was to *court* Us?
 “ or on the other hand, that any thing highly
 “ prejudicial to our Trade should be yielded in
 “ a Treaty with *France*, when we could have
 “ imposed on her what Terms we had pleased?
 “ Therefore the *Mercator* may be in the right
 “ in saying, That the Price of our Goods
 “ was raised, when the News was spread a-
 “ bout the Kingdom that the *French* Trade
 “ would be opened; and yet his Conclusion
 “ from thence (*viz.* That the Fall thereof
 “ was occasioned by rejecting the eighth and
 “ ninth Articles) very false: for every one
 “ must remember, that before the Treaty of
 “ Commerce was printed, it was INDUS-
 “ TRIOUSLY spread thro’ the Nation how
 “ great Advantages were obtained for the
 “ Trade of *England*, and particularly that
 “ Care had been taken that *all* the *Prohibiti-*
 “ *ons* and *high Duties* laid on the WoollenMa-
 “ nufactures in *France* should be taken off; and
 “ this

“ this with such Assurance, and from Persons
 “ who, ’twas thought, might be depended
 “ upon, that the People generally believed it,
 “ and were not only induced publickly to ex-
 “ press their Satisfaction with what they knew
 “ nothing of, but did really think that what
 “ Woollen Manufactures they had by them
 “ would soon find a very great Vent, and
 “ thereupon immediately heighten the Prices
 “ thereof, as also that of Wool, as well in
 “ expectation of finding what they were told
 “ of the *French* Trade true, as upon the Be-
 “ lief they had that the Treaty of Commerce
 “ with *Spain* would soon be signed; in which
 “ ’twas hoped they had Reason to believe,
 “ from the Necessity that Monarch seemed to
 “ be in of our Assistance, that no Article
 “ could possibly be proposed to him in favour
 “ of our Commerce but what would meet
 “ with his ready Compliance, and that there-
 “ fore our Trade must at least be as beneficial
 “ with that Kingdom as it had formerly been,
 “ notwithstanding that Monarchy was now in
 “ the Hands of a PRINCE of the HOUSE
 “ of *BOURBON*.
 “ But no sooner was the Treaty of Com-
 “ merce with *France* made publick, and tho-
 “ roughly considered, but they quickly found
 “ their Mistake with relation to that Trade:
 “ for in that Treaty, they plainly found that
 “ the Duties on some Woollen Goods were
 “ settled according to the excessive Rates im-
 “ posed by the Tariff of 1699; and that the
 “ Articles and Specifications were so ambigu-
 “ ously worded, as to put it very much in
 “ doubt

Who were
undeceiv'd
as soon as
the Treaty
of Commerce
appear'd in
Print.

More so by our Trade with Spain.

“ doubt whether the rest were to be admitted at all, or after what manner they were to pay.

“ They also found to their Cost in a little time, by some Goods sent to Cadiz, that the Expectation they had conceived of a vast Trade to Spain, was groundless; that the Fashions in that Country were extremely altered, since that Monarchy had been under the Influence of French Councils; that the little Demand for our Goods in Spain proceeded from the Alterations in their Apparel to the French Modes and Manufactures; and the Treaty of Commerce with that Crown, since published, has shewn us we are in no wise to depend on any considerable Trade thither.

Visitations, the Nature and Reason of them.

“ When therefore, upon a due Examination of the Treaty of Commerce with France, it was found impracticable, upon the Foot of that Treaty's being rendered effectual, to send any great Quantities of Woollen Goods thither, by reason of the excessive high Duties that would still remain to be paid by the Tariffs of 1664 and 1669; as also by their being expressly subjected by the second Specification to VISITATIONS in France, whereby they might be confiscated upon the slightest Pretences in the world, if they were found either in Length, Breadth, Weight, Fineness, or any other way different from the like sorts made there: For those Rules of Visitations could be insisted on by France for no other Intent but to have a Handle to plague us, and to prevent our Importations. “ So

“ So that upon these Considerations, it was not possible but that the Price of Wool, and of the Manufactures made thereof, must again fall as fast as it rose; and that what was raised purely upon the Force of Expectation, and without any solid Ground, must sink again when that ill-grounded Rise came to be perceived.

“ But the Case was far otherwise after the Peace of Reswick; for tho' we sent but few Woollen Goods to France during that Peace, as Dr. Davenant informs us, yet an AUSTRIAN PRINCE being then upon the Throne of Spain, who was more desirous of encouraging our Trade than that of France; and the Demand for our Woollen Goods was then so great in Spain, the War, which had raised Freights and Premiums of Insurance to a most extravagant Height, being ended, what was saved on those two Accounts came to be added to the Price of the Manufactures, which gradually advanced by that continued Demand, whereof I will give an Instance in the Article of Colchester Bays, which, at the time of the making of the Reswick Peace, were at about 17 d. per Ell, but rose to about 23 d. and 23 d. 1/2 per Ell, and continued about that Price till a stop was put to our Trade thither.

A French Prince not so like to encourage our Trade to Spain as an Austrian Prince.

Colchester Bays rose in Spain after the Treaty of Reswick.

“ Another Reason that may be assigned for the sudden Fall of the Woollen Manufactures, from the Prices to which the Manufacturers and Dealers therein had raised them upon the Prospect of the Utrecht Peace, is, That most of our Merchants ne-

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“ ver knew what the Duties that were to be
 “ paid in *France* by the Tariff said to be gran-
 “ ted us, and which they were told was so
 “ advantageous for our Woollen Manufac-
 “ tures, would amount to : but when they
 “ found what Duties would be payable, sup-
 “ posing the Treaty took effect, and that they
 “ were tantamount to a Prohibition ; and
 “ that, unless they would run the hazard of
 “ getting them clandestinely imported into
 “ *France*, their Correspondents could give
 “ them no manner of Encouragement to send
 “ any thither, they then plainly saw that it
 “ was impossible to answer the Expectation of
 “ the Manufacturers here.

Our Trade
 in Spain
 lessened by
 high Duties
 on them, and
 the Spaniards
 following
 the French
 Modes.

“ This being the Case of our Woollen Ma-
 “ nufactures in respect to *France*, it were to be
 “ wished that our Treaty of Commerce with
 “ *Spain* would befriend them more than that
 “ with *France* ; but you have shewn that no
 “ good can be expected from it as it is, but that
 “ we are saddled with much higher Duties
 “ than ever we paid before in that Country.
 “ But besides, the *Mode* in *Spain* is so much
 “ altered, and the Fashion of wearing *Bays*,
 “ and other *English* Woollen Goods, so very
 “ much changed into that of *French* Druggets
 “ and fine Stuffs ; and those that will not alter
 “ their Manner, being furnished by the way
 “ of *Alicant*, and other Ports of *Spain* in the
 “ *Mediterranean*, with *Bays* and *Perpetua-*
 “ *nas*, &c. from *Castres*, and other Places
 “ in the *Province* of *Languedoc*, which is ve-
 “ ry near them ; and since there are such o-
 “ ther Discouragements to our Woollen Ma-
 “ nufactures

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“ nufactures both in *France* and *Spain*, it
 “ plainly appears that it is wholly owing to the
 “ Trade we have PRESERVED with other
 “ Nations, that our Woollen Goods are not
 “ reduced a great deal lower than they are ;
 “ and that nothing but keeping the Trade to and
 “ from *France* upon the present Foot of high
 “ Duties, the preventing the clandestine Trans-
 “ portation of our Wool, and the obtaining an
 “ Alteration of several Things in our Treaty of
 “ Commerce with *Spain*, can prevent the total
 “ Ruin of the Woollen Manufactures in this
 “ Kingdom.

A plain Demonstration that the Woollen Ma-
 nufacture is of the greatest Importance to
 Great Britain ; that tho' we have the most
 useful Wool, other Nations have their Ma-
 nufactures : That the French push hard to
 secure this Manufacture, by their Conduct
 at home and by the Wool they import from o-
 ther Countries : That *France* is become our
 greatest Rival, and that the Goodness of our
 Manufactures cannot prevent the Sale of the
 French.

The unhappy Consequences of the Increase of the
 French Trade, and of the Fears of the re-
 viving the Bill of Commerce.

Our new Projects have encouraged the French
 Designs ; and the best Method to stint their
 Woollen Manufacture, is to encourage our
 own Exportation, and to prevent the Running
 of our Wool. With a further Defence of
 the

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the old Scheme from the Report of the Lords Commissioners of Trade in 1697.

TO preserve and encourage the Consumption of our Woollen Manufactures both at home and abroad, is the common Concern of every Man that delights in the Welfare and Prosperity of his Country.

These have been the Foundation of our foreign Commerce, and the chief procuring Cause of our Riches.

It is therefore of the greatest Consequence to this Kingdom firmly to support the profitable Trade that is carried on by the Exportation thereof, and to be very jealous of those Nations whose Thoughts are bent upon supplanting us of this mighty Benefit.

'Tis true indeed, Providence has furnished us with better and more useful Wool than most of our Neighbours, and our Industry has brought our Manufactures to the greatest Perfection.

But can these be said to be secured to us, whilst (as I have formerly mentioned) we know that other Nations neither want Art nor Materials for this Performance?

Is it not certain that the Venetians have still a noble Manufacture of Cloth, with which Italy and Turkey were formerly supply'd in abundance?

Woollen Manufacture at Salonica its Consequence.

Did not the Jews and Greeks at Salonica, and in the Country thereabouts, 70 Years past, set up a Manufacture of coarse Woollen Cloth, which entirely beat out our Kersseys then vended in great Quantities in Turkey, and which

The Trade with France.

which has ever since proved prejudicial to the Consumption of our ordinary Cloth in that Empire?

Nay, have not the Turks of late Years, upon the Encouragement of two Viziers, twice attempted this Manufacture? And tho' under their Conduct Manufactures can never flourish, yet they made several Cloths, which were esteemed of equal Value with ours, from 6 to 8 l. per Cloth white.

In 1665 was it not notorious that Thomas ^{And in the Palatinate.} Tilham of Warwickshire prevailed with upwards of 2000 Men in this Kingdom to settle in the Palatinate, where they establish'd a Woollen Manufacture, which was greatly encouraged by that Elector? And after they were fixed, was not that Colony joined by *Skep* of Herefordshire, and many others?

And in *Silesia* and *Poland* have they not their ^{In Silesia and Poland.} Woollen Manufacture? and did they not attempt but two or three Years past to supply the Czar with Woollen Cloth for the Use of his Army?

Besides, how often have the *Dutch* ^{In Leyden.} entertained our Manufacturers who fled thither; and to encourage them, and others to follow their Example settled them at *Leyden* and other Places Rent-free and Excise-free for several Years?

By these and many other Instances already produced, 'tis evident that there is scarce any Country in *Europe* without a Woollen Manufacture.

But never did any Nation PUSH SO VERY FURIOUSLY to extend their Traffick

Q 4 in

The French have pushed on their Manufactures furiously since the Peace.

in these Manufactures, as France has done since the Conclusion of the present Peace.

The Mercator will and may flurt at this Assertion as often as he pleases ; but I am well assured none that are acquainted with their Trade can deny the Facts.

However, since he has only crude Notions of the French Trade, and possibly is not acquainted with the Methods they take to supply themselves with WOOL from several other Countries besides Great Britain and Ireland, I will endeavour to set him to rights in the following Particulars.

How France is supply'd with Wool.

And in the first Place I will tell him, That France has abundance of Wool of its own Growth, which always served for many ordinary Manufactures.

That of late Yers, by the Encouragement they have given to foreign Manufactures, they have learned to make the most of this and all their Wool.

And that the French King, some Years past, caused great Part of his Kingdom to be survey'd, and those waste Grounds which were found proper for the Improvement of Wool, were turned into Sheep-Walks, whereby they now reap no small Advantage.

To these I shall add the great Supplies they import from many Foreign Parts.

From Turkey they bring vast Quantities of the middling and ordinary Sorts of Wool ; and having lately engrossed all they could procure in those Parts, they have this Year advanced the Price thereof 150 per Cent.

From the Gulph of Volo, and the Country there-

thereabouts in Greece, they constantly import several sorts of Wool equal to ours from 7 to 9 l. per Pack.

They have also large Parcels of the inferior sorts from divers Places in Barbary.

The Portugal Wool is now shared between them and the Dutch, the best whereof will make Cloth of 6 and 7 s. per Yard.

And from Bilhoa it's advised, under the 27th of April last, that in eight Months before that time, the French had sent out of Spain into France 24000 Bags of Wool of all sorts ; and besides, they had contracted for most of the best Piles of the new-shorn Wool.

In this manner France is become a Staple for Wool, and he Woollen Manufacturers working for one half or two thirds of the Wages which we pay to ours, they are thereby enabled to sell their Manufactures exceeding cheap, and in great Quantities, at all the foreign Markets, to which we both trade ; and therefore I shall conclude, that she is become the greatest Rival we ever yet contended with in the Woollen Manufacture, and that the utmost Care and greatest Application is absolutely necessary to support this National Manufacture.

But that my Readers may the better judge of the Importance thereof, I shall add,

	l.	s.	d.	
That we are told by several ingenious Authors, the Value of the Wool shorn in England, amounts annually to	2,000,000	0	0	<i>The annual Value of our Wool and Woollen Manufactures.</i>
The Manufacture whereof is computed at	6,000,000	0	0	
Total	8,000,000	0	0	
	Q 5			And

And that in 1699, as was observed before, our exported Woollen Manufactures amounted to 2,932,292 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.*

These are all Arguments which prove the necessity we are under of securing this invaluable Treasure, and of removing every Clog that restrains our Exportation, or the Consumption of those foreign Commodities which we import in return for our Woollen Goods.

If the *French* can work up the Wool they are now possess'd of, which they certainly can and will do, the Merchants who trade in our Woollen Goods to *Holland, Portugal, Spain, Italy, and Turkey*, must undoubtedly soon feel the continued ill Effects of their interfering with us in those foreign Markets.

And it will be in vain to flatter ourselves, that the Goodness of our Manufactures will prevent the Sale of theirs: This was fully answered by one of my Correspondents already, but for a further Confutation of this idle Conceit, I shall produce the Opinion of Sir *Josiah Child* in his Discourse of Trade, fol. 148.

“ All our Laws that oblige our People to the
 “ making of strong, substantial, (and, as we call
 “ it, loyal) Cloth, if they were duly put in ex-
 “ ecution, would do more hurt than good, be-
 “ cause the Humours and Fashions of the World
 “ change; and at some Times and some Places,
 “ (as now in most) slight, cheap, light Cloth
 “ will sell more plentifully and better, than
 “ that which is heavier, stronger, and truer
 “ wrought: And if we intend to have the
 “ Trade of the World, we must imitate the
 “ *Dutch*, who make the worst as well as the
 “ best

“ best of all Manufactures, that we may be
 “ in a Capacity of serving all Markets and all
 “ Humours.” Which is likewise too often confirmed by the Experience of all Traders.

But the unhappy Consequences already occasioned by the Increase of the *French* Trade, are manifestly proved beyond all Contradiction;

First, By the Fall of our Manufactures in all foreign Parts: and,

Secondly, By the Complaints of our honest and useful Clothiers, That their Woollen Cloths (made of *English* Wool) from 7 to 9 *l.* per Cloth and upwards, lie now hardly vendible.

These are undoubted Evidences that our Trade is cramp'd both abroad and at home, by the *French* Woollen Manufactures, which some are ignorant of, and others ridicule.

And the Influences, which have been occasioned by the Apprehension of the Revival of the Bill of Commerce, are equally fatal.

Since our *Weavers*, who lately boasted that they had made to the Value of 300,000 *l.* annually in black Silks, are very justly lamenting, that that Manufacture is sunk in twelve Months past to less than half of that Sum.

How is it then possible, that those who have a just Regard for Trade can be unconcerned, whilst it thus languished, and whilst we are thus rivalled, that our Eyes are not to be opened, until we feel what it is to want the Blessing we have so long enjoyed?

For many Years past, our foreign Commerce has been so happily extended, that upon the late

*The ill
 Consequences
 of the In-
 crease of the
 French
 Trade to us.*

late Peace, nothing was more to be dreaded than to divert its prosperous Course from those Channels thro' which it passed, nor nothing more to be wish'd for than to preserve and secure the Trades we enjoyed before the War: but for the future we must be content to chew upon the *Mercator's* Title, and study how to retrieve a decaying *Commerce*.

The Increase of our Woollen Exports from 1669 to 1699.

As long as we steadily pursued our Traffick to *Germany*, and other Parts, for Linens and Raw Linen Yarn, and to *Italy* and *Turkey* for Raw and Thrown Silk we enjoyed the greatest Consumption for our Woollen Manufactures that was ever known, as is very evident by the Increase of our Exports therein, from about 900,000 *l.* in 1663 and 1669, to 2,932,292 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.* in 1699, as aforesaid.

I may then be allowed the Liberty to affirm, that the Encouragement which has been given to our Silk, Linen, and other Manufactures, has chiefly procured us this amazing Increase of TWO MILLIONS per Ann. in our Exportations; whereas *France* never took from us, at a Medium of any three Years, before their Woollen Manufacture was brought to Perfection, 200,000 *l.* What then can we now expect, when their unreasonable and extravagant Duties, fixed and adjusted by the present Treaty, will be an absolute Prohibition to the fair Trader?

But since our new Projects have been on foot to make *Great Britain* a Market for *French* Manufactures, these have given Strength and Vigour to the ambitious Designs of the *French*, and have put them upon enlarging their Trade to

to all Countries; and if once they were secure of a Liberty to import their Linens, Wrought Silks, &c. hither, their Woollen Manufacture would be absolutely established, and ours in proportion must decline.

Certainly therefore it's high time to look about us, to dissipate those Fears which have already caused such violent Convulsions in our home Trade, and struck so great a Damp on our Manufactures, by removing all Jealousy of opening a free Trade with *France*, and by making the utmost Efforts possible to stint the Growth of the Woollen Manufacture in *France*, before it is arrived at too great a Magnitude.

The only way to compass this, is, as I have already said, to promote and encourage our Exportation to those Countries that trade with us to our Advantage; and also to exert ourselves vigorously in putting an entire Stop to the running of our Wool. In this Design I will cordially join Issue with the *Mercator*, and heartily wish that properer Measures than I can propose may be concerted, to restrain that pernicious and destructive Trade to our Country. However, I shall never believe we are really in earnest to prevent this abominable Practice, until,

First, We are obliged to keep a general Register of our Wool.

Secondly, That severe Penalties be inflicted on those who transgress the Laws.

Thirdly, That suitable Encouragement be given to the Informers and Seizers.

Fourthly, That a very easy Method be assigned

The Way to prevent exporting our Wool.

signed to recover the Seizures and Forfeitures without Cost or Delay. And,

Fifthly, That Men of Probity and Capacity, well vers'd in Trade, are intrusted with, and appointed to attend this important Affair, and to see that the Woollen Manufacture of *Great Britain* receives no Prejudice.

Old Scheme further vindicatd.

But I must remember that the *Mercator* having attack'd the Vindication of the Old Scheme, I am obliged once more to enter the Lists with that Writer, who, without any regard to the Challenge he gave in his Paper No. 36. instead of examining whether it's right or wrong, or confuting any one Argument which was brought to justify either the Scheme it self, or the Valuation of the Particulars, runs a tilt at the whole, and, with his usual Ingenuity and Integrity, asserts, No. 165. That,

We have the Assurance to publish again this Scheme, without taking one Step to prove its Solidity, without making any Amendments to it where we know it to be deficient, and without making any Defence for it against those just Objections which have been made, whereby it has been proved to be a scandalous Forgery, and the Names to it being upon good Grounds supposed to be forged also.

This is a Charge so apparently false, and so readily detected by every one who has had the Curiosity examine that Account, that it is inconceivable how the *Mercator* could thus indiscreetly expose himself to the just Censure of all his Opposers; were it not evident that this old Scheme roots out all his Arguments, contradicts all his Sophistry, and proves all his Notions relating

relating to the Opening of a free Trade with *France* to be as deceitful as absurd; and therefore he is still for the *Shortest* and the *Modern Way*.

But since he is still dissatisfied with my Arguments to make good the Old Scheme, without answering any one, I shall give him one which he will never be able to answer, and that is from certain Extracts from the Report of the Lords Commissioners of Trade to his late Majesty, dated the 23d of *December*, 1697.

“ From *France* the Importations have gradually encreas'd from *Anno* 1670 to the Beginning of the late War, in Wines, Brandies, Silks, Linen, and many Sorts of other Goods; for tho' there was a Prohibition of *French Wine* during some of those Years, yet it was brought in under other Names, and in the same Years our Exportations thither have decreas'd. The first Computation that we find of that Trade stands in the Books we have in our Custody, in a Report made by *Sir George Downing*, then one of the Commissioners of the Customs, to the Lords of the Privy-Council, then a Committee for Trade, dated the 9th of *March*, 1675. where it is calculated, that in one Year there were imported from *France*.

Sir George Downing's Report.

“ As many Silks as amounted to	300000	} computed } together at } 217000	<i>The Quantity of several Commodities imported from France in 1675.</i>
“ Linens	500700		
“ Wines 11000 Tuns			
“ Brandies 4000 Tuns			
“ which with Salt, Paper, Pruens, Vinegar, and other Commodities, upon the first Cost			

“ in

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“ in France, amounted in all to 1136150*l.*
“ 4 *s.* Sterling, besides Points, Laces, and
“ what was brought in privately.

“ And that our Exports to France the
“ same Year amounted to but 171021 *l.* 6 *s.*
“ 8 *d.*

“ And although we believe that the Linen
“ and Silks are over-valued in the said Report,
“ yet we suppose that the Goods then brought
“ in privately (not there estimated) and the In-
“ crease of the Importation of Wine and Bran-
“ dy after that time, are equivalent to that our
“ Valuation.

Wine and
Brandy im-
ported in
1685.

“ For by other Computations we are in-
“ formed, that Anno 1685 the Wines impor-
“ ted thence amounted to above 20000 Tuns,
“ and the Brandies 6000 Tuns; and by the
“ Receipt of the Excise it appears, that in the
“ Year, ending at *Midsummer* 1689, the Im-
“ ports of Brandies amounted to 8,000 Tuns,
“ of which we suppose very little came then
“ from any Place but France; and we are in-
“ formed, that the Wines that Year exceeded
“ 20,000 Tuns.

And 1689.

“ And the French King having, Anno 1654,
“ 1660, 1664, and 1667, increased the Du-
“ ties on our Woollen Goods, and on our
“ Lead, Tin, Coals, Tobacco, Sugar, Fish,
“ and other Commodities, which are usually
“ imported into his Dominions; and also laid
“ an Imposition of 50 Sols *Tournois* per Tun
“ on all English Ships, and restrained the Im-
“ portation of Woollen Manufactures to his
“ Ports of *Calais* and *Diepe*, and other Goods
“ to some other inconvenient Ports:

“ And

The Trade with France.

“ And in Anno 1686 laid great Duties on
“ all *East-India* Goods, and restrained their
“ Importation also to select Ports; and at the
“ same time, and otherwise encouraging the
“ Consumption of the Cloth, Stuffs, Silks,
“ and other Goods made by his own People;
“ all which amounted to a Prohibition in ma-
“ ny Cases in receiving Goods from *England*:
“ We are of Opinion, that we have been
“ over-ballanced in that Trade in most of the
“ said Years about one Million *per Annum*.

“ TO REMEDY the Inconveniences that
“ may be apprehended by a Trade with *France*,
“ being the Goods formerly imported from
“ thence did so much exceed our Exports, and
“ may again, if that Trade be laid open, and
“ this Nation should run into the like fond
“ Expence of Commodities from thence, be-
“ fore your Majesty be assured of a Relaxa-
“ tion of the Edicts there, and such Freedom
“ allowed to your Subjects as may afford a
“ mutual Conveniency by the Consumption
“ of your Goods there; seeing the *French*
“ King did by several Edicts and Tariffs be-
“ fore the late War impose such Duties and
“ Restraints upon many of the Goods usually
“ exported hence, as amounted to a Prohibi-
“ tion; and hath (as we are informed) since
“ the late Peace, by an Edict of the 19th of
“ *October* last, in general Words referring to
“ all Nations, confirmed the same with some
“ additional Severities, and expressly prohibited
“ the Importation of the most valuable *East-*
“ *India* Goods; we humbly conceive that the
“ Duties and Impositions now charged on
“ *French*

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“ French Goods cannot be taken off, without
“ laying this Nation open to a great Disad-
“ vantage by that Trade, till by a Treaty of
“ Commerce, Matters relating to Trade can
“ be settled upon such Conditions as may pre-
“ vent the like Over-balance for the future.

“ And whereas Trade depends on Sale and
“ Consumption, and that nothing but a lessen-
“ ing of the Expence of French Goods can
“ probably reduce that Trade; we humbly
“ propose, that the wearing and using of our
“ home made Silks, Cloths, Stuffs, and other
“ useful Goods, may be encouraged by your
“ Majesty’s Royal Example, and the Exam-
“ ple of your Court; and that the Manufac-
“ tures in this Kingdom of Lustrings and A-
“ lamodes, and of all other Silks, and of Li-
“ nen and Paper, may be promoted; which
“ may be a Means not only to lessen the Im-
“ portations from France, but to give a large
“ Employment to your People here.

The Quanti-
ty of Bran-
dy then im-
ported from
France.

“ And whereas Brandy before the Year
“ 1660 was imported in so small Quantities,
“ that we do not find any mention of it in
“ the Book of Rates then made, and the Ex-
“ pence of it hath since increased to near 8000
“ Tuns per Annum, which, reckoning one sort
“ with another at 20 l. per Tun, may cost in
“ France near 160,000 l. annually, seeing it
“ hath been found by Experience to have oc-
“ casioned Debauchery, prejudicial to the
“ Health of your Majesty’s Subjects and Loss
“ of many of their Lives, and proved a great
“ Hindrance to the Consumption of Malt; if
“ it could be totally prohibited, we humbly
“ conceive

The Trade with France.

“ conceive it would be for the Good of your
“ People, and Ease of the Nation in carrying
“ on this Trade.”

I must here take leave to make some Obser-
vations and Reflections upon the above-cited
Extracts of the Commissioners Report in 1697.

And in the first Place I must observe, that
the Authority of the OLD SCHEME is con-
firmed and established by this Report.

The Report gives us the very same Articles
of imported Goods from France, viz. of Silk,
Linen, Wine, Brandy, Salt, Pruens, Paper,
Vinegar, and other Commodities; and, just
as the OLD SCHEME, makes the Cost of the
whole Imports amount to 1,136,150 l. 4 s.
Sterling, and that of the whole Exports to no
more than 171,021 l. 6 s. 8 d.

This very Computation the Commissioners
affirm they found in a Report made the 9th of
March, 1675, by Sir George Downing, then
one of the Commissioners of the Customs, to
the Lords of the Privy-Council, then a Com-
mittee of Trade.

So that here is the Authority of Sir George
Downing, a Commissioner of the Customs at
that very time, for the OLD SCHEME, a-
gainst the Gentlemen who are now in that
Commission. Let the Mercator then inform
us to which of the two the most Credit ought
to be given in this Matter, to Sir George
Downing, who was a Commissioner at the very
time when the OLD SCHEME was made,
and who handed it to the Lords of the Privy-
Council; or to the present Commissioners,
who were since constituted during the present
Admini-

Administration, and at so great a Distance from that Transaction? Is it more likely that the OLD SCHEME was forged, or the *Custom-house* Entries from whence the Report of the present Commissioners was taken? Would Sir *George Downing*, or the Commissioners of the Customs in his time, have had the Confidence to have forg'd that SCHEME, if there had been Entries then in being to contradict them? And if there are now any such Entries, is it not very natural to believe they were forg'd since that time to serve a Turn, perhaps to procure a Repeal of that Prohibition of 1678, which is said to have been founded upon the Credit of that SCHEME?

I desire the *Mercator*, or the present Commissioners of the Customs, will find out some Answer to this Argument; for till they do, the OLD SCHEME is established in every Article, and the Report of the present Commissioners can never stand before it.

And yet allowing that Report to stand, one of my Correspondents has so well justified so many Articles of the OLD SCHEME, and shewn the Variation in the general Ballance of Trade, as it would stand upon the Report of the present Commissioners of the Customs, from that of the SCHEME, to be such a Trifle, that it was not worth my while to dwell upon this Argument. But when such an Opportunity came in my way, I could not forbear, adding the Weight of Sir *George Downing's* Authority to that of the worthy Gentlemen who were the Subscribers of the SCHEME.

The next thing to be observed in the Ex-tracts,

tracts, is, That even during the Prohibition *French Wines* were brought in under other Names. I believe so too. The *Mercator* has said the same thing, and that it was done by the Connivance of the Commissioners of the Customs: If it was, we are not to wonder at the late Report of the Commissioners, which contradicts in a few trivial Instances the OLD SCHEME. If a Court can give such Orders, and the Commissioners of the Customs will obey them, we may very well account for the Entries from whence the present Commissioners took their last Report: They were very probable made by Order or Connivance.

A third thing to be observed, is, That the Commissioners in 1697 imagine that the Linens and Silks are over-valued in the OLD SCHEME. They only imagine so; they have not produc'd one Argument for their Imagination. For my own part, I imagine the direct contrary; and I believe have shewn by the Authority of the *Inspector-General* and Merchants, that the Linens are not over-valued, and that the Silks are greatly under-valued.

But 4thly, The Lords Commissioners in 1697 suppose, that the Goods then privately brought in (and not estimated in the Scheme) and the Increase of the Importation of Wine and Brandy after that time, are equivalent to that supposed Over-valuation. How! Goods clandestinely imported so very considerable! But the *Mercator* does not believe any such thing; he says, the *Custom-house* Entries can give us a true Account of all our Imports, but not of our Exports to any Country. Then it is certain

The British Merchant.

certain no Goods can be clandestinely imported, for such as are, are never entered.

5thly, How often has the *Mercator* been offended with the 11000 Tuns of Wine, and 4000 Tuns of Brandy in the SCHEME? But it seems the Lords Commissioners in 1697 are of a very different Opinion, they near double the Quantities of those Goods for other Years.

6thly, These Gentlemen are of opinion, we have been over-ballanced in the *French Trade* about one Million *per ann.* I believe most Merchants will think them very modest: Almost that Loss may be made out by *Custom-house Entries*, besides such Allowance as ought to be made for clandestine Importations. The *Mercator* is of another Mind; he says, *it was ALWAYS BENEFICIAL to the Nation*, and sometimes says he has proved it. I wish I could see but any one thing that looks like a Proof, I would give over writing any more.

7thly, The said Lords Commissioners in 1697 are of opinion, that our first Remedy against losing such an Over-balance, is to keep on our present high Duties, or procure such a Treaty of Commerce as shall let our Goods into *France* to as great a Value, as the *French* can send to *England*. We are sure they are in the right as to high Duties; we can only get by the *French Trade*, when we keep out as much as possible the Goods and Merchandizes of that Nation. As for a Treaty of Commerce that would enable us to save by that Trade, I wish the *Mercator*, or any one else, could shew what Treaty would be sufficient for that Purpose. I am very sure the late Treaty

The Trade with France.

is not; it puts *France* on as good a Condition for Trading with *England*, as every other Nation, and leaves still standing in *France* all necessary Prohibitions and high Duties on the Goods and Merchandizes of *England*: It must certainly increase their Importations into *England*, but cannot increase our Exportations to that Country.

8thly, I have often shewn, that our Trade, as is said in this Report, *depends on Sale and Consumption*; and have therefore every where recommended the use of our own, and discouraged the use of *French Silks, Linen, Paper, &c.* My chief Aim has been the Increase of our Rents, and, as the Report says, *to give a large Employment to our People here.* I am persuaded the *Mercator* and his Abettors have nothing of this at Heart.

Lastly, The Commissioners in 1697 would totally prohibit Brandy, the Expence of which they suppose might formerly cost the Nation, 160,000 *l per ann.* and hinder a vast Consumption of OUR MALT. These Gentlemen were for the Interest of the Nation; and for the same Reason I could wish effectual Care could be taken to prevent the Importation of foreign Brandy under any Duties less than the present. But the *Mercator* would gladly have *France* as much favoured as any other Nation.

An

An Answer to all the Exports to France at the End of the Mercators. In which is shewn that,

Foreign Goods exported now to France, are no Argument for the Bill of Commerce, but rather an Argument against it.

Corn and other Provisions, as also Lead and Tin in those Lists, are no Argument for it.

Neither are our Woollen Manufactures.

The whole Exports of Woollen Manufactures to France last Year were not 10000l. Value.

The whole exported to Dunkirk is Custom-free, and that Place is sufficient to consume all that are sent to France.

The Mercator convicted of Forgery or Folly.

The French have Wool sufficient for all Parts of the Woollen Manufacture without applying to England.

An Arrest of the French King's against using the Stuffs of India, China, &c. With Reflections on it.

I Believe I have suffer'd the Mercator to go on for 40 or 50 times with a List of Goods exported to France at the end of his Papers, without vouchsafing any Answer to this Argument, or rather to these Pieces of an Argument; for I could never think them worth an Answer.

At the end of the Mercator it is common to see in Capital Letters,

FROM THE CUSTOM-HOUSE,

Goods exported to France, in one, two, three, four, five, six, or seven Days.

And

And then follow his Parcels of Woollen Manufactures, dying Goods, Lead, Tin, Corn, and other Provisions, which in that Compass of Time are entered out to France from the Port of London, to amuse his Readers, and make them believe our Exports to that Nation are prodigious, even now, tho' the Treaty of Commerce is not made effectual, and under the Disadvantage of the present Duties and Prohibitions.

And how much then are they to imagine our Exports shall be increased, when by rendering the Treaty effectual the French Prohibitions shall be repealed, and their Duties shall be reduced to the moderate Tariff of 1664 ?

I answer, They are not likely to be increas'd at all ; for,

1st, As I have often said, no Prohibitions on foreign Goods exported from this Kingdom are repealed by this Treaty ; since by the very Words of the Treaty, the Prohibitions to be repealed are only such as concern the Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain, Bonæ mercisq; Magnæ Britanniaë ; since after a whole Year's Sollicitation France has not yet condescended to explain, that by Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain shall be understood those foreign Growth, or Manufacture exported from Great Britain ; so that all Prohibitions on these Goods are to remain in their full force, not any one of them is repealed by any Clause in the late Treaty, and consequently we shall send no greater Quantities of East-India or Turkey Goods to France than we do already ;

The French Prohibition of our foreign Goods not repealed by the Treaty

ready ; no greater Quantities of dying Goods, for these also are the Growth of foreign Nations.

Prohibitions in France dispens'd with to serve a Turn.

It is indeed true, that some Parcels of these Goods are exported even now to France. That Prince is accustomed to dispense with his Prohibitions to supply any present Wants or Exigencies of his Subjects ; and it is not improbable that he dispenses with them at this time as a Shooing-horn to the Bill of Commerce, and to get the Treaty made effectual. But he is not obliged to repeal or dispense with them by this Treaty ; and when it shall be made effectual by a Law, when we shall have obliged ourselves to let in an Inundation of Wines, Linen, Silk, Paper and other Commodities and Manufactures of that Nation, he will then enjoin a more strict Execution of his Prohibitions on our foreign Goods, he is under no Obligation not to do it by the late Treaty.

The Goods therefore of the East-Indies and the Levant, the several sorts of dying Wares which we read in the Mercator's Lists of exported Goods to France, are no Argument at all for the Bill of Commerce. Our Exportation of these Goods will not be increas'd by the Treaty : on the contrary, if his most Christian Majesty suffers greater Quantities of them to be imported now, than he will be obliged to do after the Treaty shall be made effectual ; if he does this, that we may be his Bubbles, and oblige ourselves to let in an Inundation of Manufactures from his Countries, that when this Point is gained, he may then be more strict than he is at present in the Execution of his Prohibitions ;

hibitions ; then all the foreign Goods which we read in the Mercator's Lists are so many Arguments why we ought never to pass the Bill of Commerce, since the passing of that Bill, instead of increasing, may prove a means to lessen our Exportations in respect to foreign Goods. He suffers us to export them now, because he has a Turn to serve ; when the Turn is served, he may without any breach of Treaty prevent our Exportation.

2dly, We read great Quantities of Corn and other Provisions exported to France in the Mercator's Lists ; but what Argument is this for the Bill of Commerce ? The French People, when they are almost starving for want of Bread, buy great Quantities of Bread from England ; and his most Christian Majesty, to save the Lives of his Subjects, suffers it to be imported Custom free. What Reason is this for rendering the Treaty effectual ? He suffers his People to buy Bread from us Custom-free without this Treaty ; and shall we import it upon better Terms than Custom-free when the Treaty shall be made effectual ? The not rendering it effectual does not hinder our selling such Quantities of Corn as are wanted in the French Nation, and the rendering it effectual will not enable us to sell any when they do not want it. The Corn therefore, and Provisions, which we read in the Mercator's Lists of exported Goods, are nothing to his Purpose, are no Argument why we should pass the Bill of Commerce.

Corn imported Custom-free in times of Scarcity in France.

There are among the Mercator's exported Goods some Parcels of Lead and Tin ; and as

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France has none of these Commodities of her own Growth, has constant Occasion for about 30 or 40000 *l.* value of these Goods *per ann.* and can no otherwise be supplied than from this Kingdom, she must have them at all times whether of War, or Peace; and even during the last War, she procured as much as she wanted by the way of neutral Countries. It is of no great Importance therefore to us, whether the *French* Duties on our Lead or Tin, are by the Tariff of 1664, or by any higher Tariff; *France* must take from us what she wants, and the easiest Tariff will not make her take a much greater Quantity, since it would be ridiculous for her to import much more than is necessary for the annual Consumption of her People. I verily believe the least Duties or none at all on our Lead and Tin, would hardly enable us to sell to *France* above the Value of 10 or 15000 *l.* of those Commodities more than we do at present; and would it be worth our while for this Profit to pass the Bill of Commerce, and to let in an Inundation of Wine, Silks, Linens, Paper, and other Commodities from *France*, as we did heretofore, and for which we shall be forc'd to pay not with Lead or Tin, but with the vital Treasure of the Nation?

The thing which I have reserved to speak of in the last place, is that which always stands first in the *Mercator's* Lists, *viz.* our Woollen Manufactures.

In the Front of all his daily Entries for *France*, there are constantly several Parcels of Woollen Manufactures, without any Valuation,

on, that his Readers may believe the whole Year's Value is prodigious.

Besides, he often takes care to inform us they are now exported to *France* under a heavy Load of Duties, about 70 *per Cent.* as he sometimes tells us of their full Value; but by the Tariff of 1664, he often tells us the Duties are not above 10 *per Cent.* and that the late Treaty of Commerce reduces all to that Tariff, two Species only excepted, *viz.* Cloth and Mill'd Serges; nay, in his No. 75. he makes a Correspondent of his from *Paris* value the Duties by that Tariff at no more than 5 *per Cent.* (but 'tis no great matter whether he is consistent with himself or his Correspondents, the Readers to whom he applies are not very nice, and they must not be so unmannerly as to remember his Contradictions) and if such prodigious Quantities are exported under the present Load of Duties, how much greater would be exported by the Tariff of 1664, to which they are reduc'd by the late Treaty?

Now I ask every one of the *Mercator's* Readers what he thinks of his daily Entries of our Woollen Manufactures for *France*? What does he think they will amount to in a Year? Would it be worth the *Mercator's* while to stuff every Paper with a long Catalogue, if the Catalogue of a whole Year would not amount to 10000 *l.*? Can any Man imagine he does not design to impose upon them a Belief that our present annual Exports of Woollen Manufactures for *France* from the Port of *London* are above 20 times that Value?

I shall therefore present my Readers at once with all the Entries of Woollen Manufactures that have been made for *France* from the Port of *London* in one whole Year from *Christmas* 1712. to *Christmas* 1713. which are as follow.

Species of Goods,	Entered to Dunkirk.	To other Ports.	Total to France.
Stuffs	1641	37	1678
Serges	134		134
Penistons	10		10
Double Bays	13		13
Single Bays	6		6
Spanish Cloths	132		132
White Cloths	2		2
Long Cloths	23		23
Short Cloths	65		65
Double Dozens	59		59
Single Dozens	54		54
Kerseys	99		99
Frieze Yards	200		200
Cotton Goads	3800		3800
Flannel Yards	19570	689	20259
Woollen Cloth	110	20	130
Hose Dozen	291	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	296 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hats Dozen	31	6	37
Perpets	30	2	32
Blankets		6	6

Besides Garments for *Dunkirk*, which may be presumed to have been exported chiefly for our own Garison, and not as any Part of our Trade to *France*.

Now I will defy the *Mercator*, or any other Person whatsoever, to make the whole Value of all these Goods amount to the Sum of 10,000 *l*.

000 *l*. And is this a Sum for a whole Year to be distributed to us in Parcels almost three times every Week? But doubtless his Intent was that his Readers should believe, and many, no doubt, are so unwary, as to believe from his weekly Scraps, that our Exports of Woollen Manufactures to *France* for the whole Year are many times the Value of 10,000 *l*. even under the present Burden of high Duties.

But such a Trifle as it is, what Reason have we to believe that it is exported to *France* under the present heavy Duties? I desire my Reader will cast his Eye back to the above-mentioned Table; he will there see that almost the whole Exports are made to *Dunkirk*, which is a free Port, and where no Customs at all are paid; and that it is a Trifle indeed, not the Value of 200 *l*. which was exported to all the other Ports of *France*. It looks as if an Essay had been made to export our Woollen Manufactures to other Ports of *France*, but that it was found impracticable and given over.

Dunkirk, as I have said, is a free Port; no Customs are paid there, and it appears that almost all our Woollen Manufactures entered for *France* are exported for that City; how then can the *Mercator* pretend that our Woollen Manufactures are exported to *France* under the present Load of Duties, indeed under any Duties at all?

Yet the *Mercator* has pretended this in a Letter which he has counterfeited from a Correspondent in *Dunkirk*, which is to be seen in his No. 75.

He makes his *Dunkirk* Correspondent say,
R 4 That

The Mercator's forg'd Letter from Dunkirk, with Remarks on it.

That they have great Quantities of the Woollen Manufactures of England in that City; That they get them there two ways, by running them on shore clandestinely; That this was the easier to do by the great Number of Ships loaden thither with Corn and Coals since the Peace, all which brought Woollen Manufactures, which were run ashore without paying the Duties; that the Farmers of the Customs perceiving this, thought it their best way to treat with the Merchants, and accordingly agreed to take 25 per Cent. less than the full Duties; so that now all sorts of our Woollen Manufactures are sold in Dunkirk almost as openly as in any Town in Flanders, and are forwarded from thence to all Parts of France, and even to Paris it self: and the Correspondent says, he had just then received 32 Spanish Cloths ashore, which he had bought by Commission in London, and was then forwarding to Paris.

Several things are to be remark'd on this Letter, and the foregoing Exports to France.

And 1st, That the Letter never came from Dunkirk, but was forged here by the Mercator; or if it really came from Dunkirk, it was sent on purpose to abuse him. For a Dunkirk Man to tell us, that Goods are run clandestinely a shore in a free Port to save the Duties, or that our Merchants there agree with the Farmers of the Customs for an Abatement of 25 per Cent. of the Duties, in a Place where no Duties at all are paid, is ridiculous. No Man that lives in Dunkirk could be guilty of saying this. Some such thing might be expected from the WILD IRISH, and I believe that

that either the Mercator or his Director was a Native of that Country.

2dly, As for the Value of 10,000 l. in Woollen Manufactures to be sent to Dunkirk, where we had an English Garrison, and where it will be presumed that our own Officers would chuse to appear in the Manufactures of their native Country, it is nothing. It does not prove that we have sold any Woollen Manufactures at all to the French People.

3dly, But if we had not had an English Garrison, how inconsiderable a thing is the Value of 10,000 l. in Woollen Manufactures to be consumed by the Inhabitants of that City, where the Sieur Tygghe in his Memorial, says there are 18,000 Families? It is not above 2 s. per Head; but whatsoever is consumed in Dunkirk is consumed without paying any Customs, and will not prove that our Woollen Manufactures are sent at this time to France under a heavy Load of Duties. In vain therefore does the Mercator tell us that our Goods are forwarded from Dunkirk to all other Parts of France, and even to Paris it self. No Man living will believe him, and how ridiculous is it to tell us he was just then forwarding 32 Spanish Cloths to Paris, when no more than 132 were imported into Dunkirk in a whole Year?

But lastly, What is 10,000 l. value of Woollen Manufactures to be sent to so great a Nation as France? It is not half a Farthing per Head for every one of their People. It might well be sent to France under any Duties; that Nation, which has not been so long at this Manufacture as our selves, may be thought to

take off as much as this for meer Patterns. It is melancholy Consideration, that we send neither openly nor clandestinely at this time to that Kingdom above the Value of 10,000 *l.* in Woollen Manufactures; it is a Sign they are very much improved; and for my own part I expect but little Help from the late Treaty of Commerce, which leaves from 30 to 50 *per Cent.* Duties on our Woollen Manufactures in that King. It is plain therefore the *French* have Woollen Manufactures enough of their own, to stand in no need of any at all from us; if they had not, no Duties would be sufficient to prevent our sending among them either fairly or clandestinely, greater Quantities than the Value of 10,000 *l. per Ann.* so small a Trifle for so great a Nation: and yet by the Entries it does not appear we send them any, since our People at *Dunkirk* were sufficient to take off all we sent thither.

I think therefore, for my own part, the *Mercator* had best keep to his Arguments against Owling, and recommend as much as possible the keeping our Wool at home, that the *French* may want the necessary Materials to carry on this Manufacture.

But alas, this will not do the Business; they can be in no want of Wool, tho' they should not be supplied with any from this Nation.

Yes, says the *Mercator*, No. 168. they may have *Spanish Wool* for *fine Cloth and fine Druggets*; but what is this to the *Gross* of our *Woollen Manufacture*, to our *double and single Dozens*, our *Yorkshire Cloths*, our *Western Whites*,

Whites, our Kerseys, Bays, Norwich Stuffs, Exeter Serges, Says, Perpetuanas, Shalloons, Sagathies, and common Druggets? &c.

One Point then, with much ado, I have at last gained of the *Mercator*, That there can be no Want of fine Wool in *France*. This is a very considerable Step indeed.

How France may be furnished with coarse as well as fine Wool.

I must inform him now, that they can have sufficient coarse Wool either to mix with their fine, or to make those other Manufactures, without coming into *England*.

I have shewn often that they have a good deal of their own; and if they had not, they could be supply'd with this also from *Spain* and *Portugal*.

We take from *Spain* only their fine *Segovia Wool*, which is sorted into *Firsts, Seconds, and Thirds*.

We buy only the Spanish fine Segovia Wool.

But the *Spanish* have several other Sorts, such as Wool of *Castile*, of *Arragon*, and other finer Sorts, from five Pence half-penny to six Pence *per lib.* which after being pick'd and cleansed, and thrown into proper Sorts, is worth from six Pence to ten Pence *per lib.* and answers all the Uses of *English Wool*. We buy only their best *Segovia Wool*, but the *French* great Quantities of all their other sorts. The *Portual Wool* runs higher than the ordinary sorts of *Spain*, so that *France* without coming to us cannot want Wool for any part of the *Woollen Manufacture*.

Since the *Mercator* has so much amused his Readers with his daily Entries for *France*, and I have so fully answered all that he had given from the *Custom-house* from *Christmas 1712* to *Christ-*

The British Merchant.

Christmas 1713, without his offering the least Reply to any one of my Arguments; and since even in his last there are some Entries of *East-India Goods for France*, to make his Readers believe that we shall make vast Exportations of those Goods when the Treaty of Commerce shall be made effectual; to undeceive those unwary Persons, and also to represent to the *East-India Company* how little they will be benefited by that Treaty, I shall give them a Translation of an Edict of his most Christian Majesty of the 11th of this Instant *June* (New Stile) which is as follows.

Arrest of the King's Council of State, containing Regulations on white and painted Callicoes, Muslins, and Stuffs, from the Indies, China, and the Levant; and Orders to mark all HOUSHOLD FURNITURE made of the same: With new Prohibitions not to trade in them, nor to use them either in Clothes or HOUSHOLD FURNITURES. The 11th of June 1714.

Extracted from the Registers of the Council of State.

“ THE King having been informed that
“ the trading in, and the use of the
“ Stuffs, Muslins, and white and painted
“ Callicoes of the *Indies*, of *China*, and of
“ the *Levant*; and of all other sorts of Linen
“ Cloth and Stuffs dyed, painted, and stained
“ either within or without the Kingdom, was
“ not

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“ not absolutely ceased, as well in Household
“ Furnitures as in Cloth and wearing Appa-
“ rel, but that some Persons still continue to
“ make use of them in their Houses and other
“ Places, notwithstanding his Majesty's Pro-
“ hibition by divers Arrests, and renewed by
“ that of the 27th of *August 1709*; as also that
“ sundry of the said Callicoes and Stuffs that
“ are seized and condemned, are oftentimes
“ not burnt nor exported into foreign Coun-
“ tries; and that the Seizers and Informers
“ are sometimes deprived of part of the Re-
“ compence they should have had according
“ to his Majesty's Intentions; against which
“ his Majesty being desirous to provide, in or-
“ der to secure the Execution of the said Ar-
“ rest of the 27th of *August 1709*, entirely to
“ abolish the trading in, and the use of the
“ said Stuffs and Callicoes, which are so sen-
“ sibly prejudicial to the Manufactures of the
“ Kingdom: To prevent that those which
“ shall or may happen hereafter to be seized
“ and condemned, be not sold and used in the
“ Kingdom, and to procure to those who shall
“ have informed against the Offenders, or
“ made any Seizures, some speedy and certain
“ Gratifications that may excite their Zeal
“ and Vigilance; having heard the Report of
“ the *Sieur Desmaretz*, Counsellor in ordina-
“ ry in the Royal Council, Comptroller-Ge-
“ neral of the Finances.

Article I.

“ His Majesty in his Council has ordained,
“ and ordains, that the Arrest of the 27th of
“ *August*

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“ *August* 1709 be executed according to its
 “ Form and Tenor; and in consequence
 “ thereof, his Majesty very expressly prohibits
 “ and forbids, on the Penalties therein con-
 “ tained, all Merchants, Traders, Pawn-
 “ brokers, Taylors, Sewers, Upholsterers,
 “ Embroiderers, and other Workmen, and all
 “ other Persons of what Quality and Condi-
 “ tion soever, to trade in, expose to Sale, sell,
 “ vend, buy, either by wholesale or retail, to
 “ wear, to clothe themselves, employ, or
 “ cause to be employed, in Household Furni-
 “ tures, Cloth, and Wearing Apparel, either
 “ within or without their Houses, Places pri-
 “ viledged or not privileged, any Stuffs of all
 “ Silk, or mixed with Gold and Silver, Her-
 “ ba, Wool, Cotton, and all other sorts of
 “ Stuffs; as also any Muslins, and white Cal-
 “ licoes or stained, within or without the
 “ Kingdom, new or old, of the Growth of
 “ the *Indies*, of *China*, and of the *Levant*;
 “ except notwithstanding the Muslins and
 “ white Callicoes imported from the *Indies*
 “ by the *East-India* Company, and marked
 “ according to the Arrests of the 28th of *A-*
 “ *pril* 1710, and the 29th of *March* 1712.

Article II.

“ His Majesty forbids to all his Subjects,
 “ on the Penalties mentioned in the said Ar-
 “ rest, to stain, print, or cause to be stained
 “ and printed on any white Callicoes, Linen,
 “ Cloth made of Hemp, Thred and Flax,
 “ Silk or Woollen Stuffs, or other sort of
 “ Stuff new or old, even of the Growth or
 “ Manu-

The Trade with France.

“ Manufacture of the Kingdom; and to
 “ trade or traffick in, or to use the said Cloth
 “ and Stuffs stained and printed, either in the
 “ Kingdom or in foreign Countries.

Article III.

“ His Majesty ordains, that when, and as
 “ soon as any of the said Stuffs and Cloth are
 “ seized, the same be brought without delay
 “ to the nearest Office of the Farms, and put
 “ into the Hands of the Receivers and Comp-
 “ trollers, who shall be charged with them at
 “ the Rates of the Information of Seizures,
 “ and shall cause the same to be entered in
 “ their Registers.

Article IV.

“ After Judgment passed on the said Stuffs
 “ and Cloth, the said Receivers and Comp-
 “ troller shall be obliged to send them imme-
 “ diately to the *Custom-house* of the City of
 “ *Paris*, together with a Copy as well of the
 “ Judgment as of the Information of Seizure,
 “ and of the Inventory that has been taken of
 “ the said Goods, containing the Quantity,
 “ Quality, and Length of the said Stuffs and
 “ Cloth; of which the Receiver and Comp-
 “ troller of the *Custom-house* at *Paris* shall
 “ keep a Register on purpose; and they shall
 “ give to the Receivers and Comptrollers of
 “ the Provinces for their Discharge a Receipt
 “ perused by the General Farmers of his Ma-
 “ jesty.

Article

Article V.

“ His Majesty wills, that over and above
 “ the two thirds of the Forfeiture granted by
 “ the Arrest of the 27th of *August* 1709 to
 “ the Informers, and to the Inspectors of the
 “ Manufactures, Officers of the Farms, and
 “ other Persons who shall make Seizures,
 “ there be made out to their Benefit by the
 “ Farmers-General, within eight Days after
 “ the said Stuffs and Cloth shall have been
 “ brought to the *Custom-house* at *Paris*, an
 “ Order on the Receiver-General of the
 “ Farms where the Seizure was made, to pay
 “ them the Gratifications following.

“ Ten Sols for every Ell of white or stain-
 “ ed Callicoe, new or old, of what sort so-
 “ ever they be.

“ Twenty Sols for every Ell of Muslin,
 “ or Stuffs called *Herba*, painted *Polongs*,
 “ *Gæases*, or *Taffeties*.

“ And three Livres for every Ell of Da-
 “ mask or Silk Stuff mixed with Gold and
 “ Silver.

Article VI.

“ There shall be transmitted by the Far-
 “ mers-General to the Comptrollers-General
 “ of the Finances, a *Duplicate* of the Inven-
 “ tory of the said Stuffs and Cloth to be by
 “ him settled, the one half to be sold on con-
 “ dition to be exported into foreign Coun-
 “ tries, the Value of which shall be paid into
 “ the Cash of the Farms; and the other half
 “ to be burnt by Order of the Lieutenant-Ge-
 “ neral of the Police of the said City, who shall
 “ enter

“ enter Information of it, and cause a Copy
 “ thereof to be delivered to the Officers of
 “ the Customs for their Discharge.

Article VII.

“ The Buyers of the said Stuffs and Cloth
 “ shall give Security to the Farmers-General
 “ to bring, within three Months at farthest,
 “ a Certificate from the Officer of the Farms
 “ established at the last Office *on the Fron-*
 “ *tier*, by the Buyers first named, to justify
 “ the Exportation of the said Stuffs and Cloth
 “ out of the Kingdom, and a Certificate sign-
 “ ed by the Council of the *French Nation*,
 “ or by two *French* Traders and Merchants,
 “ to prove that the same have been landed in
 “ foreign Countries. His Majesty ordains,
 “ that they shall not be sent into any other
 “ Countries or States, but to *Sweden*, *Den-*
 “ *mark*, *Hanse-Towns*, the Sea-Ports in the
 “ *Baltick*, *Spain* and *Portugal*, except not-
 “ withstanding the Ports of *Bilboa*, *St. Se-*
 “ *bastian*, and others of the Provinces of *Gui-*
 “ *puscoa*, *Biscay*, and *Catalonia*. His Majesty
 “ very expressly prohibits and forbids the said
 “ Buyers to do any thing in contravention to
 “ this Article; to the Execution of which, as
 “ likewise to the Payment of the Purchase-
 “ Money, they, together with the Masters of
 “ the Ships, shall be jointly obliged and for-
 “ ced by all manner of Ways and Means,
 “ even by Seizure of their Bodies.

Ar-

Article VIII.

“ His Majesty likewise ordains, That
 “ within three Months from the Day of the
 “ Publication of this present Arrest, all Per-
 “ sons of what Quality and Condition soever,
 “ shall deliver to the Lieutenant-General of
 “ the Police, or those deputed by him, in the
 “ City, Suburbs and Bayliffship of *Paris*, and
 “ in the Provinces to the Intendants and Com-
 “ missaries respectively, their Deputies, or o-
 “ ther Persons by them appointed for that pur-
 “ pose, exact Accounts of all Household Fur-
 “ niture in their Possession, of what nature
 “ or sort soever, made with any of the said
 “ Stuffs and Cloth; and to cause to be fixed
 “ to them the Mark which shall be appointed
 “ by the said Lieutenant-General of the Po-
 “ lice, Intendants, or Commissaries respec-
 “ tively. His Majesty wills, That after that
 “ time all the said Household Furniture not
 “ marked be seized and condemned in the
 “ Hands of the Offenders, who shall over
 “ and above be condemned to pay a Fine of
 “ 1000 Livres.

Article IX.

“ His Majesty permits the Proprietors of
 “ the said Household Furniture to sell and dis-
 “ pose freely of them during the said Term of
 “ three Months; after which time his Maje-
 “ sty forbids, under the same Penalties to be
 “ incurred as well by the Buyer as the Seller,
 “ to sell any of them, even those Household
 “ Fur-

“ Furnitures so marked, unless it be by pub-
 “ lick Authority.

Article X.

“ His Majesty enjoins all Judges, Commis-
 “ saries, Notaries, Serjeants, Ushers, and
 “ other Officers of Justice, even to them
 “ who belong to the Lords, on pain of Suf-
 “ pension, one thousand Livres penalty, and
 “ to answer in their proper and private Names,
 “ and the Penalties to be absolute; to give
 “ notice to the Lieutenant-General of the Po-
 “ lice, Intendants, and Commissaries re-
 “ spectively of all the Household Furniture
 “ made of the said Stuffs and Cloth, marked
 “ and not marked, that shall be found among
 “ the Household Goods and Effects of the Par-
 “ ties seized, or of Persons deceased, the
 “ same to be perused whether they are in the
 “ Accounts which shall have been delivered by
 “ the said Parties seized, or Persons deceased;
 “ and that the same be not delivered over for
 “ any Cause, or under pretence of any Exe-
 “ cution whatsoever, nor proceed to a judi-
 “ ciary Sale, or to the Inventory of them, un-
 “ til after such Examination be made.

Article XI.

“ His Majesty likewise enjoins the said
 “ Lieutenant-General of the Police, Inten-
 “ dants, and Commissaries respectively, on
 “ notice given them of Offences committed
 “ against this Arrest, to nominate Commis-
 “ saries of the *Chatelet*, Deputies, or other
 “ Persons,

The British Merchant.

“ Persons, to assist without Cost and Expences to the making the Inventories of the Household Goods only. And this present Arrest shall be read, published, and affixed where need shall be, that none may be ignorant thereof.” Done at the King’s Council of State, held at Marly the 11th Day of June 1714.

Signed

Dujardin.

Can any Man now that reads this Arrest believe that his most Christian Majesty has put his own Subjects under this severe Prohibition, that England may have the Monopoly of those Goods? No certainly; but he knows very well that this Arrest, even if the Treaty of Commerce should be made effectual, will as well prohibit the English Sellers as those of France. The Treaty of Commerce does not provide against it by repealing his Prohibitions Quoad Bona Mercesque Magnæ Britanniae. After a whole Year’s Sollicitation he is not yet brought to explain, that Goods of foreign Growth and Manufacture are the Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain; and therefore he is at liberty to prohibit these as he thinks fit, notwithstanding any Words in the late Treaty.

But to shew how resolved and determined his Majesty is against suffering the Use of these
Stuffs,

The Trade with France.

Stuffs, &c. in his Kingdom, he will not so much as endure that any Household Furniture should be made of them; and that there may be no possibility of wearing or using any of these Goods, and passing them upon the Officers for the Growth and Manufacture of France, Printing and Staining of all Manufactures, whether new or old, whether made within the Kingdom or without, are so expressly forbid in the second Article. He has in the fifth Article too made the Penalties for the Informer so very great, and taken such Order for the Payment, that this is an Arrest, which cannot fail to execute it self. In the sixth and seventh he has taken such strict Order too for the burning one half of all Seizures, and the Exportation of the other to foreign Countries, that we may see he is fully determined that a single Yard of them shall not be used in his own Dominions.

But one thing is remarkable in the Article of Exportation: He allows it only to be made at Sweden, Denmark, the Hans Towns, the Sea Ports in the Baltick, Spain, and Portugal, excepting the Ports of Bilboa, St. Sebastian, and others of the Provinces of Guipuscoa, Biscay, and Catalonia; so that ’tis plain he not only forbids the Use of them in his own Country, but will not suffer them to be exported to any other where they may interfere with the Manufactures of his own People, which would be the Case if they should be exported to Guipuscoa, Biscay, and Catalonia. This perhaps may look strange, if he cannot hinder other Countries from being otherwise
otherwise

The British Merchant.

therwise supplied. However, it shows his Majesty's Zeal for promoting his own Manufactures.

The *English* Nation, and especially the *East India* Company, may now hope, if they can, that *France* is to be the Market for our *East India* or Woollen Manufactures; but I believe they both have long given over all such Hopes.

I hope by this time my Readers are thoroughly convinc'd of the destructive Consequences of opening the Trade to *France*, upon the Terms of the Treaty, or indeed upon any Terms whatsoever; that none of our Manufactures, Home, or Foreign, can ever be sold in *France*; and that it is better for us never to have any open Trade with them, but to lay a general Prohibition on all Commodities imported from thence, for they have none that we want, or what it is not our Interest to be without: on the contrary we have several Commodities which they cannot be without, but must have, and will have, either directly or at second hand; and whatever they amount to, is so much clear Gain to the Nation. This, in my Opinion, is the best, and only advantageous Foot we can fix our Trade to *France* upon. As to the Notion of *establishing a Trade with France, that shall be reciprocally beneficial to each Nation*, I take it to be a thing impracticable; for *France* will never permit us to import thither any Commodities, Fish, or Manufactures, that will in any degree be detrimental to their Product,

The Trade with France.

Product, Manufactures, or Fisheries. On the other hand, we ought in this Point to be as wise as the *French*, and never to admit from thence any of their Product, Manufactures, or Fish; all which does most essentially hurt us, either in our Manufactures, our Fisheries, or some Branch of Trade or other. We may as well confine two Woollen Drapers, two Mercers, two Linen-Drapers, two Stationers, and two Fishermen, to deal only with each other, and expect there will be a reciprocal Gain to each, as ever to expect there will be a reciprocal Gain between us and *France*. If the Trade to *France* should ever be established upon this Foot, as we despise the Notion of ever being out-done by a Nation we have so often beat at the Sword, so will it be out of the Power of so deceitful and chicaning a People ever to out-do us again at the Pen, at least in Matters of Trade.

The End of the Second Volume.



0380

T H E
British Merchant:

CONTAINING

The Sentiments of the most eminent and
judicious Merchants of the City of
London, concerning the Trade and
Commerce of these Kingdoms;

More particularly that which relates to *France*,
Spain and *Portugal*.

And illustrated with Notes and Maxims useful to
Trade in general.

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(whose Names are mention'd in the Preface) and
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The THIRD EDITION.

VOL. III.

Printed for THO. OSBORNE, in *Gray's-Inn*, 1748.

(Price Bound Nine Shillings.)



To the Right Honourable

Paul Methuen, Esq;

Comptroller of his Majesty's Household.

S I R,



This Treatise contains Arguments in defence of our Trade, I presume it will find Protection from You on that Account only; but as it proves,

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DEDICATION.

that the Foundation of our most valuable Branch of Commerce, is wholly owing to Your Father, I know not where this Work could so properly apply for a Patron.

YOUR Father, often Ambassador Extraordinary to the King of *Portugal*, procured for *Great Britain* that glorious Treaty of Commerce, by which She gains above a Million a Year.

By this Treaty we paid our Armies in *Spain* and *Portugal*, and drew from thence, in the late War, considerable Sums for our Troops in other Parts, without remitting one Farthing from *England*; and at the same time coin'd in the *Tower* above a Million of *Portugal* Gold in three Years.

By

DEDICATION.

By this Treaty we gain a greater Ballance from *Portugal* only, than from any other Country whatsoever; and at this time it is the only Country from whence we have any Ballance worth the naming.

By this Treaty we have increased our Exports thither, from about three hundred thousand Pounds a Year, to near a Million and a half.

AND such was the Address of this great Man, at that critical Time, when the Ministry of *Portugal* were extremely in the Interest of *France*, and great Projects were forming in favour of the *French* Trade, to the Disadvantage of ours, that he carried this Treaty by his personal

DEDICATION.

personal Interest with the King, with whom alone he transacted it, and whose chief Minister knew nothing of it till he had Orders to Sign it; or if he did, he durst neither own it, or oppose it. And what is yet more surprizing, we did not so much as give any Equivalent (but what *Portugal* was possess'd of before) for all these Advantages, as is evident from the following Volume.

THE *British Merchant* declares, that he deserves to have his Statue erected in every Trading Town in *Great Britain*; and it is but with common Justice he does so: for his great Abilities did not only enrich his Country whilst he lived, but left us a most valuable Inheritance behind him; and we reap the Fruits of
his

DEDICATION. ▼

his Wisdom, and Love to his Country, at this Hour.

BE pleased, Sir, to accept this plain Narrative of what Your Father has done for his Country; it ought to be publish'd in Justice to his Memory. And when I consider how often, and in how particular a manner the Trade of this Nation has also been obliged to You, both in *Portugal* and at Home, and that You were able in Your late Embassy to *Spain*, to bring that Court to agree to redress our Grievances in the Treaty of Commerce with that Crown, I restrain myself with much difficulty from attempting to draw a Parallel: and as I can never forget the many Obligations I have had the Honour to receive from
You,

DEDICATION.

You, You will permit me to subscribe myself with the greatest Duty and Respect,

S I R,

Your most Obliged,

Most Obedient, and

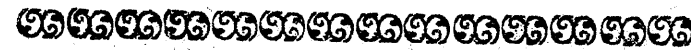
Most Devoted Humble Servant,

Charles King.



T H E

British Merchant.



The Trade with Portugal Consider'd.



OUR Treaty with Portugal, I have already exhibited in my first Volume, and I come now farther to defend it against the Mercator, who Numb. 39, asserts both Parts of a Contradiction.

First, he inveighs against the Portugal Treaty, as an Invasion of the Privileges of Parliament, and inconsistent with British Liberty. His words are: " By this Treaty with Portugal, the Ministers who made or directed it, took upon them, it seems, to limit the Parliament of England, and put them down

Invectives against the Portugal Treaty.

The British Merchant.

“ to what Duties they shall or shall not lay
“ upon the Importations of Merchandizes
“ from foreign Parts: which is a manifest In-
“ vasion of the Privileges of Parliament, and
“ destructive of the very Being of the *British*
“ Liberty.”

And again, “ The Person, *says he*, who
“ made that Treaty is in his Grave, and the
“ *Mercator* is not inclin’d to disturb the Ashes
“ of the Dead; but he that directed it is in
“ being, and the Days have not long pass’d
“ since it would have been said, that he ought
“ not to wear his Head that should have put
“ his helping Hand to such a manifest Invasion
“ of *English* Liberty.”

This is inveighing against the Makers of
that Treaty with a witness! And it is also an
Affirmation concerning the Treaty, that it
was an Invasion of the Privileges of Parlia-
ment, and inconsistent with *British* Liberty.

Nevertheless, the direct contrary Sense is
imply’d in other words, which I have also
transcrib’d from the same *Mercator* concern-
ing the Treaty, and which are as follow, *viz.*

The Mercator's Self-Contradictions.

“ That it was only a Treaty of Commerce,
“ and that as the Parliament might hereafter
“ find it convenient to pass some other Act
“ which might interfere with it, the Conse-
“ quence of such Infraction was provided for
“ in the Treaty, *viz.* That then the King of
“ *Portugal* was free, to prohibit such *English*
“ Goods as were prohibited before: that is,
“ in plain *English*, thus speaking to his Ma-
“ jesty the King of *Portugal*.

“ Sir,

Trade with Portugal.

“ Sir, as this Treaty is made at her Maje-
“ sty's Desire, that the Prohibitions of *English*
“ Goods in *Portugal* may be taken away, so it is
“ on this express Condition, That if the *English*
“ Nation shall break this Agreement, your Ma-
“ jesty is where you were, and no harm done:
“ All the Prohibitions you laid on before, you are
“ free to lay on again. And this is the Sum of
“ the whole Treaty.”

If this is the Sum of the whole Treaty, it
will follow, “ That they who made or di-
“ rected it, have not taken upon them to li-
“ mit the Parliament of *England* to what Du-
“ ties they shall or shall not lay upon the Im-
“ portations of Merchandizes from foreign
“ Parts; then the Privilege of Parliament has
“ not been invaded, nor the *British* Liberty
“ destroy'd.” Then the Ambassador who
made this Treaty may lie quiet in his Grave,
and the Person who directed it may wear his
Head upon his Shoulders.

Nay, it would also further follow, That the
Treaty it self had provided, that the Breach
of it should be no Breach of the Peace with the
King of *Portugal*.

It is true, the *Mercator* affirms, That the
above-mention'd Construction of the Treaty,
is the Construction of those who made it; but
I shall shew that 'tis his own. “ It is on this
“ Foundation, *says he*, that in the *Mercator*,
“ Numb. 10. it was said, that it is expressly
“ provided, that the Breach of this Treaty is
“ no Breach of the Peace with the King of
“ *Portugal*.” So that what he has there said,
he acknowledges to be built upon this Foun-
dation.

The British Merchant.

dation. He defends that Expression of his own by the above-mentioned Construction : " And " if this be not, says he, a just Construction, " it is certain they will but ill justify the making of it."

That Construction therefore is the Mercator's own, and he would persuade his Readers, that That is the Sum of the whole Treaty : And it must follow then, from his own Construction of the Treaty, that it does not limit the Parliament to what Duties they shall or shall not lay upon the Importations of Merchandizes from foreign Parts, that it is no Invasion of the Privilege of Parliament, nor inconsistent with the British Liberty ; directly contrary to what he had before so strenuously asserted.

I really pity him, that in the very same Paper he should be oblig'd to maintain both Parts of a Contradiction : But the Portugal Treaty was to be condemn'd at any rate, to make way for the French Commerce. This was a Task enjoin'd the Mercator by those that set him to work, and was not to be refus'd for the sake of any Consequence to himself. For this reason he was oblig'd to affirm of the Treaty of Commerce with Portugal, that it was an Invasion of the Privileges of Parliament, and destructive of the British Liberty.

But as his own Reputation was also to be defended, and as it was not possible for him to acquit himself from the Charge of Forgery, without presenting his Readers with such a Construction as he has done ; he has therefore made a Construction, which plainly shews the Treaty could be no Invasion of the Privileges of the

Trade with Portugal.

the Parliament, nor inconsistent with British Liberty. And thus he has asserted both the Parts of a Contradiction.

The Mercator, to get rid of the Charge of Forgery, has, in Numb. 39. given such a Construction of the Treaty as implies a Provision, that tho' it should be broken, yet the Peace should remain entire. And,

Numb. 40. He observes, that a Penalty is annex'd to the Breach which is to be made on our part, viz. That the King of Portugal shall again prohibit our Goods.

He says farther, " That when an Article is " agreed on, and the Condition of breaking it " is express'd, certainly it will be allow'd that " no other Consequence shall attend it, but " what is so express'd : If a Law is made against any particular Fact, as running Goods " at the Custom-house, for example ; when " the Penalty is express'd, it is a sufficient Security to the Offender, that he is liable to " no other Penalty."

By his Construction of the Treaty, and by the Penalty annex'd, he insinuates that the Peace neither is, nor can be broken by the Breach of the Treaty ; and that therefore it was no Forgery to affirm, That the Treaty had expressly provided, that the Breach of it should be no Breach of the Peace.

Notwithstanding this fine Reasoning, I shall make good my Charge of Forgery upon the Mercator.

As for his Construction of the Portugal Treaty, I must deny it to be right ; Portugal and Britain are equally and absolutely oblig'd FOR EVER,

His Construction of the Portugal Treaty false.

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EVER, as I have shewn ; the former to admit all our Woollen Manufactures, the latter to admit the Wines of *Portugal*, and to abate One Third of the Duties payable for the Wines of *France* : and there is not one word that implies, much less that expresses, as in the above-mention'd Construction of the *Mercator*, that if the Agreement should be broken on our part, his Majesty is where he was before, and that no harm is done. *Portugal* is oblig'd to admit our Woollen Manufactures, not upon condition that we shall admit, but that we shall be oblig'd to admit, FOR EVER, their Wines, with such an Abatement of Duties.

It is very true, that a Penalty is annex'd to the Breach to be made on our part, and a very terrible one it is, viz. That it shall be lawful for that Prince *AGAIN* to forbid our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures : but if this Penalty had not been annex'd to the Breach, had it not been lawful for the King of *Portugal* to prohibit all our Woollen Manufactures, or to have charg'd them with such Duties as had amounted to Prohibitions ? If the Breach of the Treaty on our part had set the King of *Portugal* where he was before, as this Writer says ; was it not lawful for him before to prohibit or load any or all our Manufactures ? By what Treaty was he bound not to do it ? Is not the King of *Portugal*, as the same Author says, a Sovereign Prince ? Can the Queen of Great Britain limit what shall or shall not be lawful for the King of *Portugal* to do ? By what Agreements, Stipulations, Leagues, or Treaties, was he bound ? He is indeed bound by the above-

above-mention'd Treaty between the two Nations, and the *Mercator* by the Breach of that Treaty on our part would have him set at liberty.

The *Mercator* would have it thought, that the Penalty annex'd for a Breach to be made on our part, is a Restraint upon the King of *Portugal* to proceed any farther than to the Prohibition of our Woollen Cloth ; and instances in a Penalty upon running Goods (by which he has the confidence to make a comparison between the Smugglers and Crown'd Heads.) But the Cases are very different : It was lawful for any Man to run Goods, till he was restrain'd by the Law ; and the Law which has made the Restraint, has determin'd the Penalty, which ought not to be exceeded. It was lawful for the King of *Portugal*, before our late Treaty with him, to prohibit every thing of the Growth or Manufacture of this Kingdom, not only all our Woollen Cloth, but all our Woollen Manufactures : he is bound up by that Treaty, that he cannot do it now. And if the Treaty shall be broke on our part, he is no longer bound ; if we shall once set him at liberty, every Prohibition or high Duty in that Kingdom will be lawful. Are we restrain'd any otherwise than by our late Treaty with the King of *Portugal*, from prohibiting any of the Goods or Merchandizes of that Kingdom ? And then shall it be said, that that Prince is any otherwise restrain'd ?

And where shall the King of *Portugal* stop in the Amends he is to make himself of us, if we should be guilty of the first Breach ? I do not

say, that the Peace is broke between us : I have never said any such thing. But I will put the *Mercator* a Case : Suppose the King of *Portugal* had enter'd into this Treaty, to get rid of a prodigious Growth of Wines which lay upon the hands of his Subjects, and as soon as ever they had been ship'd for *England*, had prohibited our whole Woollen Manufactures, before any considerable quantity of them could have been sold ; had not this been a mere Cheat ? Should we have no further resented this Breach of Treaty, than by prohibiting the Wines of *Portugal* ? Should we not have been ready to repair our selves by Arms ? And are not all Reprizals as lawful for *Portugal* as *Great Britain* ? But I never had the least thought, that things were likely to be carry'd thus far by the King of *Portugal* ; it will be sufficient for him to prohibit all our Woollen Manufactures : which, upon our taking any more for the Wines of *Portugal* than two Thirds of the Customs which shall be paid for those of *France*, he will be able to do, both by the express words of the Penalty annex'd to the Breach, and even tho' no Penalty at all had been annex'd ; as I have already shewn, and as I shall shew more at large hereafter.

But what I have already said, is sufficient to make good every one of the Articles of FORGERY, with which I have charg'd the *Mercator*.

He hath said in his 10th, That there was an express Provision in the *Portugal* Treaty, That if the Abatement of Customs should be abolish'd, yet the Peace should remain entire.

I

I have charg'd him with Forgery, and to make good my Charge, I have printed a Translation of the whole Treaty, in which there is not any such Provision.

To deliver himself from this Charge, he has given such a Construction of the Treaty, as would indeed imply such a Provision ; and he insinuates too, that the Penalty annex'd to the breach on our part does imply it.

I have shewn him, that his Construction is not right, and that *England* and *Portugal* are equally and absolutely oblig'd FOR EVER by this Treaty ; the latter, to admit all our Woollen Manufactures, and the former, to abate upon the Wines of *Portugal* one Third of the Duties which shall be paid for those of *France*. I have shewn that the Penalty annex'd to a breach of the Treaty on our part, does by no means imply a Provision that the Peace shall remain entire ; and that, tho' the Peace is not actually broken by the breach of the Treaty, yet a case might possibly happen, which might make the breach of this Treaty a breach of the Peace between the two Crowns.

From all which it follows, That this Provision of the *Mercator's*, *That the Peace shall remain entire*, is neither express'd nor imply'd in the Treaty ; and is consequently an Article of his own forging.

Hæc imminutio Vætigalium prout præfertur facienda, signifies, *this abatement of Customs which is to be made as aforesaid*. This the *Mercator* had translated in his 10th Paper, *such a-batement of Customs as is presum'd to be made* : as if it were not absolutely agreed to be made,

B 5

but

but a thing only that was presum'd might be done at one time or other, or perhaps not at all. I have charg'd this also as a Forgery, and he has not offer'd one word against this Charge, so that it remains upon him still. But he thought he might take all this liberty with the Treaty, presuming perhaps upon no Man's having a Copy of it besides himself.

I come now, in the last place, to consider the *Mercator's* Reason for leaving out of his Translation the *cætera Britannica Lanificia*, the rest of the *British* Woollen Manufactures.

The Penalty annex'd for the breach of the *Portugal* Treaty on our part, is, That it should then be lawful for the King of *Portugal* AGAIN to forbid our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures. I had charg'd the *Mercator* with leaving out the last words, *viz. the rest of the Woollen Manufactures*, because a general Prohibition would have a dreadful Sound in the Ears of *Englishmen*, and they were by no means to know the worst of their Condition.

And how does he defend himself from this Charge? He says, that AGAIN to prohibit, is to prohibit what was before prohibited; that *only Woollen Cloths* were before prohibited, but not *the rest of our Woollen Manufactures*: and that therefore upon our Breach of the Treaty, the King of *Portugal* has the liberty to prohibit AGAIN what was before prohibited; and that was only our Woollen Cloths, but not the rest of our Woo" " factures.

But

But what should hinder him? Is not the King of *Portugal*, as the *Mercator* says, a Sovereign Prince? Is he any otherwise bound to *Britain* than by his Treaties? And would he not be set at liberty as to this last Treaty, if it should be first broken by our selves? Might he not have prohibited all our Woollen Manufactures before? And has he not reserv'd a liberty to prohibit all AGAIN by the express words of this Treaty?

But I go on with the *Mercator*, for his omission of the *cætera Britannica Lanificia*, the rest of the *British* Woollen Manufactures; and the many extraordinary things he has said in his Paper, No. 40. relating to that Subject, the substance of all which is as follows.

" That in the Preamble of the Treaty the Queen desires that our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures, may be admitted into *Portugal*; and that the Prohibition of them might be taken off.

" That this ought to be understood only of our Woollen Cloths, and SUCH OTHER Woollen Manufactures as were before prohibited; since it would make the Treaty mere Nonsense, if the Queen should desire the admission of such as were not before prohibited.

" That it was acknowledg'd before the House of Commons by the Merchants, That none of our Goods were refus'd to be admitted into that Country, except the Woollen Medley Cloths: That *the rest of our Woollen Manufactures* were put into the Treaty,

The Mercator's false Glosses on the Portugal Treaty.

“ Treaty, to prevent any advantage to be taken for want of words; but not to imply that any other, except Cloth, were before prohibited.

“ That if nothing but Woollen Cloths were prohibited before the making of the Treaty, nothing but the very same can be prohibited upon our breach of it, by force of the words, viz. *It shall then be just and lawful for his Sacred Royal Majesty of Portugal AGAIN to prohibit our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures.*

“ That if by this Clause he might prohibit what was not before prohibited, the word AGAIN would be absurd; since AGAIN to prohibit, is to prohibit what had been prohibited before.

“ That therefore unless it can be made appear, that there were other of our Woollen Goods prohibited in Portugal besides Cloth, they can make nothing of the omission of the rest of the Woollen Manufactures out of the Translation; and if they were, they cannot make sense of the Treaty.

“ That since only Woollen Cloths were before prohibited, the reservation of a Liberty, upon our breach of the Treaty, to the King of Portugal AGAIN to prohibit our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures, could be a reservation of a liberty only to prohibit the former, but not the latter; since the latter were not before prohibited, and therefore could not be prohibited AGAIN.

“ And

“ And that consequently the Omission of *the rest of our Woollen Manufactures*, in the Translation of this Treaty, was the Omission of words that could have no meaning or Signification, and was not to be esteem'd an Omission.”

To these Harangues of the Mercator, I reply as follows.

That her Majesty's Desire is best explain'd by the Answer of the King of Portugal. We have all the reason in the World to believe that Prince would not grant more than was ask'd: whatsoever therefore he has granted, is the very thing which her Majesty had desir'd.

Reply to those Glosses.

The King of Portugal, by the first Article, grants, *promises or engages, to admit FOR EVER hereafter into his Kingdom our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures, as was accusom'd till they were prohibited by the Laws: that is, that not only our Woollen Cloths, but all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures should be admitted FOR EVER, that neither the one nor the other should at any time be prohibited.*

All our Woollen Manufactures to be admitted for ever by the Treaty with Portugal.

Her Majesty's Desire therefore in the Preamble, That all our Woollen Manufactures should be admitted into Portugal, the Prohibition of them being taken off, is a Desire that all should be admitted, and that not any of them should be prohibited.

Suppose then that all or any of them had been admitted before, this had been a Request that none should hereafter be prohibited. And

is

is this Request nothing? And if the King of Portugal, at the desire of her Majesty, has bound himself by this Treaty to make no future Prohibitions, shall he be said to have granted nothing?

The King of Portugal, perhaps, before this Treaty admitted the greatest part of our Growth and Manufactures into his Country: and yet, as he is a Sovereign Prince, as the Mercator says, could her Majesty oblige him to do this? Might he not lay any Prohibitions or high Duties on our Goods, as he thought fit? But if her Majesty has oblig'd him by Treaty not to do it, has she not obtain'd a very great Advantage for her People?

If all our Woollen Manufactures, our Cloth as well as all the rest, had been suffer'd to go freely into Portugal before, had we gain'd no Advantage by this Treaty, by which that Prince is oblig'd not to prohibit any of them hereafter? And if this is the very thing which her Majesty requested of the King of Portugal, and this Prince has granted at her request; will the Mercator affirm, as he does, that it was nonsense to desire the admission FOR EVER of such Manufactures as were not prohibited?

The Mercator's falsehood as to the former Prohibitions in Portugal.

But how can the Mercator say, as he does, That it was acknowledg'd before the House of Commons by the Merchants, that there were no Goods refus'd to be admitted in Portugal, but Woollen Medley Cloths?

The Gentleman who spoke before the House of Commons, on the behalf of the Portugal Trade, acknowledg'd no such thing; he knew that Trade too well to make any such Acknowledg-

ledgment: He knew the Fact was quite otherwise, and acquainted the House, That Portugal had not only prohibited all sorts of English Cloth and Hats, but that observing we introduc'd KERSEYS, and CLOTH SERGES, and CLOTH DRUGGETS, these they also prohibited; that this Prohibition continu'd twenty years, except that a Permission was granted for the Importation of black Cloth and Hats.

Goods the Portuguese prohibited.

He also acquainted the House, That during the twenty years Prohibition, the Portuguese succeeded so well in their Woollen Manufactures, that we brought thence no Gold or Silver; but after the taking off that Prohibition, we brought away so much of their Silver, as to leave them very little for their necessary occasions, and then we began to bring away their Gold.

During the Prohibition we brought thence no Gold or Silver; since, both in great quantities.

To corroborate the Observation of this Gentleman, I think it not improper to shew the Mercator what Gold has been coin'd in three years last past at the Mint, of which almost the whole was Moidores of Portugal. The Coinage is as follows:

At the Tryal of the Pix, Aug. 7. 1613.

The Gold and Silver Monies coin'd in her Majesty's Mint within the Tower of London, From the 21st day of August, 1710. Exclusive, To the 7th day of August, 1713. Inclusive,

Portuguese Gold coin'd here in 3 years time, besides what we export-ed.

The Gold Monies at 44 l. 10 s. the Pound Weight, and the Silver Monies at 3 l. 2 s. the Pound Weight, with the Monies in the present Pix.

Weight.

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	Weight.		Tale.		Pix.	
	lib.	oun.	l.	s. d.	l.	s. d.
Gold Monies	23719	9	1055528	17 06	1565	00 0
Silver Monies	27962	8	86684	05 04	24	12 0
			1142213	02 10	1589	12 0

N. B. That this Gold coin'd for these three last years in the Tower, is but a small proportion to what yearly was imported; for the Gold bearing a price above the Standard for the greater part of that time, was sent abroad to pay our own Ballance, caus'd by the Expence of our Troops and Subsidies abroad.

There are few Portugal Merchants, of any Experience in that Trade, but can inform the Mercator, that MEDLEY Cloths were not the only Woollen Manufactures which were prohibited in that Country: And then, was there not sufficient cause for her Majesty to desire the admission not only of our Woollen Cloths, but of all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures? Will the Mercator affirm, that such a Request was Nonsense?

But he has also given a very good Reason himself, why her Majesty should desire that Prince to admit into his Country, not only Woollen Cloths, but all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures: It was done, says he, because the Pragmatics (by which is meant the Laws) of the Portuguese might be doubtful, and to prevent any advantage to be taken for want of words. But

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But the Reason I have given is still better; That which was desir'd by her Majesty, was not only that all our Woollen Manufactures might be admitted into Portugal, but none of them hereafter should be prohibited. For tho' the King of Portugal had admitted all, yet by the Power of a Sovereign Prince, he could have prohibited all before this Treaty. To oblige him not to prohibit any, was the thing desir'd by her Majesty; and this had not been done, if she had stop'd at Woollen Cloths, if she had not also desir'd, that all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures should be forever admitted.

The Advisers of the Treaty have shewn a great deal of Wisdom in this very thing. They could not but foresee, that by the admission of All our Woollen Manufactures into Portugal, England must draw from that People the greatest part of their Gold and Silver (which has happen'd to be the very Case) they could not but foresee, that the Court of Portugal would soon become sensible of their Mistake in entering into such a Treaty; that they would prevent the ill Consequences of it, by prohibiting so many of our Woollen Manufactures as they were not bound to admit; and that if they had been oblig'd only to admit our Woollen Cloths, they might nevertheless, without any breach of the Treaty, prohibit all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures. The Treaty guards against this: Portugal is bound to admit FOR EVER, not only our Woollen Cloths, but all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures.

The great Prudence of them who made the Treaty consider'd.

The Mercator would fain persuade us, that only our Woollen Cloths were prohibited before

fore the Treaty, and that only these can be again prohibited upon our Breach of it, by force of the Clause, *It shall be just and lawful for his Majesty of Portugal again to prohibit our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures.*

Our Woollen Goods cannot be again in Justice prohibited, unless we break the Treaty.

But why may not the Word AGAIN be constru'd to the former Part of the Clause as well as to the latter? And then the Sense of it will be, That it shall be AGAIN lawful for that Prince to prohibit our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures. The Construction is no false Grammar; and who shall hinder the King of *Portugal* from making it, if it shall be found for his Advantage? Who shall tell him, that 'tis contrary to the meaning of the Treaty? But we are very sure, that unless the Treaty be broken first by us, it will not be AGAIN lawful for that Prince to prohibit any of our Woollen Manufactures.

I think it sufficiently appears, that *other* of our Woollen Manufactures, besides *Cloth*, were prohibited before the Treaty; so that if to prohibit AGAIN, were to prohibit only what was before prohibited, there would be no Absurdity in the Clause, that it shall be lawful for the King of *Portugal* to prohibit AGAIN our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures: And therefore in the Translation of this Clause, the *Mercator* could have no Pretence for the Omission of the last Words.

To conclude: By the natural Construction of the Words, and also by his Sovereign Power,

er, upon the Breach of the Treaty on our Part, it would be lawful for the King of *Portugal* to prohibit our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures: And therefore the Omission was not the Omission of Words, which had neither Meaning nor Signification; it was an Omission made to conceal from the People their whole Danger, if they should be so foolish as to break the Treaty; and is therefore equal to his other Forgeries.

The Mercator's omission of the words, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures, was to deceive the People.

I shall now answer his Grand Charge against that Treaty, *viz.*

“ That it limits the Parliament to what Duties they shall or shall not lay upon the Importations of Merchandizes from foreign Parts; entirely divests them of the Liberty of determining how, upon what, and by what measure Taxes shall be rais'd; and is therefore a manifest Invasion of the Privileges of Parliament, and destructive of the *British* Liberty.”

The Treaty with Portugal vindicated.

In order to do this, I shall mention two things that I have already demonstrated.

The first is, That the *French* Trade was always detrimental to this Nation, before our Prohibitions and high Duties upon their Goods and Merchandizes, and would be more so than ever, if, according to the late Treaty of Commerce between us, we should pass a Law for repealing our Prohibitions, and favouring *France* with respect to Duties, as much as the Nations the most favour'd. The Proof of this I shall endeavour to make good hereafter.

The second thing is, That our Trade with *Portugal* is very beneficial to this Nation, and will

will become much more so than it was before, by means of our above-mention'd TREATY with that Kingdom. The full proof of this has been already made; I shall add here,

The great Advance of our Trade by the Portugal Treaty.

That by an Account of the Exports of Wool- len Manufactures to *Portugal* before that TREATY, subscrib'd *Cha. Davenant*, and laid before the House of Commons, there is no room to believe that our whole Exports of those Goods to that Nation exceeded 330,000 *l. per Ann.* and probably not 70,000 *l. per Ann.* of all other Goods.

But it was affirm'd before the House of Commons by the Gentleman mention'd in my last, that our Exports to *Portugal* since that Treaty have amounted to 1,300,000 *l. per Ann.* and perhaps to a much greater Sum.

This will be credible to every Man who shall consider the vast Quantities of Gold imported, as appears by the Coinage mentioned before, as also by that exported to *Holland*, and other Places, to pay our Armies, Subsidies, &c. And from whence, but from *Portugal*, could all this Gold be brought? Besides, 'tis notorious that our Armies have been paid in that Country, without sending any Money thither; and even our Garisons in *Gibraltar* and *Port Mahone* have been paid by Bills of Exchange upon *Portugal*. All this makes it very credible, that our late annual Exports to that Kingdom are as great as have been mention'd, by means of that very TREATY.

This being premis'd, I must deny that that Treaty was any Invasion of the Privileges of Parliament, or inconsistent with British Liberty.

I

I do not believe it possible that a Treaty should be made between two Potentates, unless each of them will be contented to part with something that was his natural Right. *The Nature of Treaties between Potentates.*

But that which every Potentate in this Case will expect, is to have an Equivalent for this Right.

Before the late Treaty of Commerce between us and *France*, his most Christian Majesty had an undoubted Right to lay what Duties and Prohibitions he thought fit upon the Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*.

By that Treaty he has departed from this Right, *he has pinn'd himself down*, as the *Mercator* says, *Numb. 44. to take off his high Duties, and not to lay any more on*, than are to remain by that Treaty.

And what is the Equivalent he expects for so doing? The Equivalent is to be a LAW made here for repealing all our Prohibitions of the Goods and Merchandizes COMING FROM *France*, made since the Year 1664. and for favouring *France* with respect to Duties, as much as the Nations the most favour'd.

If all sorts of Labour are so much cheaper in *France* than in *Great Britain*, (as has been prov'd in Vol. I. in the GENERAL MAXIMS of TRADE, particularly apply'd to the COMMERCE between GREAT BRITAIN and FRANCE) that few of our Goods can be sent thither, with the Duties still remaining by that Treaty; will not his most Christian Majesty's Power of increasing those Duties be very useless? Can he be said to lose any thing by parting with such a Power? But

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But if by means of such a LAW, as is mention'd, *France* will be enabled to pour in upon us such an Inundation of Manufactures, that we shall pay her every Year above a Million Sterling upon the Balance of our Trade, as has been demonstrated; will not this LAW be more than an Equivalent for a Power that is worth nothing?

If his most Christian Majesty, in this case, had authoriz'd his Plenipotentiaries to conclude a Treaty of Commerce between himself and *Great Britain*, with general Instructions to take care of his Rights; would those Gentlemen have made any scruple to give up such a Part of their Master's useless Power, for the Profit of a Million Sterling every Year to his Kingdom? Would they have been afraid of divesting his Majesty of the Privilege of laying on, or continuing unnecessary Duties upon the Goods and Merchandizes of foreign Parts, if a Law, which was so much more than an Equivalent, had been offer'd for it? Would he not think very meanly of those Gentlemen, if they had not understood that Power and the Equivalent were one and the same thing? Would he have treated their Conclusion of such a Treaty as an Invasion of his Sovereignty? Would he not have been very glad to ratify such a Treaty?

To bring the Reason of this Case home to our TREATY with the King of *Portugal*.

It is the undoubted Privilege of Parliament, by and with the Consent of THE SOVEREIGN, to lay on or take off, as they shall think fit, the Duties upon the Importations of Merchandizes from foreign Parts, and also to adjust and settle the

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the Proportion to be observ'd between the Customs upon the Goods of one foreign Nation and another.

Suppose now that the Duties upon the Wines of *France* and *Portugal* had been equal, and that we lost a Million every Year by our Trade to *France*, and gain'd but very little by our Trade to *Portugal*; whether true or false, yet for Argument-sake all this may be suppos'd.

If in this case *Portugal* would oblige her self FOR EVER to admit all our Woollen Manufactures, upon condition that *England* should be oblig'd not to require from the Wines of *Portugal* above two Thirds of the Duties levy'd upon those of *France*; if the Consequence of such a TREATY would be, that we should save the Million which we lost every Year to the latter, and gain as much upon the Ballance of our Trade with the former; if the canvassing such a TREATY as this, before it was made, in the House of Commons, would in all probability prove the means to prevent it, by making the *Portuguese* sensible that they should suffer so great an annual Loss, by an Inundation of *British* Woollen Manufactures: where would be the mischief, if the Queen should first make such a TREATY? Would the Parliament be oblig'd to settle the Proportion of Duties according to the Terms of it? But could it be imagin'd they would refuse to settle that Proportion, if the Consequence should be as I have mention'd? Would they complain that the Settlement of this Proportion of Duties between the Wines of both Countries restrain'd them from losing a Million every Year to the one,

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one, and help'd them to the gaining as much from the other? Would they not think the Advantages of such a TREATY an Equivalent for the Privilege of losing or not gaining such a Sum? Would such a Treaty be call'd an Invasion of the Privileges of Parliament, or inconsistent with British Liberty? Would they not have it in their power to agree or not to agree to this Proportion?

But the Advantages of the present TREATY with Portugal are as great as of that which I have suppos'd, tho' there is not so much to be objected against it. And has not this TREATY been laid several times before the Parliament?

It is not stipulated that any higher Duties should be laid on the Wines of France, or any lower upon the Wines of Portugal, than were laid upon them before, and were therefore to continue till they should expire, or be otherwise determin'd by the Sovereign and the Parliament. So that it could not be said, that the Treaty was inconsistent with the Laws that were in being: And shall a Treaty, which is not contrary to any Laws in being, be said to be inconsistent with the Privileges of Parliament, or destructive of British Liberty?

Indeed a great part of the Duties upon French Wines are to determine four Years hence, and then without a new Act of Parliament for their Continuance, the Proportion will not be the same as is settled by this TREATY; whereas the Proportion, according to the Terms of this TREATY, is to be continued FOR EVER. And what if the Parliament

The Treaty with Portugal does not limit the Parliament, or hurt our Liberties.

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ment should not think fit to settle this Proportion?

Why, then I must affirm, That the King of Portugal is at liberty: and if he will exert his Sovereign Authority to prohibit all our Woollen Manufactures, who shall hinder him? As for us, we must contentedly sit down by so prodigious and apparent a Loss.

But if by the Expiration of the Duties upon France the Penalty is to come upon us, if we are then to suffer the Loss of our Portugal Trade, of the Exportation of so many of our Woollen Manufactures, and of getting a Million every Year; surely no British Parliament, for the sake of gratifying the Palates of our Gentlemen, will suffer the Duties upon the Wines of France to expire; especially when they are to be had already so very cheap, in so many parts of the Kingdom?

Our loss by the Treaty of Commerce with France.

Thus I have sufficiently shewn, both by the Equivalent which is given for the Proportion settled between the Wines of France and Portugal by this TREATY, and also by the Penalty annex'd for the Breach of it on our part,

That the TREATY it self is NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE PRIVILEGES OF PARLIAMENT, NOR DESTRUCTIVE OF BRITISH LIBERTY.

A further Answer to the Objections against the Portugal Treaty.

THE Mercator Numb. 113. has this extraordinary Passage; "I would be worse V O L. III. C " than

“ than felonious to enforce the keeping it (*scil.*
 “ the *Portugal* Treaty) at the Expence of the
 “ undoubted Privileges of the *British* Parlia-
 “ ment. This would be a Robbery equal to
 “ the worst of Treason; for it would take from
 “ the Parliament that Right which has not for
 “ some Ages been disputed with them, (*viz.*)
 “ of having the only Power of levying and
 “ appropriating Taxes, and raising Money;
 “ A RIGHT EVEN KING *JAMES*
 “ HIMSELF NEVER DENY'D AND
 “ NEVER INVADED.”

Now, with the Leave of this Writer, I
 must affirm, that King *James* did INVADE
 this Right of the Parliament. And for this I
 have the Authority of the Lords Spiritual and
 Temporal, and Commons assembled at *West-*
minster, in their Declaration of the 13th of
February 1688, in the Words following, *viz.*

“ Whereas the late King *James* the Second,
 “ by the Assistance of divers evil Counsellors,
 “ Judges, and Ministers employed by him,
 “ did endeavour to SUBVERT and EXTIR-
 “ PATE the PROTESTANT RELIGI-
 “ ON,

“ By assuming and exercising a Power of
 “ dispensing with and suspending of Laws, or
 “ the Execution of Laws, without Consent of
 “ Parliament;

“ By committing and prosecuting divers
 “ worthy Prelates, for humbly petitioning to
 “ be excused from concurring to the said as-
 “ sumed Power;

“ By issuing and causing to be executed a
 “ Commission under the Great Seal, for erect-
 “ ting

“ ting a Court called The Court of Commis-
 “ sioners for Ecclesiastical Causes;
 “ By levying Money for and to the Use of the
 “ Crown by pretence of Prerogative, for other
 “ Time and in other Manner than the same was
 “ granted by Parliament.

Here, directly contrary to the *Mercator*, we
 have the Declaration of the Lords Spiritual
 and Temporal, and the Commons, that K.
James did invade the Right of Parliament, to
 levy and appropriate Taxes, and to raise Mo-
 ney.

And whereas he has cited *Magna Charta* a-
 gainst the *Portugal* Treaty, I must let him
 know that the Powers here mentioned to be
 assumed and exercised by King *James* were
 Violations of that Charter. In the 9th Chap-
 ter of which (if I remember, for I have it not
 before me) are these Words, *viz.*

*Nullus liber homo capiatur aut imprisonetur,
 aut alio modo disseisetur de terrâ suâ, sive de
 tenemento suo, sive de liberis consuetudinibus suis,
 nec in eum ibimus nec in eum mittemus, nisi per
 legale iudicium Parium suorum vel per legem
 Terræ.*

King *James* by these Words ought not to
 have imprisoned any Freeman, nor to have dis-
 seised him of his Freehold, but by the Judg-
 ment of his Peers, or by the Law of the Land:
 Yet he erected an Ecclesiastical Commission
 contrary to Law, with a Power to imprison
 Persons during Life, and even to deprive Ec-
 clesiastical Persons of their Benefices, of their
Freeholds, for Disobedience to their illegal
 Censures.

Censures. This Commission he caused to be executed, and by it several Persons were imprisoned, and many eminent Ecclesiastical Persons were deprived of their Benefices.

King James ought not to have levy'd Money without the Consent of Parliament: He ought not to have raised Taxes by his Prerogative: yet he continued the Excises and Customs beyond the Limitation of them by Act of Parliament. This was certainly to levy Money for and to the Use of the Crown by pretence of Prerogative, for other time and in other manner than the same was granted by Parliament. This was to invade the People's Franchise, or Power of levying and appropriating Taxes and raising Money. But the Secretary to the Mercator, who writes in a more elevated Stile than that Scribbler, would have all those unhappy Miscarriages forgotten in King James II. for the sake of a Person that pretends to be his Son, and to have a Right to her Majesty's Realms and Dominions.

This Writer would have us believe, that King James never did the least Harm to this Nation, but that the Maker of the Portugal Treaty (that is her Sacred Majesty, for her Majesty made the Treaty, howsoever it might be advised by her Ministers) has invaded the undoubted Privilege of Parliament of laying on or taking off Duties at discretion. One might indeed expect that those Persons who have the Confidence to acquit King James of invading the Privileges of Parliament, would make no scruple to charge her Sacred Majesty, or her Ministers, with this Invasion.

I had long expected what the Mercator has long promised against the Sitting of the Parliament, viz. a demonstrative Evidence that the Portugal Treaty was broken by his Portuguese Majesty as soon as ever it was made, and therefore we are not bound by it; as also an effectual Answer to all that has been said in defence of that Treaty: All is now come out in the two last Mercators that have been published.

The demonstrative Evidence, that the King of Portugal broke the Treaty almost as soon as it was made, is in the Letter in Merc. Numb. 112. and is this; " That before that Treaty " all coloured foreign Cloths, but no other " Woollen Manufacture, were prohibited in " Portugal; that this was a Treaty for taking off that Prohibition on British Cloth, on condition that Portuguese Wines should pay in England a Third less Duty than the French; that they were to give us an Equivalent for Difference of Duties, viz. The taking off that Prohibition of our Cloth, and we were to give them an Equivalent for the taking off that Prohibition, viz. That the Wines of Portugal should pay so much less than those of France; and that the Treaty was mutual, for increasing the Consumption of our Cloths in Portugal, and of their Wines in England; that ever since that Treaty, the Duties on the Wines of Portugal have been one third less than those on France; but that the King of Portugal soon after taking off the Prohibition of our Cloths, took off his Prohibition on Dutch, French, and all other Cloths, and this without any Equiva-

The Mercator charges the King of Portugal with the Breach of the Treaty.

“ lent: That the *Dutch* have ever since im-
 “ ported into *Portugal* a third part as many
 “ Cloths as *England*; that this was an In-
 “ fringement of the Treaty, the Intent of
 “ which was to encourage the Vent of our
 “ Cloth in *Portugal*, exclusive of other Nati-
 “ ons, since we could not be thought to have
 “ been so infatuated, as to give an Equivalent
 “ for the *Dutch* and the *French*; and that since
 “ the *Portuguese* put the Cloth of other Nati-
 “ ons on the same Foot with ours, they can
 “ have no reason to complain, if we level the
 “ Duties on *French* Wines with theirs.” The
 Sense of all which is, if the King of *Portugal*
 does not perform what he has never promis'd,
viz. To keep on this Prohibition upon our
 Woollen Cloths of all other Nations, we are
 at liberty not to perform what we have stipula-
 ted by the Treaty, *viz.* That the *French* Wines
 shall pay one Third more Customs than those
 of *Portugal*.

But the *Mercator* goes on haranguing upon
 this Subject, No. 113. he says, “ That we
 “ granted the King of *Portugal*'s Subjects a
 “ Privilege exclusive in *Britain*, *viz.* of pay-
 “ ing one Third less Customs for their Wines
 “ than the *French*; that we could do this only
 “ for the Advantage of having our Cloths ad-
 “ mitted, while those of other Nations were
 “ prohibited, and not that other Nations
 “ should be put on the same Foot with our
 “ selves; that therefore the taking off the ge-
 “ neral Prohibition, was a direct Contraven-
 “ tion to the meaning of the Treaty; that we
 “ could not be such Fools, as to give the King
 of

“ of *Portugal* an Equivalent for the same
 “ Thing which he granted the *Dutch* and the
 “ *French* for nothing; that the Advocates of
 “ this Treaty, who do not pretend to appro-
 “ priate the Woollen Manufactures to *Eng-*
 “ *land*, and who allow the *French* to be as ex-
 “ pert in them as our selves, cannot deny that
 “ the King of *Portugal* has taken off his ge-
 “ neral Prohibition, as much to their Ad-
 “ vantage, as he has done to ours; and has
 “ therefore acted contrary to the very mean-
 “ ing of the Treaty, which was to have the
 “ sole Importation of Woollen Cloths to our-
 “ selves, and which was the only thing for
 “ which we gave an Equivalent to *Portu-*
 “ *gal*.”

In answer to these fine Harangues, I must
 assert, That colour'd Cloths were not the on-
 ly Woollen Manufactures which were prohibi-
 ted in *Portugal* by their *Pragmatica* before the
 Treaty. For when the *Portuguese* found that
 we introduced Cloths, Serges, and ClothDrug-
 gets, in prejudice to their Woollen Cloths,
 they prohibited these as well as Woollen
 Cloths. This Prohibition continued till the
 Treaty.

*Answer to
 the said
 Charge.*

Next I must assert, That the King of *Por-*
tugal has stipulated by the Treaty, to take off
 the Prohibition, not only of our Woollen
 Cloths, but of all our other Woollen Manufac-
 tures; and not only this, but that they shall
 not be again prohibited, till the Breach of the
 Treaty on our Part. When the Treaty shall
 be broken by us, then by express words, it shall
 be again lawful for the King of *Portugal* to pro-
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hibit not only our Woollen Cloths, but all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures. The *Mercator* would fain possess his Readers, that he had prohibited only colour'd Woollen Cloths, and upon our Breach of the Treaty was allowed to prohibit nothing else; but as he said himself, the King of *Portugal* before the Treaty, by the Right of a Sovereign Prince, might prohibit any thing of the Growth or Manufacture of this Kingdom. It must be said, that by his Treaty, he has divested himself of this Right, and by a Breach on our Part he will be restored to the Right of prohibiting, as well what was not, as what was prohibited before. Was it worth nothing to us, that he divested himself of this Right with respect to any sort of Woollen Manufacture? And has he done this for the *Dutch* or *French*, or any other Nation?

The Address of our Minister gain'd us the *Portugal* Treaty, in fact, without giving any Equivalent.

It is very true, that we have made the Duties one third higher on *French* Wines, than on *Portugal*. We had done this before we stipulated to do so by our Treaty; and it was our Interest so to do, tho' no such Treaty had been ever made. We made no Alteration in the Duties we had already established for the sake of *Portugal*, tho' *Portugal* took off her Prohibition of many of our Woollen Manufactures for our sake, and obliged herself never to prohibit any. It was our Interest, that the Duties on *French* Wines should be so much higher than those of *Portugal*, and we had accordingly made them so before. Certainly that Minister must have been a Person of very great Address, who could prevail with that Prince to take off his Prohibition of our Wool-

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len Manufactures, for a Condition that was as much for our Interest as his. To talk of our giving an Equivalent is Nonsense; we have given nothing to *Portugal* for taking off this Prohibition, but what was our Interest to have given, tho' the Prohibition had still continued.

The Intent of the Treaty was, to increase the consumption of our Woollen Cloths in *Portugal*; and has it not been encreased by means of this Treaty? Had we any ballance before from *Portugal*? And do we not now gain every year a Million by that Trade? And what was done for the Minister, who by his Advice has done so much Honour to his Prince, and so much Service to his Country?

The Gain of a Million a Year by the Treaty with Portugal, is owing to our Minister at that Court.

As for *France* or *Holland*, has he oblig'd himself to take off the Prohibition of their Woollen Manufactures by this Treaty? But is it credible, that he did any such thing in behalf of *France*, when he was in actual War with that Kingdom? If he did it for *Holland*, he was assisted by that State against his Enemy; yet far from enabling *Holland* to send near a third part as many Cloths as us to his Country, they do not send one Cloth for forty that are sent by *England*: However, this must be said, *Portugal* has put her self under no Obligation to those Countries.

It is ridiculous to talk of the excluding of the Woollen Manufactures of other Nations; no such thing is express'd or couch'd in the Words of the Treaty. And *France* has put me quite out of conceit with the Spirit against the Letter.

We had an immediate Benefit by the Treaty, by the taking off the Prohibition in Portugal: Portugal had nothing for it during the War, more than she had before: And now our turn is serv'd, should we reduce the Duties on both Wines to an equality? Where is the Equity of this Proceeding? But it is not for our Interest.

The Mercator thinks we are at liberty to level the Duties on the Wines of both Countries, by the first breach of the Treaty by Portugal: But I deny that she has broken it: If she had, it would be our Interest still to keep it, and not to lose a Trade worth a Million yearly, to be reveng'd.

The Mercator thinks we could grant what we have done to Portugal, only for the sake of excluding the Woollen Manufactures of other Nations from that Country. We granted it, because it was for our Interest; and on this Condition she has oblig'd her self never to prohibit any of our Woollen Manufactures. Portugal has not granted this to France or Holland.

France rivals our Trade in Woollen Manufactures to many other Countries, but not to Portugal. I believe therefore, her Woollen Manufactures are not admitted there, or not with so easy Duties.

The Treaty and our Minister who made it vindicated.

Since the Mercator has begun again to inveigh against the Portugal Treaty, and the Minister who negotiated that Treaty, with other words, and the old Argument, I think my self obliged to remind my Readers of the defence I have formerly made both of the one and the other.

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The Work will be half done by a bare Repetition of the material parts of this Treaty.

“ The Preamble expresses an intimation of
“ the Queen's desire that the Woollen Cloths,
“ and the rest of the Woollen Manufactures
“ of Britain, may be admitted into Portugal,
“ the prohibition of them being taken off.

“ The King of Portugal accordingly pro-
“ mises to admit FOR EVER the Woollen
“ Cloths, and the rest of the Woollen Ma-
“ nufactures of the Britons, as was accus-
“ tomed before they were prohibited.

“ The Condition on the part of Britain is,
“ That she shall be obliged FOR EVER to
“ admit the Wines of Portugal, paying no
“ more at any time than two Thirds of the
“ Duties paid by those of France.

“ The Penalty on us for not performing this
“ Condition is, That it shall be lawful for the
“ King of Portugal AGAIN to prohibit the
“ Woollen Cloths, and the rest of the Bri-
“ tish Woollen Manufactures.

The first Motion for this Treaty, it seems, was made on the part of her Majesty. Our colour'd Woollen Cloths were prohibited in Portugal. The Portuguese had set up a Fabrick of their own, and proceeded in it with every good Success, after the Prohibition of ours and all foreign colour'd Cloth. We had then nothing left against their Cloths, but to introduce our Cloth-Serges and Cloth-Druggets into that Country. They quickly found that these gave some interruption to their Manufactures, and therefore they proceeded also to prohibit foreign Serges and Druggets. These Prohibitions

Our Reasons for moving the Treaty with Portugal.

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ons continued till they were taken off by this Treaty.

The Woollen Manufactures of this Kingdom have been ever consider'd as the greatest Branch of our Trade ; and as we have laboured as much as possible in the improvement of these Manufactures at home, so it has ever been our principal Care to open as many new Markets as we could for them in foreign Countries. The principal Parts of our Woollen Manufactures were prohibited in Portugal, and that Prince has taken off the Prohibition upon the Motion of her Majesty.

Portugal Wine imported before the Treaty for half the Duties on French Wine.

The King of Portugal had nothing to desire of us. The Wines of his Country were then admitted into England. They paid little more than half the Duties that were levy'd on those of France. This difference of Duties was settled long before by Act of Parliament, and for a long term, which is not yet expir'd. It was settled, not at the Request of the King of Portugal, but because it was the Interest of England. So that Prince had nothing to desire for the present, which we had not already granted without any such Desire: But it was a great mischief to England, that so great a part of our Woollen Manufactures stood prohibited in that Contry. It was but reasonable therefore to move that this Prohibition should be taken off; it was but reasonable that the first Motion to this Treaty should be made on the part of England. Certainly there was nothing in the Motion for taking off this Prohibition, and for opening a new Market to our Woollen Manufactures, contrary to Magna Charta, inconsistent

sistent with the British Liberties, or destructive of the Privileges of Parliament.

Well, the King of Portugal has oblig'd himself and his Heirs FOR EVER to admit into his Country our Woollen Cloths and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures, as was accustomed before they were prohibited.

To admit FOR EVER is not only to take off the Prohibitions then in being, but never to lay on any new Prohibitions.

To admit FOR EVER our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures, is not only never to prohibit a-new our Cloths, and Cloth-Serges and Cloth-Druggets, which stood prohibited till this Treaty; but also every other sort of Woollen Manufacture, which it was lawful for that Prince to prohibit, before he had divested himself of this Right by this Treaty.

There is a way of prohibiting without a direct Prohibition, and that is by high Duties; but the King of Portugal by this Treaty has also divested himself of this Right, with respect to our Woollen Manufactures, by obliging himself to admit them as was accustomed, that is, with as easy Duties as was accustomed before the Prohibitions.

The K. of Portugal is not to raise the Duty on our Woollens.

The Duties of Importation before the Prohibitions had the Name of 23 per Cent. but the Goods were undervalued; those Duties of 23 per Cent. were not above 12 per Cent. of their real value. To such low Duties has the King of Portugal oblig'd himself with respect to the several sorts of Woollen Manufactures which stood before prohibited in that Country.

The Treaty of Commerce with France excludes our Woollen Goods.

I shall not wonder that there are Men so abandoned, to object against a Treaty which has not only opened a Market for so many of our Woollen Manufactures which were before prohibited, but has made that Market perpetual for every sort of our Woollen Manufactures. It might be expected from those who are so liberal of their Panegyrics upon the two Treaties of Commerce with France (for so I must call the Treaty, and the subsequent Articles signed a Month after) the first of which excepts all our Woollen Manufactures from being eased of either Prohibitions or high Duties in that Country; the second admits some few under Duties thrice as high as those of Portugal, and at such Ports only, and with such Limitations and Restrictions, as shew a plain Intention in the French King never to admit any of them into his Dominions. Instead of a Treaty of Commerce, it may as well be called a Treaty for excluding our Woollen Manufactures out of France. The Advocates of such a Treaty as this may very well be displeas'd with that of Portugal, which has opened to us a perpetual Market for all sorts of our Woollen Manufactures.

Our Advantages by the Portugal Treaty.

The Stipulation of the King of Portugal in this Treaty, has helped us to so prodigious a Vent for our Woollen Manufactures in that Country, as has abundantly made up to us the loss of that Ballance we heretofore received from Spain, (which God knows whether we shall ever recover, now King Philip is on the Spanish Throne) employed and subsisted vast multitudes of our People to prepare Goods for
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Portugal, and kept up the value of the Product of our Lands, which otherwise must have fallen very much by the loss of the Spanish Markets. Certainly the memory of that Minister, who had the Address and Dexterity to gain us such a Stipulation from the King of Portugal, ought to be for ever sacred in this Kingdom.

A Panegyric on our Portugal Minister.

The Price therefore is the next thing to be considered, or the Condition to be performed to Portugal on the Part of England, which is, that we shall be obliged FOR EVER to admit the Wines of that Country, paying no more at any time than two Thirds of the Duties payable to those of France.

England for ever to admit of the Wines of Portugal.

Now I will suppose the very worst against this Treaty, that at the time of making it the above-mentioned Woollen Manufactures stood prohibited in Portugal; and that the Wines of that Country were not admitted here, without paying as high or higher Duties than those of France; and that Portugal had stipulated on her Part, never hereafter to prohibit any of our Woollen Manufactures; and the Queen on her Part had absolutely promised that such an Alteration should be made in the Duties on Wines in favour of Portugal. It is certain that the Duties on foreign Goods imported into this Kingdom, cannot be adjusted but by Parliament; and that the Parliament would not have been oblig'd by the Treaty to make such an Alteration in the Duties on Wines in favour of Portugal, unless they should be convinc'd that it would be for the Advantage of the whole Nation. And thus even by the Treaty in this Case, the Right of the Parliament had not been inaded

The British Merchant.

invaded or taken away, the Alteration in the Duties had not been made without the Consent of the Parliament, and the *British* Liberties had been still the same. The Treaty only in this case had been void, and no alteration of Duties ever made.

But what would have been the Conduct of an *English* Parliament, if this had been the Case? Would not the Parliament have considered whether this Alteration of Duties had been for the Advantage of the Kingdom? Would they not have considered whether the Loss by this Alteration of Duties, was likely to be made up by opening a new Market for our Woollen Manufactures? If it should have been made appear to them, that both the one and the other had been advantageous to this Nation, would they not have made the Alteration of Duties?

The Treaty with France absolute in opposition to Parliament.

If this is not the Case, I am not able to think what can be said for the late Treaty of Commerce between us and *France*. The 8th Article has stipulated absolutely that the Merchants of *France* shall be as much favoured here as those of any other Nation. And yet it is certain they are not yet, nor cannot be so much favoured, unless the Parliament shall pass a Law for that purpose. The Parliament has not thought fit to pass such a Law, and *France* without it cannot have the Favour that is granted to her by the Treaty; so that even by this Treaty, no Alteration is made, or can be made in the Laws of this Kingdom, without the Authority and Consent of Parliament. And therefore tho' the *Portugal* Treaty had expressly stipulated,

Trade with Portugal.

stipulated, that no Alteration should be made in the Duties on Wines which were then in being; yet the Duties must have continued as they were, notwithstanding this Stipulation, till the Parliament had thought fit to make the Alteration. So that the Treaty in this Case, neither had, nor could take away the Privileges of Parliament, nor destroy the *British* Liberty.

But there is not even this to be objected against the *Portugal* Treaty; for there is no Stipulation in it to alter any Law already made, there is no undertaking in it for any thing that could not be done without the Authority of Parliament. The Parliament had before made a greater Difference between the Duties on *French* Wines and those of *Portugal*, to the advantage of the latter, than she required by this Treaty: This was done without any respect to *Portugal*, but because it was for our own Interest. The Advisers therefore of this Treaty might very well presume upon the Parliament's Intention not to alter the Duties already established, with very great Consideration, and for the Benefit of the Kingdom; they might very well advise such a Stipulation on our part, for so great a thing as the opening a Market for our Woollen Manufactures. What if a Minister had advised her Majesty to stipulate to the King of *Portugal* not to deliver up an *English* County to *France*, for the sake of gaining a Market for our Manufactures? Would such a Minister deserve to be hanged for his Advice? The *Portugal* Trade is annually worth more to us than the Fee-simple of some *English* Counties; and this

The Portugal Treaty the contrary.

The Portu- gal Trade annually is worth more than the Fee simple of some English Counties.

and this we owe to the Difference of Duties which we have promised, and which was not contrary to any Law in being. But if the Parliament should not be pleased with the Advice, they may, notwithstanding the Treaty, give away the *Portugal* Trade, tho' it were as valuable as many Counties.

For *Portugal* has only granted the Trade, on condition that we will be obliged to continue such a Difference of Duties: if the Parliament will not think fit to preserve the Trade to *Portugal*, they may do as they please with the Duties on the Wines of either *France* or *Portugal*.

For lastly, The King will by this means be restored to the Right he had before, a Right to prohibit our whole Trade, tho' there had been no such Penalty annexed by the Treaty; yet in such Case, without any breach of Treaty, he might prohibit not only our Woollen Cloths, but all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures. Might not *Portugal* grant us what she has done by this Treaty, upon what Condition she pleased? and annex any Penalty that was in her own Power, to the Breach of this Condition? What is there in all this that was contrary to *Magna Charta*?

Investives against the last, and preceding Parliaments, for being against the French Trade.

The *Mercator*, after having treated as a Faction all the Adversaries of the *French* Commerce, that is, the major part of the last House of Commons, and many precedent Parliaments, has begun at last to complement with the same Title all the Advocates for the Trade to *Portugal*: They are a Faction that are not for making good the late Treaty of Commerce with France!

France! They are a Faction that are not for breaking that with Portugal!

I advise the *Mercator* to keep himself to this way of arguing, for it is his best. The Custom-house has been rummag'd for a Ballance coming to us upon our Trade to *France*; and no doubt if any one Year could have been found, in which our Exports had exceeded, either before or since the Tariff of 1664, to the time of our prohibiting or loading with high Duties the Goods and Merchandizes of that Kingdom, we should have had it in CAPITALS. The happy Year cannot be found, and therefore all he has left for it, is to brand with the Name of Faction all the Opposers of the *French* Treaty, all that are against letting in upon us an Inundation of *French* Manufactures, to lessen the Value of the Product of our Lands, and of the Labour of our own People.

The Custom-house could produce no Account wherein our Exports exceeded our Imports.

And yet as bad as the *French* Trade has been, or is likely to be, upon the foot of our late Treaty of Commerce with *France*, there is no way of coming at it, but by the Breach of our Treaty of Commerce with *Portugal*, and the Loss of a beneficial Trade we have enjoyed ever since, and only by means of that Treaty. To gain a very losing Trade to *France*, we must lose a very gainful one to *Portugal*. All who are not for sacrificing to *France* the *Portugal* Treaty, and a Trade under that Treaty, the Ballance of which has paid so many great Armies, furnished the West of *England* with a great part of their current Money, and brought a Million Sterling in Moidores to the Mint within these three Yers, by the Partisans

Gainful Trade to Portugal sacrificed to be losing Trade to France.

of

of France, are branded with the Name of a Faction.

The Custom-house Accounts neither assist them in the French, nor help them against the Portugal Trade.

Faction and Party are Names which Men must be contented sometimes to hear, who will not blindly submit their Reason to the Authority of Men in Power. But is the Mercator then a Man in Power? Or has he a License to treat us in this manner? It had been much more for his purpose to shew by Custom-house Accounts, that our Trade to Portugal has not been mended by our Treaty with that Nation; that it was as good before as it has been since; that we exported as many Goods before, and gained as great a yearly Ballance from that Country. But Custom-house Accounts, it seems, are stubborn things, they will not be made to speak what they do not mean; and are therefore as silent with respect to the Disadvantages of the Portugal Treaty, as they have been with respect to the Advantages of that with France.

I am not able yet to part with him upon his Charge of Faction: Why is it that we are to be stiled a Faction? Why? because there is such an Incorporation of Interests, because every one that is against the Peace, and against the Ministry, are all to a Man against the French Trade; and that therefore the Complaint against the Commerce, is a popular Shift to gain Strength, gain over People to their Party Cause, and strengthen the Party against the Government.

The Ministry and the Government should be impartial as to the Bill of Commerce

But how comes it to pass that the Administration or the Government are at all concerned in the Question concerning the Bill of Commerce? Would the Mercator insinuate that the

the Ministers are to get any thing if the Bill should pass? Or that they are to lose any thing if it should be rejected? Or if this were really the Case, must the People for their sake suffer the Treasure of the Nation to be exhausted, and the Value of its native Product and Manufacturers to be diminished, by keeping the Treaty with France, or by breaking that with Portugal? Could such Distress be brought upon the Nation, and the Ministers not be Sufferers? We are sure that great Numbers of the Gentlemen in the last Parliament, who voted against the Bill of Commerce, have all along shewed the greatest Zeal, both for the Peace, and for the Administration which has procured it; they could not but foresee that a Trade which must bring such Ruin upon the Nation, would be very dangerous to the Ministers. They therefore voted against the Bill for the sake of the Administration. It is very hard they should be stiled a Faction upon this account.

Reasons for voting in the House against the Bill of Commerce with France.

Personal Reflections, Attacks upon Mens Characters, Reputation, and private Affairs, Indecency, Slander, false Accusation, and injurious Reproaches, so often said to be used by the Writers against the Bill of Commerce, are made to the Characteristick of a Faction. But who has it that first begun in this manner? The Mercator in his very second Paper, and long before any Reply was made to him in Print, treated all the Adversaries of the French Commerce as a Faction; and such, or worse, has been his Language ever since: Nay, sometimes he is pleased to call us traiterous Conspirators against the

Invectives against all that are for the Portugal Trade.

The Portugal Treaty called Felonious.

the Trade and Prosperity of our Country. As for the Portugal Treaty, he has had the Confidence more than once to call it a Felonious Treaty: he has more than once said, that the Makers and Advisers of it ought not to wear their Heads. What could he mean by this, but to enrage the People, and let them loose upon all Persons that had any hand in that Treaty?

Clear'd of that Imputation.

But I must expostulate with him upon this Felonious Treaty, which is a Charge so often repeated in his latest Papers.

King of Portugal and his Heirs oblig'd never to prohibit our Wool Goods, or raise the Duty conditionally.

The King of Portugal by this Treaty has granted us Liberty to import our Woollen Cloths and other Woollen Manufactures, which were before prohibited, into his Country under very easy Duties; he has oblig'd himself never to prohibit either our Woollen Cloths, or any other of our Woollen Manufactures; he has oblig'd himself and his Heirs never to lay any higher than the old accustomed Duties upon any of them. Certainly if that Prince had bound himself and his Heirs to do all this for nothing, we should think our selves very much oblig'd to the Address and Dexterity of the Minister who had negotiated so good a Treaty for his Country.

The Minister who made the Treaty justified.

The only Question is, Whether this Minister has not paid too great a Price for the Purchase? This Question implies in it many other Questions, such as these that follow, Whether he has not advis'd her Majesty to do that by her Prerogative, which she could not do without the Consent of her Parliament? Whether the Ratification of this Treaty has not bound down the

the Parliament of Great Britain to the Difference of Duties between the Wines of Portugal and those of France, expressed in the second Article? Whether the Parliament has it now in its power to alter this Difference of Duties? Or whether, when the present high Duties on French Wines shall be expired, the Parliament is bound to continue the Difference which is stipulated between the Wines of both Countries? Or, Lastly, if the Parliament shall refuse to do this, whether her Majesty is absolutely oblig'd by her Treaty to do it whether they will or no?

As to the first Question, Whether the Minister who negotiated this Treaty has advis'd her Majesty to do that by her Prerogative which she could not do without Consent of her People in Parliament? I must desire my Readers to look back to the Treaty it self; they will perceive there, that the King of Portugal has made all the Grants abovemention'd,

UPON CONDITION,

That her Majesty and her Heirs shall be oblig'd for ever to admit the Wines of Portugal into Britain, paying no more at any time than two Thirds of the Duties paid by those of France.

Wines of Portugal for ever admitted conditionally.

AND IF ANY ALTERATION SHALL BE MADE IN THIS DIFFERENCE OF DUTIES, then it shall be lawful for that Prince, again, to prohibit our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures.

Certainly in all this the Minister that advis'd this Treaty, cannot be said to have advis'd her Majesty

Majesty to do any thing by her Prerogative which she could not do without the Consent of her Parliament.

The King of Portugal might have granted what he has granted by this Treaty, absolutely and without any Condition, if he had pleased: But he has granted it upon a Condition, viz. of preserving the above-mentioned Difference of Duties, which cannot be performed without the Consent of Parliament. And what if the Parliament will not give this Consent? Why then the King of Portugal has granted nothing.

Suppose a Gentleman, who is possess'd of the best Jewel in the Kingdom, should enter into Articles of Agreement with the Mercator, and oblige himself to deliver his Jewel to a Nobleman,

Upon Condition,

That the Mercator in Return shall be oblig'd to procure for him the Estate of this Nobleman. What if the Nobleman will not consent to part with his Estate? Will the Mercator affirm that his Estate is gone from him by these Articles of Agreement to which he was not a Party? No certainly, if the Mercator cannot make it appear to be the Interest of the Nobleman to give his Estate for the Jewel, he may still keep it notwithstanding these Articles, to which himself was not a Party, and tho' the Jewel were of twice the Value of his Estate. Perhaps the Nobleman in this Case will not be thought to have acted very wisely: but who can help it? the Estate is his own, and he may keep it if he pleases, not-

with-

withstanding the Articles to which he never was a Party, to which he never gave his Consent.

The Case of this Treaty is the very same; the King of Portugal has granted the Queen a free Market for all the Woollen Manufactures of her Subjects, and has absolutely oblig'd himself that this Market shall be perpetual: But all this

Upon Condition,

That her Majesty shall be oblig'd to preserve for ever the above-mentioned Difference between the Wines of France and Portugal, which cannot be preserved but by the Consent and Authority of the Parliament. But what if the Parliament will not consent to preserve this difference of Duties? Why then the Condition is broken, and the King of Portugal has granted nothing. But it can never be said, that the Parliament is deprived of the Right of giving or refusing their Assent to the performance of the Condition, or of altering the difference of Duties in such manner as to deprive the British Nation of one of the best Markets for their Woollen Manufactures.

Duties on French Wine one third more than on Portugal Wines, always to be continued, but subject to Parliament.

Perhaps to make an actual Alteration in this Difference of Duties may be worth nothing, nay may be a Mischief to the British Nation, while an open Market for all our Woollen Manufactures is invaluable: But who can deny that the Parliament has still the Power to make the Alteration, and to deprive the Nation of that invaluable Market? It might be thought very strange, if our Legislators should exercise this Power; but still they have the Power, it is

Parliament not bound by the Portugal Treaty.

not taken from them by the Treaty, which was a Transaction between the Queen and the King of Portugal, to which the Parliament never gave their Consent, and may refuse it when they please. The Parliament therefore is not bound down to the Difference of the Duties express'd in the Treaty. The Parliament has it still in their Power to alter this Difference of Duties. The Parliament is not obliged to continue any higher Duties upon the Wines of France than Portugal, after the Expiration of the Act which has made the present Difference.

The Duties on Portugal Wine subject by the Treaty to Parliament.

But, Lastly, Her Majesty is not obliged by her Treaty to preserve this Difference of Duties whether the Parliament will or no. The last Clause is a Demonstration of this Thing, which is, That if any Alteration shall be made in the Difference of the Duties contrary to the Meaning of the Treaty, then it shall be lawful for the King of Portugal, AGAIN, to prohibit our Woollen Cloths, and the rest of our Woollen Manufactures: Not as the Mercator foolishly construes it, that it shall be lawful for the King of Portugal to prohibit again just what was prohibited before, and no more; but that it shall be lawful again for the King of Portugal, as it was before, to prohibit all or any of our Woollen Manufactures.

Mr. Methuen's Intention in the Treaty.

Mr. Methuen would very fain have had the Penalty worded just according to the Construction of the Mercator. "No, says the Minister of Portugal, it shall be worded as it now stands: The King my Master grants you a Market for your Woollen Manufactures, which you had not before; and the Fa-
" bricks

"bricks of his own Subjects will be destroyed by it. The King my Master has the Power of prohibiting all your Woollen Manufactures, by the Right of a Sovereign Prince; and if the British Parliament shall not think fit to perform the Condition, and continue the Alteration of Duties, it is very fit they should know my Master will be restored to the whole Power he had before of prohibiting not only Woollen Cloth, but all the rest of your Woollen Manufactures." The Agreement to the Penalty in this Form was some weeks in transacting, and I should think the Minister had very well deserved to lose his Head, if he had lost the Grant of such a Market for our Woollen Goods, for want of expressing a Penalty that was imply'd in the very Breach of the Condition.

The Portugal Minister's Answer.

But I believe every Man who has the least love for his native Country, will think that this able Minister deserves rather to have his Statue set up in every trading Town, who has had the Skill and Address to make a Treaty for opening a new and a great Market for so many of our Woollen Manufactures, and which we have now enjoyed for the space of ten years, and which we may enjoy for ever; and all this without obliging us to make any present Alteration in our Laws, and only by subjecting us to a Penalty, to which before, and without the Treaty, we were subject, for not performing the Condition which is required to be performed on our part.

Mr. Methuen deserves a Statue in every trading Town.

Now for the Question of the Mercator, to which in Numb. 115. he desires plain Answers
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swers may be given, I shall for once oblige him, and give as plain Answers as he desires.

Parliament not limited by the Treaty

To his first, *Is the Portugal Treaty a Limitation for the Parliament, or is it not?* I answer, it is not. The Parliament is not limited. The King of *Portugal* is bound by the Treaty to continue to us one of the best foreign Markets we ever had for our Woollen Manufactures, till the Parliament shall set him free, till the Parliament by altering the Duties between the Wines of *France* and *Portugal*, shall enable the latter to deprive us of that Market, to stop that vast Stream of Moidores, which ever since the Treaty have been flowing into this Nation. The King of *Portugal* is bound, but the Parliament is still at liberty, and when they please may set that Prince as much at liberty as themselves. Our Legislators, if they please, may refuse to continue the Difference of Duties after the Expiration of the high Duties on the Goods and Merchandizes of *France*, or they may immediately level the Duties on *French* Wines to those on *Portugal*; but the very Moment they shall do this, the King of *Portugal* is at liberty, as he was before the Treaty, to prohibit not only our Woollen Cloths, but all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures.

The Skill of Mr. Melbourn in the Treaty.

It must have been wonderful Address in that able Minister, that he could prevail with the King of *Portugal* to grant us so good a Market, upon Condition that we should not make an Alteration in the Difference of Duties, that is, to bind himself till the Parliament should make him free, yet at the same time to accept for this a Condition on our Part, to be kept or not kept at the Discretion of a *British* Parliament. With-

Without doubt the King of *Portugal* was prevailed with to believe that so good a Market as his Country for our Woollen Manufactures would be so very acceptable to this Nation, that for the sake of its Continuance we should not fail to perform the Condition to be performed on our part, as much as if in express words our very Legislators had obliged themselves to the Performance. And for this Reason, and this only, he could bind himself, and leave the *British* Parliament at their full liberty.

Why the K. of Portugal bound himself, and not us.

For my part I should have been of that Prince's Opinion, that our own Interest was a sufficient Obligation upon *England*, to continue the Difference of Duties required by the Treaty, when so beneficial a Market depended upon the Continuance, especially when we had thought it our Interest to make even a greater Difference between the Wines of *France* and *Portugal* than is required by the Treaty, and when we did not gain any new Market for our Woollen Manufactures by so doing.

Our Interest to keep the Treaty.

The Time was, when laying high Duties on *French* Wines, and other Goods of that Nation, for a long Term of Years, was thought a sufficient Commendation of the very Gentleman, who had first proposed it to the Parliament. The Words of the Inspector-General, are remarkable upon this Occasion: "The Nation, says he, is beholden to that able Man and excellent Patriot, Mr. *Sacheverell* now deceased, for this prudent Caution. He was the first Author of this wholesome Counsel; he laid the Foundation of it 4 and 5

Encomium on the Person who first propos'd high Duties on French Goods.

“ *Gul. and Mar.* And as his Abilities help’d
 “ his Country while he lived among us, so we
 “ may now reap the Fruits of his Wisdom af-
 “ ter his Death. ’Tis true, *continues he,* o-
 “ ther Persons would arrogate to themselves
 “ this Merit ; but there are living Witnesses
 “ enough who can testify that the Impositions
 “ upon *French Goods* were the Effect of his
 “ Skill and Foresight.”

Dr. *Davenant* here is in wonderful Disquiets,
 least Mr. *Sacheverell* should be robb’d of the
 Honour of projecting the high Duties on *French*
 Goods. Mr. *Sacheverell* is his Patriot for this
 Project: And yet all the Use Mr. *Sacheverell*
 made of it, was to prevent a very losing Trade
 to *France*. But Mr. *Methuen*, it seems in the
Mercator’s Opinion, deserved to lose his Head
 for grafting upon this Project a very gainful
 Trade to *Portugal*. And yet he has not obliged
 the Parliament to continue the high Duties on
French Wines; all he has done is to oblige the
 King of *Portugal* to preserve to us this very
 gainful Trade, till the Parliament shall think fit
 to alter the Duties on *French Wines*, contrary
 to the Terms of the Treaty. If Mr. *Sacheve-*
rell was a Patriot for preventing a very losing
 Trade, and Mr. *Methuen* deserved to die for
 helping us to a very gainful one, I shall never
 be able hereafter to distinguish between the Pa-
 triot and the Malefactor.

If the Treaty projected by Mr. *Methuen*, and
 ratified by her Majesty, had been in these
 Words, *The King of Portugal on his part pro-*
mits to admit for ever all our Woollen Manu-
factures; and the Queen on her part promises
 that

that no more shall be levy’d on the *Wines of Por-*
tugal than two Thirds of the Duties levy’d from
those of France: Yet even in this Case her Ma-
 jesty could not perform her Promise, unless her
 Parliament would enable her to do it. If her
 Parliament would not enable her to keep it,
 then her Promise must be broken. But sure it
 could not be said even in this Case, that the
 Power of limiting or raising Taxes had been
 taken from the Parliament.

The Power of making Peace and War,
 Treaties and Alliances, are the Prerogative of
 the Crown. The Prince may declare War a-
 gainst his Enemy without asking Advice of his
 Parliament; but then he must resort to his
 Parliament to compel Men into his Service,
 and he must resort to his People for Money to
 pay his Armies; he can neither force Men, nor
 raise Money without the Consent of the Par-
 liament; his Declaration of War does by no
 means oblige him to do these things without
 their Consent; and if they will not give their
 Consent, he can neither have Men nor Money,
 and must make as good a Peace as he is able:
 So that his Declaration of War does not de-
 prive his Parliament of any Privilege, since they
 can either give or refuse their Assent to any
 thing that is asked of them.

The Sovereign may, for his own or his
 People’s Benefit, enter into an Alliance or
 Treaty with a foreign Prince, and oblige him-
 self to pay that Prince a Subsidy of 200,000 *l.*
per Annum, which perhaps is more than he is
 able to do without the Money of his Subjects.
 But can he take Money for this Purpose from

his Subjects by his Prerogative? No, he must resort to his People for Money to pay this Subsidy: And if they will not give it, yet he cannot take it from them. The Privilege of Parliament all this while is safe, the Treaty does not destroy it, the Prince must break his Treaty if his Parliament will not enable him to keep it.

The Treaty no Limitation of Parliament.

In like manner, what if the Queen had absolutely promis'd, as in the Case above-mention'd, that no more should be levy'd on the Wines of Portugal than two Thirds of the Duties levy'd on those of France; and this as a Recompence for what is promis'd by the King of Portugal; can the Prince in this Case alter the Duties from what they are at present, or continue the Alteration beyond the Limitation of it by Act of Parliament? No, certainly, if the Parliament will not make or continue the Alteration, the Treaty is broken, but still the Privilege of Parliament is not destroy'd; they have it still in their Power to make or not make, continue or not continue the Alteration of Duties at their Discretion. They are absolute Judges in this Case, whether the Promise to the Queen is an Equivalent for the Alteration of Duties promis'd by her Majesty, and may therefore enable her or not, as they think fit, to perform her Promise: But whether the one or the other, yet nothing had been taken from the Parliament.

But there is not so much as even this in the present Case. The Queen has not promis'd any thing in exprefs words. The whole Substance of the Treaty is a Promise of a Market for Woollen Manufactures, by the King of Portugal,

Portugal, on Condition that the Queen shall be obliged to continue such a Difference of Duties as requir'd. But if her Parliament will not suffer the Difference to be continu'd, no not even for the sake of so beneficial a Market for her People, surely there are no Words in this Treaty that oblige her Majesty to continue the Difference, whether the Parliament will or no, or that are any Limitation of the Parliament.

The Mercator has not all along insisted upon this Treaty, being a Limitation of the Parliament; for in his 39th are these Words, viz. "That it was only a Treaty of Commerce; and that as the Parliament might hereafter find it convenient to pass some other Act which might interfere with it, the Consequence of such Infraction was provided for in the Treaty, viz. That then the King of Portugal was free to prohibit such English Goods as were before prohibited; that is, in plain English speaking thus to the King of Portugal:

"Sir, As this Treaty is made at her Majesty's Desire, that the Prohibitions of English Goods in Portugal may be taken away; so it is on this exprefs Condition, that if the English Nation shall break this Agreement, Your Majesty is where you were, and no harm done: All the Prohibitions you laid on before, you are free to lay on again, and this is the Sum of the whole Treaty."

How can this Writer, who calls this the Sum of the whole Treaty, call it a Limitation of the Parliament? Was it a Limitation of the

Parliament, that the King of *Portugal* has granted her Majesty's Subjects a Market for their Woollen Manufactures? The Parliament have it in their power to remedy this; they may make a Law if they please, that no Woollen Manufactures shall be sent to *Portugal*.

Or is it a Limitation of the Parliament, that he has granted us this Market on Condition, the Infraction of which, he says, by express Provision of the Treaty, only brings us back to the Circumstances we were in before? Why then the Parliament has it at any time in their power to place themselves in these happy Circumstances, and to give up the Market for our Woollen Manufactures in *Portugal*, for the better Wines of *France*. If the Gold we have gain'd from *Portugal* is a Burden to us, *France* will be ready to take it off our Hands.

All the *Mercator's* other Questions are answer'd by the Answer that is given to the first. *Is the Portugal Treaty a giving Power to the Prerogative to raise Taxes and limit Taxes, without Consent of Parliament, or is it not?* I answer, it is not; nor is any such Power given to the Prerogative by this Treaty. I expected to have heard from the *Mercator*, that the high Duties on *French* Wines were expir'd, and that the Minister who negotiated it, had advis'd her Majesty still to continue them by her Prerogative, as King *James* did of the Excise and Customs, beyond the Limitation of them by Act of Parliament. Thanks be to God, no such thing has been done, nor I believe never will,

will, during the Reign of her present Majesty. Thanks be to God too, that the high Duties on *French* Wines are still in Force, both because they are beneficial to this Nation, and because they have help'd us to so beneficial a Treaty as that with *Portugal*.

His next Question is, *Is any Act of the Ministry so limiting the Parliament void in its own Nature, or is it not?* I answer, This Act of the Ministry does not limit the Parliament; and if it did, it were void in its own Nature.

His last Question is, *Are they punishable by our Laws who so invade Parliamentary Privileges, and are thereby Betrayers of their Country, or are they not?* I answer, no Parliamentary Privileges are invaded by this Treaty; if they were, I shou'd wish the Advisers of it might behang'd. I shall wish the same thing for every one that has advis'd the making a pernicious Treaty for his Country.

The *Mercator* would do well to shew that the Nation is a Loser by the *Portugal* Treaty: But he knows very well she is a great Gainer by it. Therefore his way is to exasperate our Legislators against it, as an Attack upon their Privileges; but the Privileges of Parliament are safe and unhurt, and we are not likely to break a Treaty so beneficial to this Kingdom, for the Whimsies of the *Mercator*.

I shall next prove the Mercator's Vouchers are against himself in the Matter of our Portugal Trade, and exhibit a Letter shewing his Ignorance in producing such Vouchers, and give some Remarks on the said Letter.

The Mercator's Vouchers turn'd against him.

SINCE the British Merchant is not enough in the good Graces of the Persons who have the Custom-house Accounts under their Direction, to be let into the Perusal of them, lest they should furnish him with too many Arguments for the Portugal Treaty, and against that of France, he thinks himself obliged however to make all possible Acknowledgments to those Gentlemen for putting those Accounts into the Hands of the MERCATOR.

For tho', without doubt, his Commission is to give only such Parcels of them to his Readers as may serve to destroy the Credit of the Portugal Treaty, and to raise the Reputation of that with France, yet he is such a Bungler, that every now and then he abuses his Trust, and gives a Weapon to his Adversary.

This has often happened in the Course of his Weekly Papers; but a remarkable Instance he has given of this Conduct, since he has begun from Scraps of Custom-house Entries to prove the Portugal Treaty ridiculous; and that, as we have increas'd since in the Exportation of Woollen Cloths to Portugal, we have decreas'd in the Exportation of our other Woollen Manufactures.

The Treaty was in October, 1703. for taking off the Prohibition of our Woollen Cloths, and

and for obliging the King of Portugal never to prohibit for the time to come either Woollen Cloths or any other of the rest of our Woollen Manufactures.

The Mercator therefore has singled out the Year preceding, and that which followed the Treaty, to shew us how much our Exportation of Double Bays, Perpets, Serges, Stuffs, Druggets and Says, exceeded the Exportation of the like Goods after the Admission of our Woollen Cloths into Portugal; and consequently how little we got by taking off the afore-mentioned Prohibition.

This was the Argument of his Numb. 119. but then in his very next Paper he has given us another Scrap from his Exportation of Double Bays, Perpets, Serges, Stuffs, Druggets and Says, has been as great since the Treaty as it was before; so that we have not decreased in the Exportation of those Goods by getting off the Prohibition from our Woollen Cloths, and that consequently the whole Exportation of our Woollen Cloths is clearly gain'd by that Treaty. Is such a Man fit to be trusted with Custom-house Entries? But I am glad he has been trusted, for otherwise I had never been let into this Argument.

But this Blunder of the Mercator is so well expos'd in a Letter from one of my Correspondents, that I shall here give it to my Readers just as it came to my Hands.

To

The British Merchant.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

THE *Mercator's* grand Argument against the Advantage this Nation has received by the Treaty with *Portugal* in 1703. is, That tho' we exported in 1704, the Year after the Treaty, Cloths 10493 more than in 1702, the Year before the Treaty; yet that the Consequence of this Increase was the lessening the Exportation of our *Perpets, Serges, Stuffs* and *Druggets*.

To prove which, in No. 112. he gives a Scheme of several *Woollen Manufactures* exported in 1702 and 1704; whereby it appears, that there were shipped for *Portugal* in 1702 more than in 1704,

- 7281 Double Bays,
- 173279 lb. wt in *Perpets* and *Serges*, and
- 161247 lib. wt. in *Stuffs, Druggets* and *Says*.
- And in 1704 more than in 1702,
- 2130 *Minikin Bays*,
- 274 *Single Bays*,
- 30939 *Dozen Pair of Hose*,
- Besides *Kerseys, Hats, &c.*

Spain supply'd by way of Lisbon.

In Answer to this irresistible Argument, I must first remind the *Mercator*, That in 1702, the very Year the War was declared with *Spain*, while *Portugal* stood Neuter, we endeavoured to supply *Spain* by the Way of *Lisbon*.

Trade with Portugal.

Lisbon, not only with *Bays*, but with *Perpets, Serges, Druggets*, and several other *Commodities*; and therefore this was the real Occasion of such a large Exportation for *Portugal* in that Year.

Every Merchant on the Exchange is so well acquainted with this Fact, that it is strange the *Mercator* should so openly expose himself to the Charge of *Partiality*; for of this he could not be ignorant.

But after he has proved that there was exported for *Portugal* in 1702,

Lib. wt. 244707 in *Stuffs* and *Druggets*, and 76899 in *Says*.

Lib. wt. 321606, and 602604 in *Perpets* and *Seres*.

Lib. wt. 924210. And in 1704 but Lib. wt. 93656 in *Stuffs* and *Druggets*, and 66701 in *Says*.

Lib. wt. 160357, and 429325½ in *Perpets* and *Serges*.

Lib. wt. 589682½. And consequently that the Exportation of the said *Manufactures* in 1704 was decreased lib. 334527½.

He very unfortunately for himself produces (upon another Argument) No. 123. an Account of the Exportations for *Portugal* in

The British Merchant.

“ in 3 Years, 1703, 1704, 1705; whereby
 “ it will appear, tho’ the *Mercator* should not
 “ publish the Account of the Exports in 1703
 “ and 1705 separate from 1704, and tho’ pri-
 “ vate Merchants cannot procure any such
 “ Accounts from the Custom-house, that this
 “ lost Exportation was soon regained; or at
 “ least, that a great Exportation in 1702 and
 “ 1703 might, as usual in such Cases, lessen
 “ the Export in 1704.

“ For if, according to his Accounts,
 “ there was exported in 1703, 1704, and
 “ 1705,

Lib. Weight.

1625826 in Serges and Perpets :

Deduct 429325½ for what was exported in
 1704 : —————

“ And then 1196500½ was exported in
 “ the Rem. 5 1703 and 1705.

“ The Medium whereof for one Year is,
 “ lb. wt. 598250; and our Exports in 1702
 “ amounted only to lib. 602604: And if
 “ there was exported in those three Years,

Lib.

843736 in Stuffs, Druggets, and
 Says :

Deduct 160357 for what was exported in
 ————— 1704 :

“ And then 683379 was exported in 1703
 “ the Rem. 5 and 1705. lib.

The Medium whereof for one Year is 341689½
 Whereas our Exports in 1702 was but 321606

So there is gained here lb. wt per Ann. 20083½

“ H

Trade with Portugal.

“ It is then plain, by the *Mercator's* own
 “ Voucher, that our Trade to *Portugal* in Per-
 “ pets and Serges, and in Stuffs, and Drug-
 “ gets, and Says, was greater in 1703 and
 “ 1705 than in 1702, tho’ the Exportation
 “ was then designed for the Supply both of
 “ *Portugal* and *Spain*; and if our Merchants
 “ were disappointed therein, then it would
 “ have been no Wonder if the Exportations for
 “ the subsequent Years had been considerably
 “ lessened.

“ The Increase therefore of our Trade to
 “ *Portugal* in 1705 in Woollen Manufactures,
 “ must be owing to the Treaty made by Mr.
 “ *Methuen*: And tho’ the *Mercator* No. 123,
 “ says that that Increase since 1705 cannot
 “ be occasioned thereby, but has another visi-
 “ ble Cause to be assigned to it; yet I would
 “ fain know whether that judicious and wise
 “ Minister did not foresee the Increase
 “ of their *Brazil* Trade, and was therefore
 “ desirous that his Country should be sure to
 “ reap an Advantage thereby.

*Increase of
 our Trade to
 Portugal
 owing to Mr.
 Methuen's
 Treaty.*

“ But if to the 10493 Cloths which the
 “ *Mercator* allows to be exported for *Portugal*
 “ in 1704, as aforesaid, he should, as he
 “ ought to have done, add a very great Part
 “ of the 2409 Double Dozens,

“ 205 Single Dozens,

“ 1612 Kerseys,

“ 60 Pennistones,

“ which he says were exported in 1703, 1704,
 “ and 1705; he may continue, if he pleases,
 “ to assert that *England* had no Benefit by the
 “ Treaty, but there are none so stupid as to
 “ believe him.

“ But

0417

“ But to inſinuate that the Exportation in
 “ 1702 to *Portugal*, was a Standard and Mea-
 “ ſure to judge of what was gained or loſt by
 “ that Treaty, is a groſs Impoſition; and to
 “ over-ſet his own Argument, by producing
 “ a Custom-house Account, is as ridiculous :
 “ But ſome Men cannot be content, without
 “ giving others a juſt Occaſion to expoſe
 “ them.

I am, &c.

The firſt Thing obſervable in this Letter
 is, that in 1704, the Year next after the Trea-
 ty, our Exportations of Woollen Manufactures
 to *Portugal* (according to the *Mercator's*
 own Account) exceed thoſe of the Year 1702;
viz.

	l.	s.
2189 ¹ / ₄ Long Cloths, which at 10 l. per Cloth amount to	21892	10
5413 Short Cloths, at 8 l. per Cloth	43304	
2891 Span. Cloths, at 15 l. per Cloth	43372	10
2130 Minikin Bays, at 6 l. per Piece,	12783	
274 Single Bays, at 2 l. 10 s. per Piece,	685	
30939 Dozen Pair of Hoſe, at 20 s. per Dozen Pair,	30939	
883 Dozen of Hats, at 2 l. 10 s. per Dozen,	2207	10
531 Kerſeys, at 1 l. 15 s. per Piece,	929	5

In theſe Articles the Exportation in
 1704 was more than in 1702 156112 15

Our Exportations in 1702 more than in
 1704, were in the following Articles, *viz.*

7281

	l.	s.
7281 Double Bays, at 4 l. per Piece,	29124	
173279, 1-2 lib. wt. in Perpets and Serges, at 15 lib. per Piece, making 11552 Pieces, at 2 l. per Piece,	23104	
161247 lib. wt. in Says, Stuffs, and Druggets, at 10 l. per Piece, making Pieces 16125, at 2 l. per Piece,	32250	
	<hr/>	
In all	84478	

Which being deducted from the above-
 mention'd Sum, the Value of the
 Exportation in 1704 is greater than
 in 1702,

71744 15

So that the very Year which he has choſen next
 after the Treaty, exceeds in ſo great a Sum the
 beſt Year he could find out before.

My Correlpondent has very well obſerved,
 that our Increate of Bays, Perpets, Serges,
 Stuffs, Says, and Druggets in 1702, was ow-
 ing to an Attempt to ſerve *Spain* with thoſe
 Goods by the Way of *Portugal*; which fail-
 ing, our Exportation might well be leſſen'd in
 1704.

But that the *Mercator* ſhould ſo unwarily
 give us the Exportation of theſe Goods in 1705,
 by which it appears that we regained our loſt
 Exportation in 1704, and increaſed after the
 Treaty not only our Exportation of our Wool-
 len Cloths, but of the reſt of our Woollen
 Manufactures, was certainly the moſt unac-
 countable Blunder in the World. But we owe
 to this Blunder, that we have one Voucher
 more than we had before, that we encreaſed
 above 70000 l. in the Exportation of our
 Wool-

Woollen Manufactures the very next Year after that Treaty, and the Year after that in above double that Sum. When all the succeeding Years shall be brought to light, it then will appear that we have been ever since increasing; which the *Mercator* himself does not deny.

Mr. Methuen secur'd us a perpetual Share in the Mines of Brazil.

It is indeed true, that the *Mercator* assigns another Cause for this Increase, viz. The Discovery of the Golden Mines in *Brazil*: Yet how much is it owing to that able Minister who projected the *Portugal* Treaty, and by this has secured to us a perpetual Share in those Mines, by obliging the King of *Portugal* to admit into his Country our Woollen Cloths, and never to prohibit any of our Woollen Manufactures?

A Letter to the British Merchant, shewing the Progress of the Woollen Manufacture in Portugal, from the Commencement of it in 1684 to the Destruction of it in 1703 by Mr. Methuen's Treaty: And that our whole Exportation of Woollen Manufactures to Portugal depends on that Treaty.

April 5. 1714.

S I R,

BEFORE you proceed to a Confutation of the *Mercator's* Assertions, which are in Numb. 125. viz.

- 1. That the Increase of the *Portugal* Trade is not at all owing to the *Portugal* Treaty.
- 2. That

2. That no Contravention of that Treaty will occasion the Loss of any part of that Trade:

I beg of you, *Sir*, to give me leave to inform you of the State and Progress of the Woollen Manufactures in *Portugal*, till the time of the Treaty made by *Mr. Methuen* in 1703, which prov'd the Destruction of their whole Fabricks.

Mr. Methuen's Treaty destroy'd the Woollen Manufactures in Portugal.

In the Year 1681, one *Courteen*, an *Irishman*, a Servant in the Family of the then Queen of *England*, afterwards Queen *Dowager*, carried over several Clothiers and Baymakers into *Portugal*, where they presently set up the Manufactures both of Cloth and Bays, particularly at Port *Alegre* and *Covillhan*.

It was soon found that the Staple of their Wool was too short for Bays, therefore their Baymakers were soon dismiss'd.

Portugal Wool too short for Bays.

But they proceeded in the Manufacture of Cloth, and soon brought it to such Perfection, that in 1684, either in *June* or *July*, upon the *Conde d' Ereicera's* Project to increase their Exportations, and lessen the Consumption of foreign Manufactures, as well as to encourage their own, the King of *Portugal* made a Sumptuary Law to restrain several Excesses in his Kingdom; and among the rest, the Importation of all Foreign Woollen Cloths was prohibited.

The Reason why Woollen Cloth was prohibited in 1684.

Upon this the Foreign Merchants in that Country made several Remonstrances, but could by no means obtain that the Prohibition should be set aside; yet they gained a Year's

The British Merchant.

“ Years time to bring in those that were on
 “ the Way, but were obliged to re-ship what-
 “ soever should arrive after the time limited.
 “ The *Mercator*, in his Numb. above-ci-
 “ ted, has given a prodigious Exportation for
 “ that Year, especially of Woollen Cloths,
 “ which, by this, is very well accounted for ;
 “ a Licence to import for one Year, when
 “ for ever after they were to stand prohi-
 “ bited, might very well give occasion to that
 “ vast Exportation. It was an Exportation
 “ indeed of but one Year, but it was to sup-
 “ ply that Country for many Years to come.
 “ The *Portuguese* soon became so expert in
 “ the Manufacture of Woollen Cloths, that
 “ they sent home our *English* Clothiers in a
 “ distressed Condition, and the Runagado's
 “ were forced for some time to beg their Bread;
 “ which I desire you would inculcate to your
 “ Readers, that they may all know the Re-
 “ ward that is justly to be expected by such
 “ Betrayers of their Country.
 “ But the *Portuguese*, as I have said, went
 “ on successfully ; their Manufacture of Wool-
 “ len Cloths increased to that degree, that both
 “ *Portugal* and *Brazil* were wholly supply'd
 “ from their own Fabricks, and the Materials
 “ of this Manufacture were their own and
 “ *Spanish* Wool, and no other : so that the
 “ *Mercator* may know that other Nations have
 “ Wool as well as *Great Britain* and *Ireland* :
 “ 'tis but cheating our selves that all the Ma-
 “ terials for Woollen Cloths are of our own
 “ Growth : for I am afraid it will be found
 “ that *Portugal*, as well as *Spain*, has better
 “ Wool than ever grew in *England*. “ To

Portugal
 and Brazil
 supply'd by
 their own
 Fabricks.

Other Na-
 tions have
 Wool as
 well as us ;
 a Fallacy
 to think
 otherwise.

Trade with Portugal.

“ To make our selves some amends, and
 “ to evade the ill consequence of this Prohibi-
 “ tion of our Woollen Cloths, we presently
 “ introduced into *Portugal*, in their stead,
 “ Cloth-Serges and Cloth-Druggets ; against
 “ which their Fabrick of Cloth, which was
 “ then but in its Infancy, would have been as
 “ unable to contend, as against a free Impor-
 “ tation of our Woollen Cloths : Therefore,
 “ that their own Cloth might have no such
 “ thing as a Rival in their own Country, they
 “ proceeded to prohibit Foreign Cloth-Serges
 “ and Cloth-Druggets. This happened in a-
 “ bout one Year after the first Prohibition.
 “ It is ridiculous in the *Mercator* to deny
 “ this, and to call for a Copy of the *Prag-*
 “ *matica*, by which these Goods were prohi-
 “ bited. The Merchants seldom take Co-
 “ pies of the Prohibitions in any Contry,
 “ but they soon learn at their Peril what
 “ Goods are unlawful to be imported. A
 “ Gentleman that lived in *Portugal* affirm'd
 “ this very thing before the Parliament of
 “ *Great Britain* ; and I will defy the *Mercator*
 “ to produce any one Merchant that shall de-
 “ ny it.
 “ The *Mercator* therefore has recourse to
 “ an Argument, that there could be no Pro-
 “ hibition of Cloth-Serges and Cloth-Druggets,
 “ which is, that Serges and Druggets were af-
 “ ter that imported into *Portugal* as freely as
 “ they were before : which is nothing to his
 “ purpose ; for the Prohibition was not of all
 “ sorts of Serges and Druggets, but only of
 “ Cloth-Serges and Cloth-Druggets, which
 “ were

Reasons why
 Cloth Serges
 and Cloth
 Druggets
 were intro-
 duc'd into
 Portugal.

Cloth Serges and Cloth Druggets prohibited.

The Dutch import only fine Cloth to Portugal.

Dutch Importations of Cloth not equal to one sixtieth of English.

Portugal made Cloth enough for her own use and Brazil.

“ were then, after the Prohibition of Foreign
 “ Cloth, the only Rivals of their new Manu-
 “ facture.
 “ If it will be of any use to you in your Ar-
 “ gument, I must observe to you, that the
 “ Expence of Cloth in *Portugal* is of about
 “ two thirds Coarse to one third Fine: but
 “ this that follows I am very sure must be of
 “ use, viz. That the *Dutch* import only fine
 “ Cloth to *Portugal*, but yet not one twentieth
 “ part even of the fine Cloth that is imported
 “ thither by the *English*; so that I was perfect-
 “ ly amazed at the Confidence of the *Merca-*
 “ *tor*, when he affirmed, That the *Dutch* sell
 “ as much Cloth to *Portugal* as is equal to one
 “ third of all that is sold by *England*: whence
 “ he argued, That *Portugal* has broken her
 “ Treaty with us, by admitting *Dutch* Cloths
 “ without any Equivalent, when an Equiva-
 “ lent was given by *England* for this Liberty.
 “ A strange way of arguing this! But of this
 “ you may be assured, the Importation of
 “ *Dutch* Woollen Cloths into *Portugal* is not
 “ equal to one sixtieth part of all that are im-
 “ ported thither from *Great Britain*.
 “ Before I conclude, I must appeal to every
 “ Person that has lived in *Portugal* from the
 “ Year 1683 to 1703, during the time of
 “ the Prohibition, whether *Portugal* did not
 “ make Cloth enough for her self and *Brazil*?
 “ I am sure that every Man of Honesty and
 “ Experience must acknowledge this.
 “ Your Correspondent in your last has suf-
 “ ficiently demonstrated from one of the *Mer-*
 “ *cator*'s own Vouchers, that our Exportati-
 “ on

The Importance of the Fabrick. Destroy'd by Mr. Methu-en's Treaty.

“ on of our other Woollen Manufactures to
 “ *Portugal* has not decreased by taking off the
 “ Prohibition on our Woollen Cloths; and
 “ the *Mercator* himself has owned our Expor-
 “ tation of 10493 Cloths to *Portugal*, upon
 “ our taking off that Prohibition: whence
 “ then was *Portugal* supplied with such a Quan-
 “ tity during the Prohibition? Certainly from
 “ their own Fabrick; for if we did not de-
 “ crease in our Exportation of other Woollen
 “ Manufactures upon the Admission of our
 “ Woollen Cloths, either the *Portuguese* made
 “ so great a Quantity themselves before, or
 “ else as many of them went naked as are
 “ since clothed by those 10493 Pieces. And
 “ was it of no Importance to us to destroy such
 “ a Fabrick in *Portugal*? And is nothing due
 “ to the Memory of the Minister who opened
 “ such a Market for our Woollen Manufac-
 “ ture?
 “ The *Mercator* often makes us the Com-
 “ pliment of the Woollen Manufacture, and
 “ calls it our Wool, our Manufacture, our
 “ Woollen Manufacture, as if there were no
 “ such thing in the World but in *Great Bri-*
 “ *tain*. But the very Moment I am writing
 “ I have Mr. *Mun*'s Treatise, entitled *Eng-*
 “ *land's Treasure*, licensed by Lord *Arlington*,
 “ and printed in 1664, lying open before me;
 “ and in p. 19. I read the following Words:
 “ WE KNOW THAT OTHER NA-
 “ TIONS NEITHER WANT ART NOR
 “ MATERIALS TO THIS PERFOR-
 “ MANCE.

Other Nations have Materials for Cloth as well as we.

“ For my own part, I know very well
 “ that Wool is the Growth of other Countries
 “ as well as *England*, and in some Countries
 “ in much more Perfection than it is in *Eng-*
 “ *land* ; and they have Dying Goods too for
 “ perfecting their Manufacture, which are
 “ wanted here : So that I never hear of an At-
 “ tempt in any Place to set on foot the Wool-
 “ len Manufacture, but it gives me a Fit of
 “ Trembling for my native Country. And
 “ we see by this Attempt of the *Portuguese*,
 “ that in a very few Years time they were able
 “ to forbear yearly an hundred thousand Pounds
 “ value of our Woollen Cloths.
 “ This was their first Essay : But can we
 “ be so very fond as to think they would have
 “ stopt here ? or that they would not have
 “ proceeded afterwards to other parts of the
 “ Manufacture ? They would have gone on from
 “ Cloth to Druggets, from Druggets to Ser-
 “ ges, and so to other Things, till, one after
 “ another, at last all foreign Woollen Goods
 “ had been prohibited.
 “ Perhaps it may be objected, and very
 “ justly, that the Staple of the Wool in *Por-*
 “ *tugal* is not of sufficient length for Bays and
 “ several other Parts of the Woollen Manu-
 “ factures. But can we be sure that this De-
 “ fect might not have been cured in time, by
 “ removing their Sheep into the richest Pa-
 “ sture ? However, at the worst, if they had
 “ not been able to come up to the Perfection
 “ of *England*, yet they might resolve to be
 “ contented with their own to save an Expence
 “ of

The Portu-
 guese Fa-
 brick pre-
 vented
 100000 l.
 value of our
 English
 Cloths per
 Ann.

Which
 would have
 led them
 to other Ma-
 nufactures.

Shortness of
 their Wool
 might have
 been cured
 by their
 rich Pa-
 stures.

“ of so many hundred thousand Pounds *per An-*
 “ *num.*
 “ The *Mercator* would persuade us, that
 “ the *Portugal* Trade is not so very necessary
 “ to *England* as the *English* Manufactures are
 “ to *Portugal* ; and that the very Prohibition
 “ of them were enough to raise a Rebellion
 “ there against the Government, to cause a
 “ Revolt of the People from the Prince. This
 “ is the Doctrine of his *Numb.* 121. Was
 “ there any Danger of a Revolt upon the Pro-
 “ hibition of foreign Cloth in 1664 ? yet that
 “ Court was pestered with Remonstrances from
 “ their Manufacturers when the Prohibition
 “ was taken off pursuant to Mr. *Methuen's*
 “ Treaty. But the Thing was past, the
 “ Treaty was ratified, and their Looms were
 “ all ruined ; and yet there was no Tenden-
 “ cy to a Revolt, altho' so many People were
 “ deprived of their Employment in that Coun-
 “ try by taking off that Prohibition. People
 “ revolt for want of Bread, for want of Em-
 “ ployment and Subsistence ; but the Prohibi-
 “ tion of foreign Manufactures provides Em-
 “ ployment and Subsistence for a People, and
 “ saves the Expence of Money to foreign
 “ Countries : and is this a Reason for a Re-
 “ volt ?
 “ For taking from the People, by such
 “ means as these, the very occasion of revolt-
 “ ing, seems to be the Thing which the *Conde*
 “ *d' Ereicera* had most at heart, and I am o-
 “ bliged to consider him as the *Colbert* of his
 “ native Country. He was undoubtedly a very
 “ good

Remon-
 strances in
 Portugal on
 Mr. Me-
 thuen's
 Treaty.

Prohibition
 of foreign
 Manufac-
 tures pro-
 vides Em-
 ployment for
 the Poor.

“ good Minister for *Portugal*, but a very bad
 “ one for *England*. 'Tis well for us he was
 “ not in being at the Time of our Treaty
 “ with that Country. If he had, I fear it
 “ would not have pass'd, and the Enemies of
 “ *England* would have wanted this Occasion to
 “ complain of Mr. *Methuen*.

“ Mr. *Methuen's* Treaty, by taking off the
 “ Prohibition of *British* Cloths, and by pro-
 “ viding, that neither these, nor any of the
 “ *British* Woollen Manufactures in *Portugal*,
 “ should hereafter be prohibited, was the im-
 “ mediate Ruin of all the Fabricks in that
 “ Country, and opened to us a Market by
 “ the *Mercator's* own shewing for above
 “ 10000 of our Cloths, above the Value of
 “ 100000 *l. per Annum*. So much we were
 “ present Gainers in the single Article of
 “ Cloths. How then could the *Mercator* have
 “ the Face to assert that we got nothing by the
 “ Treaty?

“ But this was not all: The Success of
 “ *Portugal* in that one Fabricken might have
 “ carry'd her on to others, till at last every
 “ foreign Woollen Manufacture should have
 “ been prohibited. This is provided against
 “ by the Treaty. *Portugal* is never to prohi-
 “ bit any of our Woollen Manufactures, till
 “ we shall set her at liberty to do this by ex-
 “ acting more from the Wines of that Coun-
 “ try than two Thirds of the Duties we take
 “ from those of *France*. The *Mercator* then,
 “ if he pleases, may reckon that we have
 “ gained nothing by that Treaty, or gained
 “ only

“ only the Admission of our Woollen Cloths
 “ into *Portugal*; but I must inform him, that
 “ the Prohibition of all our Woollen Manu-
 “ factures is prevented: So that our whole Ex-
 “ portation, whatsoever it is, ought to be
 “ placed to the Merit of that Treaty. And, I
 “ believe, when some of the last Years En-
 “ tries shall be given in from the Custom-
 “ house, it will appear that our whole Exports
 “ of Woollen Manufactures to *Portugal* a-
 “ mount to 5 or 600000 *l. per Annum*.

I am, S I R, &c.

The 5 or 600000 *l. per Ann.* at the close of
 my Correspondent's Letter is far short of a Mil-
 lion Sterling, which has been sometimes said to
 be the Profit of the *Portugal* Trade; but it ne-
 ver has been pretended that the whole was gained
 by our Woollen Manufactures. It has been
 said that so much was the whole Gain upon the
 Ballance of all the Exports and Imports be-
 tween both Nations; that a great part of this
 was owing to the *Portugal* Treaty, which en-
 abled us to export so many Woollen Manufac-
 tures; and that a Treaty so very beneficial de-
 served to be cultivated with all imaginable
 Care.

*A Million
 per Ann.
 gain'd by
 Mr. Me-
 thuen's
 Treaty.*

My Correspondent would have me incul-
 cate to my Readers, how deservedly ill our
 People were rewarded, who had been instru-
 mental in setting up the Manufacture of our
 Cloth in *Portugal*: but I must tell him that those
 People deserve not quite so much to be blam'd

as the Men, who, by letting in Inundations of foreign Manufactures upon us, force our People out into foreign Countries to seek their Bread.

Mr. Methuen compar'd to the Conde d' Ereicera in Portugal, and Mr. Colbert in France.

The last thing is, if the *Conde d' Ereicera* of Portugal, and Mr. Colbert in France, deserve so much Honour in their respective Countries, for erecting new Manufactures for the Employment and Subsistence of their Countrymen, certainly the very greatest Honour must be due to Mr. Methuen in England for his projecting a Treaty, by which he has gained and secured to us so vast a Vent for our Woollen Manufactures, and so vast an Employment and Subsistence for our People.



O F



O F T H E
Trade with SPAIN.



OUR Spanish Trade has suffer'd very much from the Influence France has had, of late Years, over that Kingdom; it has been such, as even to change their antient Habits, an alteration once thought impracticable. This has fallen very heavy on our Colchester Bays, a Trade so considerable formerly to that Country. With their Habits the French have introduced their Manufactures, to the great detriment of ours. But our Trade now seems to have had its fatal Blow from the Treaty of Commerce, by which amongst other Mistakes, the antient Privileges of the British Nation are given up; and as we formerly gain'd a more considerable Ballance from thence than from any other Country, by the Exports of our Woollen Manufactures, France has so beaten us out of that Trade, that we now even pay a Ballance to Spain, which Ballance centers in France. This is evidently made out in the following Letter.

The French Habits and Manufactures used in Spain are our loss.

E 4

A

The British Merchant.

A Letter concerning the Spanish Trade.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

Wonder you suffer the Mercator to run on as he does upon the Spanish Trade; he has delivered as gross things upon this, as upon our Trade with France. And it is in my Opinion your business to undeceive his Readers, as well in the one Case as the other.

In his Arguments about our Trade with Spain, he lays down as a Maxim, That if France could have supplied them with Manufactures, she would never have permitted that Spain should have solicited the opening a Trade with us; and therefore it shews of consequence, that if Spain wanted a Trade with us then, we shall much more easily carry it on in time of Peace.

The Interest of Spain to trade with us.

The Interest of Spain was certainly to open a Trade with us, for by that means they got a Consumption of their Wine, Oil, Fruit, Cochineal, and other Commodities, some of which no Nation takes off but us; and tho' France takes off some equally with us, yet it was the Interest of Spain to have several Buyers at the Market.

Now having shewn it was the Interest of Spain to open a Trade with us, or else they had had no Consumption for several of their Commodities; it might be expected

“ I

Trade with Spain.

I should shew the Advantage we had by that Trade.

I am sure all the eminent Spanish Merchants were of Opinion, that it could be of no other Advantage to Great Britain, than by supplying us with Wool, and dying Goods which we wanted; they did not promise themselves an equal Trade with that Country, or that we should sell her as great a value of Goods as we were likely to buy from thence; but, as we had then hopes of regaining Spain to the House of Austria, it had been no good Policy to sour the Spaniards by our Refusal of their Product, but rather give way at present on a future View.

Spanish Wool and dying Goods our chief benefit by the Spanish Trade.

I appeal then to all the Spanish Traders, whether Spain has not had an Over-ballance against us; and if so, it could not be the Nation's Benefit to open a Trade that must exhaust us: for all Over-ballance of Trade must be paid with Money.

Spain overballances us.

I am sure no one of our Commodities for the Expence of the Spanish Market, advanced on opening the Trade with Spain, which shews the Spaniards had no great occasion for our Commodities; on the contrary theirs, which otherwise must have perished in their hands, not only found a Consumption here, but at very good Prices.

Our Commodities did not advance on opening the Spanish Trade in 1713.

But let any one look back to the Peace of Reswick in 1697, and he will find, that notwithstanding we had been in Amity with Spain during that War, and consequently carried on a Trade with some difficulty by

But they did on the Peace of Reswick in 1697.

E 5.

“ Convoys

0425

“ Convoys and Runners ; yet on that Peace,
“ as soon as we were able to go free, and
“ Freights and Insurance were very easy and
“ reasonable, all English Goods proper for the
“ Spanish Markets advanced very considera-
“ bly.

“ For instance, Colchester Bays rose from
“ 17 d. to about 24 d. the Flemish Ell. I de-
“ sire the Mercator to tell me what they are
“ risen since this Peace with Spain.

“ If he cannot shew that our Goods are ad-
“ vanced, can he pretend the Spaniards want
“ them? Does not all Demand necessarily
“ cause an Advance of the Price of Goods?
“ Now I challenge all that Trade to Spain, to
“ shew one Commodity advanced, one Com-
“ modity wanted in the Spanish Markets, of
“ the Growth or Product of England.

“ If the Spaniards wanted them in 1697, as
“ appears by the Advance, is it not plain they
“ do not want them now? And is it not a
“ necessary Consequence, if they do not want
“ our Manufactures, that they are supplied
“ from some other Country?

“ Can any thing then be more certain than
“ that France has got that Trade? Or else let
“ the Mercator tell who has it; or can the
“ Spaniards live without either their Manufac-
“ tures or ours? It is equal to England which
“ of the two is the present Case? since the
“ Consequence is what I assert, we have a lo-
“ sing Trade to Spain, by taking off more of
“ their Commodities than they take off of
“ ours.

“ How-

Spain sup-
ply'd by
some other
Countries.

England
loses by tak-
ing Spanish
Commodi-
ties.

“ However, It's certain our Trade to Spain
“ is the Benefit of France; for since as above,
“ none of our Products are demanded there,
“ and that France takes off so little of theirs,
“ the Over-balance that we pay must conse-
“ quently center in France.

The Bal-
lance we
lose now to
Spain centers
in France.

“ For France, by permitting the Spaniards
“ to trade with us (and I shall never think it
“ otherwise than a Permission) will have this
“ Advantage, by our taking off the Products
“ of Spain, that we shall enrich the Spaniards,
“ without which they would be reduced to
“ Poverty and Misery; and in the mean time
“ France reaps the Benefit of their Trade,
“ which they could not do, did not we sub-
“ sist those People by taking off their Pro-
“ ducts.

“ The Mercator, to help out his Assertion
“ that Spain wanted our Products, insinuates
“ a great Trade might have been driven by
“ way of Lisbon.

The Mercator's insinuation of a great Trade to Spain thro' Portugal false.

“ If by Land, all Goods must pay 23 per
“ Cent. Custom: Indeed the Valuation is fa-
“ vourable, but then they must pay 10 per
“ Cent. more on the Frontiers of Portugal, be-
“ fore they can be carried into Spain.

“ If by Sea, they may be landed in Fran-
“ quia, and thence reshipped, paying only 4
“ per Cent. Duty; but then Warehouse room,
“ Expence of Officers to see they are reship-
“ ped, and not brought ashore again, Freight,
“ Insurance and Commission, fall heavy on
“ the Goods.

“ So that neither of these ways would any
“ one take to send Goods to Spain, after we
“ might

The British Merchant.

“ might send directly; and I will maintain,
“ not the one hundredth part of the Goods
“ sent to Portugal was, ever reshipped for
“ Spain.

“ But could it be proved, that under the a-
“ bove Difficulties we did send Goods that way
“ for Spain, would it not shew what extra-
“ vagant Prices they must sell for? And when
“ we could go directly, would not a Demand
“ have appeared?

“ And now that we can go freely and un-
“ molested, (if this were the Case) would
“ there not be in Spain a vast Demand for
“ English Manufactures and Product?

“ But so far are we from this, that Let-
“ ters from Cadiz gave this melancholy Ac-
“ count:

Spain takes
French
Cloth in-
stead of
ours.

“ That for the Woollen Manufacture of Eng-
“ land, there is no talk of it, and that particu-
“ larly for Cloth: it's wish'd the Mercator and
“ his Friends saw the French Cloth they had
“ there; which if they did, they would believe
“ the French could make Cloth.

“ But I am, Sir, so far from believing any
“ thing will be a Conviction, that I answered
“ the Letter, (for it was written to me, with
“ a Proposal to send me some of the Cloth)
“ that it was in vain, the Spirit of Delusion
“ and Infatuation was got amongst us; and
“ whoever would not deliver up himself with-
“ out reserve, was branded with Faction.

“ No Demand of our Goods in Spain! no
“ Advance of their Price! Here is an Ar-
“ gument,

Trade with Spain.

“ gument, that they are not wanted in that
“ Country. But an Accident which has late-
“ ly happen'd, shews that the Privileges of our
“ Merchants are no longer regarded by the
“ Spaniards. At Alicant, 13 English Ships
“ are seized to carry Stores for reducing Ma-
“ jorca and Catalonia. English Ships to reduce
“ the People of Majorca and Catalonia, who
“ came in against King Philip upon our Invi-
“ tation! What Offence have these poor
“ People committed against us, that we should
“ be made assisting to their Calamities? That
“ French Ships should assist King Philip to re-
“ duce them, were but reasonable, since they
“ had declared War against that Nation. Who
“ can refrain from pitying those brave Peo-
“ ple, whose only Crime is, that they fought
“ for us, and for the Liberties left them by
“ their Predecessors, against Slavery and Op-
“ pression? And how must Freeborn English
“ Men, whose greatest Happiness is their Li-
“ berty, resent the Spaniards taking our very
“ Ships, to oppress a Freeborn People, and
“ our Friends?

The Spaniards have no regard to the Privileges of our Merchants, or Impositions they put on them, but seize our Ships to serve against the Catalans.

“ Yet this is the Case. But to go on, to
“ shew how this Seizure must affect our
“ Trade: The Cargoes of these Ships were
“ bought, and lie perishing. The Ships
“ freighted, and the Merchant disappointed of
“ his Returns; and when the Spaniards shall
“ have no farther Occasion for the Ships, they
“ may then take in their Cargoes, the Fruit
“ rotten, the Wines soured by being brought
“ home in the Heat, the Principal lost, and
“ the Merchant brought in Debt to pay
“ Freight

“ Freight and Customs. In the mean time,
 “ the *Spaniards* lose nothing ; they have sold
 “ their Goods, and we must bring them off as
 “ well as we can. Perhaps the Owners may
 “ be paid for the Use of these Ships by the
 “ *Spaniard*, but what Satisfaction will he make
 “ to our poor Merchants ? Does not this suf-
 “ ficiently demonstrate, that even *Spain* does
 “ not care what Impositions and Hardships are
 “ put upon the *English* Nation ?

We pay on
 Overbal-
 lance to
 Spain.

“ The Over-balance paid by us upon our
 “ Trade to *Spain* is a demonstration of our lo-
 “ sing by that Trade ; but this Seizure of our
 “ Ships is another Instance of our loss by our
 “ trading with that Country, and is an ill
 “ Precedent to all Countries with which we
 “ have any Commerce.

Silver
 bought in
 Spain with
 Bills of Ex-
 change and
 Notes.

“ Perhaps it may be argued here, If our
 “ Trade with *Spain* is such as I have repre-
 “ sented, how comes it to pass that we bring
 “ Silver thence ? I answer, Silver is a Com-
 “ modity, and bought and sold as other Com-
 “ modities, both in *Spain* and *England* ; and
 “ it happening to bear a greater Price here
 “ than it did in *Spain*, some Parcels were
 “ brought from thence, which we wanted for
 “ Re-exportation. This made us here, either
 “ remit Bills of Exchange from thence to *Ca-*
 “ *diz*, upon *Portugal* to *Italy*, to be negotia-
 “ ted there ; or else we ordered our Corres-
 “ pondents at *Cadiz* to draw upon us by
 “ the way of *Italy*, *Portugal*, or *Holland*,
 “ and to send us the Produce in Pieces of
 “ Eight. So that we did not pay for that Sil-
 “ ver

“ ver by the Goods we sent to *Spain*, but by
 “ parting with so much of that Ballance we
 “ should otherwise have received from those
 “ other Nations.

“ If this was not the case, the *Mercator*
 “ would do well to explain why we brought
 “ in Pieces of Eight from that Country, when
 “ they were hereabove five Shillings and two
 “ Pence *per* Ounce, and could not at that
 “ price be coin'd in our Mint ; and why they
 “ ceased to be imported upon their falling down
 “ to that Price.

“ I ought not here to pass over an Accident
 “ that brought a vast quantity of Pieces of
 “ Eight. One of our Men of War happen-
 “ ing to be at *Cadiz*, took them in, and sign-
 “ ed Bills to deliver them at *Amsterdam*, and
 “ was to have $1\frac{1}{2}$ *per Cent.* Freight ; where-
 “ as the Freight is but *1 per Cent.* for *Eng-*
 “ *land* : But the Lords of the Admiralty not
 “ suffering her to proceed, the Money was
 “ landed here, and the Insurances becoming
 “ void, the Proprietors were forced to send o-
 “ ver their Bills of Lading from *Amsterdam*,
 “ receive their Money here, and pay half *per*
 “ *Cent.* extraordinary Freight. I mention
 “ this for two Reasons ; one, because the
 “ *Mercator* would have exulted, had he known
 “ so much Money was imported from *Spain*,
 “ and not known that it was not for our Ac-
 “ count ; the other is, That of late he takes
 “ care to tell us what Silver is exported for
 “ *Holland* : Which, let his Pretences be what
 “ they will, is not done without design. But
 “ this Fact will shew that this whole Sum might
 “ be

Pieces of
 Eight
 brought bi-
 tber for the
 account of
 the Dutch.

“ be re-exported to *Holland*, because it was
“ indeed theirs from the beginning; not be-
“ cause we lost by the ballance of our Trade
“ with that Country.

Formerly the
Ballance of
Trade we
got by Spain
greater than
by any other
Country.

“ I think I have fully prov'd, that we have
“ hitherto a disadvantageous Trade with *Spain*,
“ since the Ballance of Trade is against us,
“ which formerly was the greatest we receiv'd
“ from any Country. I have also shewn,
“ That *Spain* did not open a Trade with us
“ for any want of our Product, but to get a
“ Consumption of their own. I should be
“ glad, for my Country's sake, any Man
“ could shew me the contrary.

I am, S I R, &c.

Another Letter concerning the Spanish Trade,
shewing, That by the course of Exchange the
Ballance of that Trade is against us.

To the BRITISH MERCHANT.

S I R,

The Merca-
tor's Evasi-
on of Facts.

“ I Should not think my self obliged to give
“ any Answer to the *Mercator*, since he,
“ instead of answering to any one Fact laid
“ down in my Letter to you about the *Spanish*
“ Trade, has recourse to his usual Custom,
“ in calling those Assertions Lyes and Forge-
“ ries, tho' he was sure some of them were
“ Facts, that we need not go farther than the
“ Exchange of *London* to disprove him; he
“ knows he has Profelytes that will take him
“ on trust, and never be at the pains to see
“ how

“ how he imposes on them. It has been what
“ has serv'd a Party of Men in greater stead
“ than all the solid Reasons or Arguments in
“ the World could do. To give insufficient
“ Answers would be a means to let his Rea-
“ ders know, that there are Arguments against
“ himself which can never be answered. It is
“ therefore the Interest of the *Mercator* not to
“ take off the Scales from the Eyes of his
“ blind Followers, and then he can lead them
“ where he pleases.

“ Let but a Man offer to shew a true state
“ of the Trade of the Nation, if it interferes
“ in the least with the Treaty of Commerce
“ with *France*; it is Plotting and Faction,
“ that is the Trade we must be fond of, if
“ we will be esteemed good Subjects, and all
“ the Trades we have in *Europe* must be made
“ a Sacrifice to that Treaty. If we say the
“ *French* interfere with us in the *Spanish*, *I-*
“ *talian*, *Portugal*, and *Turkey* Trades, and
“ are actually undermining us at this present
“ in those Trades, it is called Faction. If
“ we say that all Letters from *Spain* say there
“ is no Demand for the Manufacture and Pro-
“ duct of *England*, it is called Design to a-
“ muse People with Falsities about the Trade
“ these Men are fond of.

“ How easy and much more convincing to
“ ingenious and understanding Men, would
“ it have been for the *Mercator* to have shew'd
“ that the Manufactures of *England*, and Pro-
“ ducts that used to be expended in the *Spa-*
“ *nish* Markets, had risen on the Peace, the
“ natural Consequence of a Demand? and to
“ have

No Demand
for English
Goods in
Spain.

“ have enquired of the *Spanish* Merchants,
 “ whether the Factors of the several Ports of
 “ *Spain* gave them Encouragement by the De-
 “ mand there was of our Goods? But as he
 “ knew the Facts were all against him, he an-
 “ swers, They are Lyes and Forgeries, and
 “ bids the *British Merchant* prove they are
 “ Truths, without offering one convincing,
 “ or indeed any Argument, but what is false
 “ in Fact; as he did in saying, Silver being
 “ under the Standard, we were coining Silver
 “ in the *Tower*; which I think my last plainly
 “ proved was false.

“ I asserted, That we had a losing Trade
 “ to *Spain*, by taking off more of their Pro-
 “ duct than they take of ours: He answers,
 “ It is false, and says, they that assert it must
 “ prove it.

The course
 of Exchange
 a sure Proof
 where the
 Ballance of
 Trade lies.

“ The stated Maxim among Merchants, to
 “ know whether the Trade be for or against
 “ us, is to have recourse to the course of the
 “ Exchange. It is a Nicety many of our Mer-
 “ chants themselves are unacquainted with;
 “ yet as the Exchange holds the Ballance of
 “ Trade, so as that is for us or against us, it
 “ immediately decides the Point.

How to
 judge of the
 Par of Ex-
 change.

“ If the Exchange be above the Par of the
 “ Money of the Country we trade with, it is
 “ a plain Argument that the Ballance is on
 “ their side; for no Man will bring Silver
 “ from a Country, when the Exchange is
 “ more favourable than the Coin. If a Coun-
 “ try takes off more of our Commodities than
 “ we take of theirs, they must pay the Bal-
 “ lance in Money; and in such a case the
 “ Exchange

“ Exchange must necessarily be under the par
 “ of the Money, for there can never be found
 “ sufficient Bills of Exchange; and if there
 “ are Bills, they cannot be on *England*, but
 “ must be on some Country with which *Spain*
 “ has an Over-balance; and then the Debt
 “ being removed to that Country, there the
 “ Ballance will be decided, according as we
 “ over or under trade that Country.

“ That the Fact of the Exchange decides
 “ the Ballance of all Countries, with whom
 “ there are Exchanges, I think is very plain
 “ from what I have already said. But I will
 “ give two Instances of an Over-balance and
 “ an Under-balance, which will be convicti-
 “ on enough to any understanding Trader on
 “ the Exchange.

Over-bal-
 lance and
 under-bal-
 lance of
 Exchange
 demonstrat-
 ed.

“ The Trade to *Portugal* has been of such
 “ a Magnitude, that it is notorious to the
 “ World we have had a vast Importation of
 “ Gold from thence. As our Trade increased,
 “ so the Exchange declined; and in some
 “ Years when Corn was cheap here, and dear
 “ in *Portugal*, our Ballance was so very great,
 “ that notwithstanding we paid subsidies to the
 “ King of *Portugal*, and paid for Troops,
 “ there were also vast Sums for supplies of our
 “ Armies in *Valencia* and *Catalonia*; yet still
 “ the Over-balance lay so much against them,
 “ that the Exchange has been at 5 s. 2 d.
 “ and 5 s. a Millree; now a Millree in *Por-
 tuguese* Gold, weighs according to the *Eng-
 lish* Standard, 5 s 9 d. so that there was
 “ 10, 12, and 15 per Cent. difference be-
 “ tween the Exchange and the intrinsic value
 “ of the Money. “ In

“ In some Years, when we had a want of
 “ Corn our selves, and therefore could not
 “ supply *Portugal*, the Exchange immediately
 “ found the want of so great an Over-balance,
 “ and rose to 5 s. 4 d. 5 s. 5 d. and 5 s. 6 d.
 “ At which last Price in time of War, Gold
 “ would not turn to account; nor now, con-
 “ sidering that there is three *per Cent.* at least
 “ Charges without Insurance, and that 5 *per*
 “ *Cent.* will make 5 s. 6 d. cost 5 s. 9 d.
 “ which is the Standard of the Millree; so
 “ that there is but 2 *per Cent.* for the Time
 “ and Hazard.

“ Our Trade to *Holland* during the War,
 “ as on the contrary Foot, notwithstanding
 “ our vast Over-balance against them in Com-
 “ modities: yet by our paying such a Sum to
 “ subsist the Armies in *Flanders*, and Subsidies
 “ to several Princes, the balance lay during
 “ the whole War against us; so that as fast
 “ almost as we brought Gold from *Portugal*,
 “ it was carried over to pay the Balance.

“ The Exchange immediately found the Bal-
 “ lance of Trade, and went declining from
 “ 36 s. 8 d. and 37 s. as it was in the Peace;
 “ and as our Expence increased abroad, by
 “ augmenting the number of Troops in our
 “ Pay, so the Exchange went declining as the
 “ Balance against us was greater. And tho’
 “ in some Exigencies it was at 32 s. 6 d. and
 “ 33 s. yet that being but casual, it came to
 “ Medium of 33 s. 8 d. and 34 s. So that
 “ there was 9 *per Cent.* difference between the
 “ time of Peace, and time of War; and since
 “ the Cessation, and our drawing off our
 “ Troops,

“ Troops, as our Expence went decrea-
 “ sing, so the Exchange went advancing,
 “ and has come to 36 s. and 36 s. 4 d. but
 “ not yet arrived to the height it was before the
 “ War; for to this Day we have subsisted
 “ Troops in *Flanders*, and very lately made a
 “ Remit of 40000 l. for the subsisting the
 “ Troops still left. And when *Dunkirk* is de-
 “ molished and all our Troops withdrawn,
 “ our Over-balance will increase, and conse-
 “ quently the Exchange advance.

“ Thus having plainly proved, that the Ex-
 “ change is the Standard by which you may
 “ know where the Balance lies, it must
 “ now remain only to prove, that the Ex-
 “ change in *Spain* has hitherto been above the
 “ Standard.

*Exchange
 in Spain
 above the
 Standard.*

“ Tho’ the Exchange has been in *Spain* at
 “ 52 d. *per* piece of Eight, yet it has also
 “ been at 50 d. So we will take the *Medium*
 “ of 51 d. Tho’ I could prove that several
 “ Quantities of pieces of Eight which were
 “ brought into *England*, cost the Importer
 “ 52 d. and some by Draughts made on *Hol-*
 “ *land*, more.

*The differ-
 ence of
 1000 pieces
 of Eight
 imported,
 and 1000
 pieces of
 Eight re-
 mitted by
 bill of
 Exchange.*

“ Now 1000 Pieces, remitted by Bills at
 “ 51 d. *per* Piece of Eight, is 212 l. 10 s. Sterl.
 “ 1000 Pieces of Eight will weigh 870
 “ Ounces. And tho’ some were sold that
 “ came by Men of War from *Cadiz* at 5 s.
 “ 2 d. *per* Ounce, yet others were sold at 5 s.
 “ 4 d. Farthing: But the *East-India* Compa-
 “ ny, who were the greatest Purchasers, fixed
 “ the Price at 5 s. 3 d. for what they bought;
 “ and after they had bought the Quantity they
 “ wanted,

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“ wanted, they gave liberty to the private
“ Traders to buy, who before they had made
“ up their Quantities, advanced it to 5 s. 4 d.
“ and 4 d. Farthing.

	l. s. d.
870 Ounces, sold here at 5 s. 3 d. per oz. is	228 7 6
Premio to purchase Pieces of Eight in Spain, 5 pct. —	50
Carrying on Shipboard, and Risique at 2 pct. —	20
Commission 1 pct. —	10
Freight 1 pct. —	10
Insurance 1 pct. —	10
Commission where landed, and Charges to London	10

110 ps at 51 d. 23 7 6

205

Loss by bringing 1000 pcs of 8 from
Spain in Specie, which have not pro-
duced so much as if remitted by Bill
of Exchange — — — — — 7 10

212 10

“ So that if they bought their Pieces of 8 at
“ above $1\frac{1}{4}$ pct. Premio, a Bill of Exchange
“ was more profitable. Now I do affirm,
“ That the major Part of the Pieces of 8
“ that we imported, cost from 3 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ pct.
“ Premio.

“ Suppose then, they had carried it to the
“ Mint at 5 s. 2 d. the Loss would be 2 pct.
“ more than the above calculation. I appeal
“ therefore to any reasonable Man, if the
“ Pieces of 8 thus imported, could be the Bal-
“ lance

Trade with Spain.

“ lance of our Trade? Had it been, that
“ would necessarily have shew'd it self in this
“ Trade, as well as in the Facts I lay down
“ in that of Portugal and Holland.

“ So that until the Mercator can shew the
“ Exchange in Spain is under the Par of the
“ Silver, I do assert and affirm, the Ballance
“ of that Trade is against us.

“ And notwithstanding the Entries in the
“ Custom-house, yet if the Goods do not find
“ Expence at a Market, it will be no Proof.
“ When they do, and that Spain does con-
“ sume more of our Imports, than we export
“ from them, the Exchange will be in our Fa-
“ vour, and then I will join Issue with the
“ Mercator, we have an Over-ballance.

“ And tho' the Mercator treats the Notion
“ of an Over-ballance against us with Spain as
“ a Novel, yet it is no Novelty to the Traders
“ thither: And I believe I may justly affirm,
“ That none of the Pieces of 8 that came
“ home, were the Product of the Manufactures
“ of England: If so, I would desire the Merca-
“ tor to shew how we came by them, or whe-
“ ther he thinks we could purchase them with-
“ out an Over-ballance of Trade with some
“ other Country? if not, we must pay back
“ as many Ounces in Spain, as we brought
“ in.

“ And tho' he exclaims at this Assertion,
“ as started for some Design, yet I am very
“ well assured, that in the Hearing before the
“ late House of Commons, against the Trea-
“ ty of Commerce with France, this Over-
“ ballance of Spain against us was then asser-
“ ted;

The British Merchant.

“ ted ; and the Person that spoke, appealed
 “ to the whole Body of the Traders to *Spain*,
 “ That tho’ some Ships were arrived, and o-
 “ thers on the way home with Pieces of 8, yet
 “ not one Bag of them was the Produce of the
 “ Manufactures of *England*.
 “ This, had it been a Novel Notion, or
 “ not Fact, would have certainly met with a
 “ Contradiction : We had then had about 10
 “ Months Truce with *Spain* ; and what
 “ proves that there is no Alteration in the
 “ Trade in our Favour, the Exchange was a-
 “ gainst us then, and has continued so ever
 “ since.
 “ I question not but this will convince any
 “ Man, who understands the Nature of Trade,
 “ that the Exchange is what will always, and
 “ in all Countries, decide where the Ballance
 “ lies.

I am, S I R, &c.

I shall here make some Observations on the Course of Exchange, and shew how the Course of Exchange between two Countries proves which of them pays the Ballance upon Trade, and then give another Letter from the same Correspondent that sent the two last, shewing that Silver is a Commodity bought for our Money, and not always for our Manufactures.

Our Ballance of Trade. **I**F this excellent Letter is not in a Stile too mercantile for my common Readers, they may learn from it the way of deciding whether the

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the Ballance of our Trade with any particular Country, with which we have an Exchange, be either for us or against us, or whether we buy or sell the Over-balance of Goods and Merchandizes, and are accordingly to pay or receive the Ballance in Gold or Silver.

This the Author proposes to be done by the Course of Exchange between two Countries, which is a way of paying the Debts due from each to the other, by exchanging the Debtors of both Countries, as far as the Debts of the one are sufficient to answer and discharge the Debts of the other : perhaps this may be rendered intelligible by some common Instances.

To be judged of by Exchange.

Suppose the Tenant in *Wiltshire* is to pay for Rent 100 *l.* to his Landlord in *London* ; and the *Woollen-Draper* in *London* is to pay the like Sum to his *Clothier* in *Wiltshire* : Both these Debts may be paid, without transmitting one Farthing from the one Place to the other, by Bills of Exchange, or by exchanging one Debtor for the other, thus : That is, the Tenant may receive his Landlord's Order to pay 100 *l.* to the *Clothier* in the Country ; and the *Woollen-Draper* may receive his *Clothier's* Order to pay the like Sum to the Landlord in Town. These two Orders are properly call'd Bills of Exchange ; the Debts are exchanged by them, that is, the *Woollen-Draper* in Town, instead of the Tenant in the Country, is become Debtor to the Landlord ; and the Tenant in the Country, instead of the *Woollen-Draper* in Town, is become Debtor to the *Clothier* : and when these Orders are comply'd with, the two Debts between *London* and the Country are discharged,

Instances of it, and the Nature of Bills of Exchange.

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charged, without sending one Shilling in *Specie* from the one to the other.

In like manner, the Warehouse-Man in *London* is indebted in 100 *l.* for Stuffs, to the *Weaver* in *Norwich*; and the *Linen-Draper* in *Norwich* is indebted in the like Sum to the *Hamborough* Merchant in *London*; both these Debts may be paid by Bills of Exchange, or by the Exchange of one Debtor for the other, by placing one Debtor in the other's stead; that is, the Warehouse Man may receive the Order of his *Weaver*, to pay 100 *l.* to the *Hamborough* Merchant; and the *Linen-Draper* may receive the Order of the *Hamborough* Merchant to pay the like Sum to the *Weaver*. These Orders are Bills of Exchange; the Debtor in one Place, is chang'd for the Debtor in the other: and thus both Debts may be paid, without sending one single Shilling in *Specie* from the one City to the other.

If the Debts reciprocally due between *London* and *Norwich*, are equal; whether they are 100 *l.* or 10000 *l.* they may be all discharg'd in this manner by Bills of Exchange, without sending any Money in *Specie* from the one to the other.

Nature of a Ballance in Trade.

But if the Debts due from both Places are not equal, then only the same Quantity of Debts on both sides, can be paid by Bills of Exchange. The Ballance must be sent in Money from the City, from whence the greatest Sums are due. For Example: If by the Trade between *London* and *Norwich*, the former owes 10000 *l.* to the latter, and the latter no more than 9000 *l.* to the former; it is manifest, that only

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only the Debts of 9000 *l.* on each Side, can be discharg'd by Bills of Exchange; the Ballance of 1000 *l.* must be sent either from *London*, or some other Place indebted to *London*, to even the Account between both the Cities.

Let us suppose then, that to send and insure 1000 *l.* in *Specie* to *Norwich*, would cost 5 *l.* or 10 *s. per Cent.* which of the Debtors in *London* would be willing to be at this Charge? It is natural to believe that everyone will endeavour to shift it off from himself, that every one will endeavour to pay his Money by a Bill of Exchange; it is natural to believe that every one, rather than stand the Cost and Hazard of sending 100 *l.* in *Specie*, would pay 100 *l.* 5 *s.* in *London* for a Debtor in *Norwich*, upon condition that the *Norwich* Debtor should pay 100 *l.* for him in that City. By which means the *Norwich* Debt would pay his Debt of 100 *l.* in *London* with less than that Sum, while the *London* Debtor would be obliged to give more than that Sum for the Payment of 100 *l.* in *Norwich*. And if such for Years together were the Course of Exchange between *London* and *Norwich*, there could be no question to which of the two Cities a Sum must be sent in *Specie* to pay the Ballance; that City undoubtedly pays the Ballance that gives more than the Par, that undoubtedly receives the Ballance that gives less than the Par for Bills of Exchange. The Course of Exchange in this Case would sufficiently decide that the Ballance of Trade is on the side of that City that procures Bills of exchange upon the most easy Terms.

The occasion of the Exchange rising to one side or others

Course of Exchange decides the Ballance of Trade.

I have taken Examples from two *English* Cities,

Nature of Exchange between England and France.

ties, where the money is of the same Denomination, and the same Quantities are equally a Par in both. But the Case is the very same between two Cities where the Denominations of the Money are different, as long as any certain Quantity of Money in the one can be reduced to a Par or Equality with any certain Quantity of Money in the other. For Example, the old French Crown was just equal or Par to 54 d. English; and 444 1/2 of those Crowns were just Par or equal to an 100 l. Sterling; every Farthing given more or less than 54 d. for a Crown in a Bill of Exchange between London and Paris, amounts to 9 s 3 d. upon 444 Crowns, or upon so many times 54 d.

Suppose then the Course of Exchange between London and Paris stood thus heretofore. If a Man in Paris indebted to London, paid a Farthing less than the Par for a Bill of Exchange upon London, to pay 54 d. there; the Parisian paid his Debt to London of 100 l. by a Bill of Exchange that cost him in Paris 9 s. 3 d. less than that Sum. And if a Merchant in London gave a Farthing more than the Par for a Bill of Exchange upon Paris, to pay a French Crown, the Londoner gave 9 s 3 d. more than 100 l. for a Bill of Exchange to pay that Sum in Paris. If such was the Course of Exchange between London and Paris; if the first gave above the Par, and the second less than Par for Bills of Exchange to pay their respective Debts, there can be no doubt that Bills of Exchange were more easily to be had in Paris than at London; and consequently, that greater Sums were due from the latter than

The ballance of Trade always in favour of that Country which has the Exchange on its side.

than the former; and that we paid a Ballance upon our Trade to that Kingdom. And as the Price rose here to a Penny or Twopence above the Par, or fell there so much more below it, it shew'd so much the greater Scarcity here, and the greater Plenty there of Bills of Exchange; and that so much the greater Ballance of Bullion was going hence by means of our Trade to that Country. My Correspondent therefore might very well say, as he does in his last, that the Course of Exchange between two Countries will quickly decide to which a Ballance is due in Money, and which of the two is over-ballanc'd in Goods by trading with the other; and this he has proved against the Mercator, to be the Case of our present Trade to Spain. And I will now oblige my Reader with another Letter from the same Correspondent, which is as follows.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

I Have in my last answered the Mercator's Charge of my having falsely affirm'd, that we now lose by our Trade to Spain; and have effectually prov'd that we do, by the price of Pieces of Eight and the course of Exchange. His next Forgery, as he calls it, is my saying Silver was a Commodity. Whatever is bought and sold in a Market, and has its Rises and Falls, must certainly be a Commodity, be it Silver or Gold.

Silver and Gold a Commodity.

The British Merchant.

Bills of Exchange a Commodity.

“ Now no Man can affirm that Bills of Exchange are paid in Spain in Pieces : They are not look'd on as current Coin in Spain, but kept up for a Market ; and the Premio or Price rises and falls as the Demand is more or less. If this is not properly said to be a Commodity, I desire to know what is.

Why Foreign Silver is a Commodity in England.

“ In England Foreign Silver is a Commodity, and has its Falls and Rises according to the Demand for the shipping of our own Coin, being prohibited by a Law ; and the Traders having occasion to send to the East Indies, Turky, and the Baltick, &c. are forced to buy Foreign Silver on the best terms they can.

Gold and Silver Species of England no Commodity.

“ Now indeed Silver and Gold, when coin'd in England, cannot be properly called a Commodity, because its shipping off being prohibited, it can have no Rise or Fall. For the Person who will venture the Penalty of the Law, and export it, will pay no more than the current Price it passes for.

As all Gold and Silver is a Commodity in Holland, it never has a fixed Price.

“ In Holland all Gold and Silver is properly a Commodity : For as all Bills of Exchange above such a Sum are payable in Bank, where the Species is supposed to lie, to answer the whole Credit of the Bank on any Demand ; and there is Money of a base Alloy, with which all small Sums are payable, and the Necessaries for human Life bought, as also most of the Commodities bought and sold (some few excepted, which are always bought in Bank Money ;) I say, there being this current Money, and no standard

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“ standard Money running in Payment, that Gold and Silver is more properly a Commodity in that Country than any where else ; for People make it a Trade there to buy Silver and Gold, and keep it for a Market, so that it seldom or never has any fixed certain Price.

“ Now can any Man pretend to say that Silver and Gold are not Commodities bought and sold, as any other Commodities are : Are they not bought and sold in the Markets daily ? Is not this evident ? Need any Man go farther than to Lombard-street, or the Goldsmiths thereabouts, to be satisfied that they buy Silver and Gold, and sell it daily ? And yet this is called a Forgery, and the Mercator calls upon you to prove it such.

“ Having thus, I hope, in this and my two former Letters, proved to all Men versed in Trade what I asserted, and answered fully the three Queries the Mercator defied you to prove, I might conclude, but I have one Observation yet to make.

“ As several of our Trades already recited have an absolute necessity of Foreign Silver to carry them on ; so, if not imported by others, they must import it themselves : And a Man that wants Silver, and sends to buy it, has no regard whether we have a Ballance with that Country, but orders the Person that ships it to draw on him for it.

“ For Instance ; The East-India Company in the late War used to purchase considera-

Silver often brought into England from Countries, when the Ballance of Trade is against us.

East India Company often bought Silver in Holland, when the Ballance in Trade was against us. Turkey Ships at Cadiz the same.

Silver imparted for a Market, as Oyls, Wines, Fruit, &c.

Silver and Gold no advantage to England, unless we have an Over-balance to answer it.

It will go out in spite of the Laws, and does where it is Death to export it.

ble Sums every Year in *Holland*. I believe no one will assert it could be purchased by a Ballance of Trade; for, as I have said before, we had a very great Over-balance against us in that Country, by reason of our Payments to the War.

Turky Ships often in their way to *Turky* touch at *Cadiz*, and take in Silver to purchase Coffee and other Commodities in *Turky*; their Orders are given without any concern what must answer it.

Silver might be brought home from *Cadiz* in hopes of a Market, as Oyls, Wines and Fruit, &c. are, and yet be no Ballance of any Trade we have with them.

To sum up all, The Importation of Silver and Gold is no longer an Advantage to *England*, unless we have an Over-balance in the general Trade of the World to answer it: And notwithstanding all Laws that can be made, if we owe a Ballance in our general Trade, the Silver and Gold of the Nation must go to pay the Ballance. So that it signifies nothing to import it in Foreign Specie, if we must pay for it in our own Coin to the Man who will run the risque of our Laws. In *Spain* and *Portugal* 'tis, by the Law, Death to ship off Gold or Silver; and yet we see it daily exported.

I am, S I R, &c.

I

I go on with some Remarks upon the Spanish Trade, and concerning our giving up the Privilege of a Judge-Conservator in that Nation.

WHAT a Rage was the Mercator in [Numb. 83.] with the News-writers for publishing,

1. That the Spaniard would not allow an English Consul at Cadiz, to be Judge in Affairs relating to British Merchants among themselves.
2. That they demanded an Advance of Duties upon our Merchants in Valencia, Murcia, Catalonia, &c.
3. That they demanded 40 per Cent. Duty of all Goods brought into Spain, by the British Ships which were not of British Growth.
4. That we should not be suffered to trade to the West-Indies, but as Biscainers, and in the Name of Biscainers?

The News-writers are all (but one) a pack of Rascals with the Mercator, for pretending that these or the like Terms were ever insisted on by the Spaniard. He says very roundly there, That the King of Spain has made no such Demands or Refusals. He has not refused the Consul at Cadiz: He has not demanded higher Duties in Valencia, &c. or 40 per Cent. on Merchandizes of Foreign Growth, brought into Spain by British Ships; or demanded that we should trade to the Spanish West-Indies as Biscainers.

0437

Now I am for making the Spanish Treaty a Judge of these Differences between the Merchant and the News-writers: Therefore, before I proceed any farther, it will be necessary to look into the Treaty of Commerce; but as it is very long, and would swell this Volume to an unreasonable bulk, I shall only give those Articles of it which I have mention'd, with the Cedula's of Privileges to the English Nation, in the Translation, as published by Authority, 1714. And for the more Curious, I refer them to the Treaty it self.

I.

Treaty of 1667 confirmed.

THE Treaty of Peace, Commerce, and Alliance, concluded at Madrid between the Crowns of Great Britain and Spain the 23 of May, 1667, is ratified and confirmed by this Treaty: And for the greater strengthening and confirmation of the same, it has been thought proper to insert it word for word in this place, together with the Royal Cedula's or Ordinations annexed to it, as follows:

Treaty with Spain in 1667.

Article IX.

The same Privileges allow'd in all the Spanish Dominions as in Andaluzia,

THAT the Subjects of the King of Great Britain, Trading, Buying, and Selling in any of the Kingdoms, Governments, Islands, Ports, or Territories of the said King of Spain, shall have, use, and enjoy

joy all the Privileges and Immunities which the said King hath granted and confirmed to the English Merchants that reside in Andaluzia, by his Royal Cedula's or Orders, dated the 19th Day of March, the 26th Day of June, and the 9th Day of November, 1645. His Catholick Majesty by these Presents re-confirming the same as a part of this Treaty between the two Crowns. And to the end that it be manifest to all, it is consented, That the said Cedula's (as to the whole substance thereof) be passed and transferred to the body of the present Articles, in the name and favour of all and singular the Subjects of the King of Great Britain, Residing and Trading in any Places whatsoever within his Catholick Majesty's Dominions.

Article XXXI. 1667.

The Inhabitants and Subjects of the said Confederate Kings, in all the Lands and Places under the Obedience of the one or the other, shall use and employ those Advocates, Proctors, Scriveners, Agents, and Solicitors, whom they think fit, the which shall be left to their choice, and consented to by the ordinary Judges, as often as there shall be occasion; and they shall not be constrained to shew their Books and Papers of Account to any Person, if it be not to give Evidence for the avoiding Law-Suits and Controversies; neither shall they be embarked, detained, or taken out of their Hands,

Choice of Lawyers.

Not compelled to shew their Books.

The British Merchant.

“ Hands, upon any pretence whatsoever.
 “ And it shall be permitted to the People and
 “ Subjects of either King, in the respective
 “ places where they shall reside, to keep their
 “ Books of Account, Traffick and Corres-
 “ pondence in what Language they please,
 “ in *English, Spanish, Dutch*, or any other,
 “ the which shall not be molested, or subject
 “ to any Inquisition. And whatsoever else
 “ hath been granted by either Party, con-
 “ cerning this particular, to any other Nati-
 “ on, shall be understood likewise to be gran-
 “ ted here.

*Which may
 be in any
 Language.*

Article XXXVIII. 1667.

“ It is Agreed and Concluded, That the
 “ People and Subjects of the King of *Great
 “ Britain*, and of the King of *Spain*, shall
 “ have and enjoy in the respective Lands,
 “ Seas, Ports, Havens, Roads, and Terri-
 “ tories of the one or the other, and in all
 “ Places whatsoever, the same Privileges, Se-
 “ curities, Liberties, and Immunities, whe-
 “ ther they concern their Persons or Trade,
 “ with all the beneficial Clauses and Cir-
 “ cumstances which have been granted, or
 “ shall be hereafter granted by either of the
 “ said Kings, to the most Christian King, the
 “ States General of the *United Provinces*, the
 “ *Hans-Towns*, or any other Kingdom or
 “ State whatsoever, in as full, ample, and
 “ beneficial manner, as if the same were par-
 “ ticularly mentioned and inserted in this
 “ Treaty.

P E-

Trade with Spain.

P E T I T I O N.

“ I Don *Brian Johnson*, Consul of the *Eng-
 “ lish* Nation, in the best Form I can, do
 “ declare, That his Majesty hath been pleased
 “ to dispatch divers Cedulae or Grants in fa-
 “ vour of the said Nation, whereby they may
 “ have a particular Judge Conservator, that
 “ may take Cognizance of their Causes, as
 “ well being Plaintiffs as Defendants of the
 “ said Nation; and in the Articles of Peace,
 “ in the Ninth Article, and the Thirty eighth,
 “ it is expressly Ordered and Agreed, that they
 “ should be kept with all the Exemptions gran-
 “ ted to the said *English* Nation, together
 “ with the Rights and Privileges granted to a-
 “ ny other Nation whatsoever, or to the
 “ *Hans-Cities*: As also doth appear by another
 “ Cedula set forth by the Queen our Lady.
 “ And these *Hans-Towns* have the Privilege
 “ of a Judge Conservator, being either Plain-
 “ tiffs or Defendants, as the said *English* Na-
 “ tion hath, as appears by a Copy of the said
 “ Cedula, and the Cedula which I now pre-
 “ sent and swear to. Given in *Madrid* the
 “ 20th Day of *March*, in the Year 1670, I
 “ intreat your Lordship therefore, to com-
 “ mand the said Cedulae, and Articles of
 “ Peace, to be perused, and to order that they
 “ be observed and executed in all respects. Let
 “ those of the *English* Nation be either Plain-
 “ tiffs or Defendants, providing as much as
 “ may be in favour of the said Nation. I ask
 “ Justice, &c.

Don Brian Johnson. Lic.

D. Juan de Oliver.

The

The Queen Governess.

Cedula. “ FOR as much as the Merchants of the
 “ English Nation, which trade in the Ci-
 “ ty of *Sevilla*, have represented, that they
 “ receive many Vexations from the Ministers
 “ which reside therein, contravening the Ar-
 “ ticles between this Crown and that, humbly
 “ intreating me, that for the future they may
 “ not be prejudiced in any thing that hath been
 “ agreed to, or ordered in the Articles of the
 “ Peace, and that I would order the necessary
 “ Dispatches to be given for the Observance
 “ thereof: As also that the Cedula which the
 “ King my Lord (now in Glory) granted
 “ them, in the Year 1645, may have their
 “ full force and vigour, as being Part of the
 “ last Treaty adjusted between me and the
 “ most Serene King of *Great Britain*, as is
 “ referred to in the Ninth Article, I have con-
 “ sented thereunto: Wherefore I Order and
 “ Command the President of the Court of De-
 “ grees of the City of *Sevilla*, and all other
 “ Ministers thereof, to whom belongs the
 “ Performance of the one and the other, that
 “ in all respects whatsoever, they inviolably
 “ execute all what is contained in the said Ar-
 “ ticles of Peace, and granted by the Cedula
 “ referred to, whensoever they are required by
 “ them, or Authentick Copies, without going
 “ against the Tenor thereof in any wise, for
 “ such is my Will. Given in *Madrid*, the
 “ 20th of *March*, 1670.

I the Queen.

D. Diego de la Torre.
Cedula

Cedula of Privileges granted by his Majesty to the
English, which reside in *Sevilla*, *S. Lucar*,
Cadiz and *Malaga*.

“ DON Philip, by the Grace of God,
 “ King of *Castile*, of *Leon*, of *Aragon*,
 “ of the two *Sicilies*, of *Jerusalem*, of *Portu-*
 “ *gal*, of *Navarre*, of *Granada*, of *Toledo*, of
 “ *Valencia*, of *Mallorca*, of *Sevilla*, of *Sardi-*
 “ *nia*, of *Cordua*, of *Corcega*, of *Murcia*, of
 “ *Jaen*, of the *Algarves*, of *Algecira*, of *Gib-*
 “ *raltar*, of the Islands of the *Canaries*, of the
 “ *East* and *West Indies*, Islands, and *Terra*
 “ *firma* of the Ocean, Archduke of *Austria*,
 “ Duke of *Bourgonna*, of *Brabant*, and of
 “ *Milan*, Count of *Apsburg*, of *Flanders*,
 “ Lord of *Biscay*, and of *Molina*, &c.
 “ For as much as on the Part of you *Ri-*
 “ *chard Anthony*, Consul of the *English* Nati-
 “ on, by you, and in the name of the Vassals
 “ of the King of *Great Britain*, Information
 “ hath been given to me, that by means of
 “ the Peace, which between this and that
 “ Kingdom is settled, those which do reside
 “ and commerce in *Andaluzia*, principally in
 “ the City of *Sevilla*, *San Lucar*, *Cadiz* and
 “ *Malaga*, humbly intreat me that I would be
 “ pleased to confirm to you the Privileges,
 “ Exemptions and Liberties which appertain to
 “ you, as well by the Articles of the said
 “ Peace as by the Confirmations of them,
 “ and other Favours and Indulto's, which the
 “ King my Lord and Father (now in Glory)
 “ granted you, and all others whatsoever,
 “ that

The British Merchant.

" that have been granted by my Crowns of
 " these my Kingdoms of *Castile* and of *Portu-*
 " *gal*, commanding that they be observed and
 " accomplish'd in all, and through all, with-
 " out any Limitation, and that they may be
 " of more Force, to grant them anew, with
 " the Qualities, Amplifications, Conditions
 " and Declarations, which may be most con-
 " venient for you, imposing Punishments up-
 " on whom shall contradict them, and not
 " observe them; and that it may be known
 " what they are, that there be given Copies of
 " them, of what Favour I have granted them,
 " having a due regard to the aforesaid, and
 " because that for the Occasions which I have
 " of Wars, you have offered to assist me with
 " 2500 Ducats of Silver, paying 1000 down,
 " and the other 1500 remaining, in the Month
 " of *April* of this present Year, for which
 " *Don Francisco Moreno*, with the Interven-
 " tion of *Don Antonio de Campo-Radondo y Rio*,
 " Knight of the Order of *St. James*, of my
 " Privy Council, and of my Exchequer, in
 " your Name and by virtue of your Power,
 " pass'd a Writing or Obligation in Form,
 " before *John Cortez de la Cruz* my Notary;
 " I have thought fit, and by these Presents,
 " of my own proper Motive, certain Know-
 " ledge, and Royal and Absolute Power,
 " which in this part I will use, and do use,
 " as King and Natural Lord, not acknow-
 " ledging any Superior in Temporals, I con-
 " firm and approve the said Privileges of Ex-
 " emptions, and Liberties which appertain to
 " you, as well by the Articles of the said Peace,
 " as

Trade with Spain.

" as by the Confirmations of them, and the
 " rest of the Favours, Indulto's, which the
 " King my Lord and Father granted you, and
 " any others whatsoever, which have been
 " granted by my Crowns of *Castile* and *Por-*
 " *tugal* to the said Vassals, in all, and through
 " all, as therein, and in every thing, and in
 " Part thereof is specified, contained and de-
 " clared, that they may be firm, stable, and
 " valid to you, and be observed to you, kept
 " and fulfilled, because that my Intention and
 " deliberate Will is, that all those of the said
 " Nation may enjoy, and do enjoy them without
 " any Limitation, with Condition, that du-
 " ring the time they shall reside in *Andaluzia*,
 " the said *English* may not be put upon any
 " Office, or in any publick Post, nor made
 " Guardians, Trustees, nor Collectors, altho'
 " they may be of the Duties of *Alcavalus*, and
 " *Millones*, or other Duties which relate to
 " my Royal Treasury; nor shall they demand
 " from you Loans, or Donatives, nor oblige
 " you to farm any Rents, nor take your Horses
 " or Slaves.
 " And to do your further Favour in confor- *Free Trade.*
 " mity of what is capitulated in the said Peace,
 " I will and permit that you may, and do
 " trade and commerce freely, and sell your
 " Merchandizes and Goods, and buy those of
 " my Kingdoms, and carry them thence, ob-
 " serving what is ordained by the Laws and
 " Decrees that treat thereof, paying into my
 " Royal Treasury the Duties that ought to
 " be paid, prohibiting as I do prohibit, and
 " command that they do not take from you
 " by

“ by Force any Merchandizes, as Wheat or
 “ Barley, altho’ it be for dispatch of my *Ar-*
 “ *madas*, Fleets or Galloons, neither for the
 “ *Affentistas* nor *Estranqueros*: and the said
 “ Privileges shall be as to Wheat and Barley,
 “ according to the Tax; and as to other
 “ Things and Merchandizes, as you shall co-
 “ venant and agree for, without taking them
 “ from you till they have paid you for them;
 “ and that they shall not, upon the account a-
 “ fore said, give you any manner of Trouble
 “ or Vexation.

*That there
 may not be
 put a Price
 upon Dry
 Fish, and
 Salted.*

“ And because that many of you trade in
 “ bringing to the Ports of *Andaluzia*, City of
 “ *Sevilla*, and other Parts, a great quantity of
 “ *Bacallao*, and other kinds of Fish dry and
 “ salted; which being the most necessary Pro-
 “ visions that can be, and creates you a great
 “ deal of Cost and Trouble, I will and com-
 “ mand that you enjoy the Custom of the City
 “ of *Sevilla*; in which it is ordered, that
 “ those which arrive with any Fish dry and
 “ salted, there may not be imposed any Rate,
 “ but that they sell at the Price they will, with-
 “ out that it be necessary that they manifest it
 “ more than to the Ministers which recover
 “ my Royal Revenues: And that if the Ships
 “ in which they bring the said *Bacallao* be
 “ great that they cannot come up the River,
 “ and shall unload them in Barks; the Judge
 “ of the Admiralty, or any other, may not
 “ put in the said Barks any Guards at the cost
 “ of the Owners of them. In like sort I com-
 “ mand, that in case it appears that the said
 “ Fish is rotten, and cannot be spent, it be
 “ burnt,

*If the Ship
 in which
 they come
 shall unload
 them in
 Barks, they
 may not put
 any Guards
 at your Costs.
 In case it
 appears to
 be rotten, it
 may be cast
 into the Sea,
 without that
 therefore be
 made any
 Process a-
 gainst them.*

“ burnt or cast into the Sea; without that
 “ by reason thereof there may be made any
 “ Process against the Owners, or Persons
 “ that sold it, or be imprisoned or informed
 “ against.

“ And because that the Administrator of
 “ the *Almonarifargos*, and divers other Duties,
 “ which are recovered on Goods and Mer-
 “ chandizes, have been used, upon Informa-
 “ tion given, to seize the Person they suspect,
 “ which to Men of Trade occasions much Dif-
 “ credit, Costs and Vexations: My will is,
 “ and I command, that upon the said Infor-
 “ mation they proceed against the Merchan-
 “ dizes, and not against the Persons, permit-
 “ ting them, as I do permit them, that they
 “ may make, and do make their Defences a-
 “ gainst the said Vexations.

*That in case
 of a Law-
 Suit against
 them, they
 may not be
 imprison'd.*

“ And whereas, according to one Article
 “ of the said Peace, which treats in matter of
 “ Religion, notwithstanding that in some Law-
 “ Suit it hath been endeavoured that they de-
 “ clare, whether they be Roman Catholicks
 “ or not, excusing giving credit to the Oath
 “ which they make, as being Parties or as
 “ Witnesses: I command therefore, that in
 “ those Matters they shall not meddle with the
 “ Natives of the said Kingdom; but that the
 “ said Condition be fully observed without
 “ making them any such Questions. And to
 “ the Oath you shall tender them in Court,
 “ the same Faith and Credit shall be given as
 “ if they were natural *Spaniards*, without that
 “ upon this account they are molested or trou-
 “ bled, or receive any Grievance.

*That they be
 not molested
 for matter of
 Religion;
 nor shall the
 Article of
 Peace, which
 speaks there-
 about, be
 altered.*

“ And

That their Books of Trade be not taken from them.

“ And by reason that for justification of some Causes, the Judges and Justices pretend that the Merchants should exhibit their Books of Trade, and thereupon they receive Vexation and Trouble: I command and will, that the Books of the Merchants of the said Nation be not taken from them; but that they produce them in their own Houses to take out the Article which shall be appointed, without demanding others: Nor may be taken from them any other Papers, upon punishment of him that shall contravene herein, to be chastised according to Law.

That the Merchants Houses shall not be visited, nor demanded the Dispatch or Entry of their Goods.

“ And because likewise the Merchants enter their Goods in the Custom-house of the City of *Sevilla*; of all the Duties, which, because they are many, is made upon one Sheet of Paper, and firmed and signed by all the Officers, and remains in possession of the Warehouse-keeper of the Custom-house, that by virtue thereof he may deliver such Goods as go in Bales, Packs, Trunks and Chests: And after they have taken them out, and put them in their Houses and Warehouses, the Head-Waiter of the Custom-house and the Officers of the half *per Cent.* shall not search your Houses nor Goods, causing you Trouble and Vexation, asking of you the Dispatches, it being manifest that you cannot have them, having left them in the power of the said Head-Waiter: I prohibit therefore and command, that the Houses of the said Merchants shall not be visited, nor be asked of them the Dispatches of their Goods, which

“ which doth not remain in their Custody; so that this is to be understood, and is understood of the Houses which are within the Walls of the said City. And that it may be known, those who are of the said Nation, let Copies be given of the said Privileges and Exemptions which concern you, and were granted you, as well by the Articles of the said Peace, as in any other manner whatsoever. And for the execution and accomplishing of all the aforesaid, I command those of my Privy Council, and the rest of my Counsellors, Juntas, and Tribunals of my Court, and the Presidents and Justices of my Courts; as also the Judges and Justices of the Peace belonging to my House, Court, and Chancery, and the Regent and Judges of the Court *de Grados* in the City of *Sevilla*, and the chief Magistrate of the Court thereof, and all Mayors, Governors, Magistrates, and other inferior Officers, as well of the said Cities of *Sevilla*, *Cadiz* and *Malaga*, and *San Lucar de Barrameda*, as of all other Cities, Towns and Places of these my Kingdoms and Dominions, and Judges and Justices thereof, of whatever Quality and Condition they may be, to whom principally or accidentally it shall concern in any manner whatsoever, the accomplishing of all that is contained in this my Letter; that as soon as they shall have been required herewith, or with a Copy thereof signed by a Publick Notary (to which shall be given as much Credit as to the Original) each one for that part which shall

" shall concern him, observe and accom-
 " plish, cause to be observed and accomplish-
 " ed, in all and through all, as is contained
 " therein; without that in the whole, or in
 " part, there be put any Impediment, or
 " other Doubt or Difficulty, that shall op-
 " pose or contravene its Tenor and Form;
 " nor consent or allow that it be interpreted,
 " limited or suspended in whole, or in part,
 " contrary to the Cedula's, Provisions, or
 " other Orders for observance thereof, in that
 " part which shall relate to each of you; and
 " that they provide and give the necessary
 " Orders for the greater Security of the Fa-
 " vour which by this my Letter I grant you.
 " And that at all times this Favour may be
 " certain and secure to you, that you may
 " have a Judge Conservator for *Andaluzia*,
 " principally for the said Cities of *Sevilla, Ma-*
 " *laga, Cadiz* and *San Lucar de Barrameda*;
 " to whom I shall give sufficient commission
 " for the preservation and accomplishing of
 " the said Privileges, Liberties and Exemp-
 " tions (which may oblige and compel all and
 " every Person whatsoever, of what Condi-
 " tion or Quality soever they be) as shall
 " concern the said Nation, as well in those
 " which they shall be Defendants, as in those
 " in which they shall be Plaintiffs, altho' the
 " Person which shall sue them, and of whom
 " they shall be sued, may have any other spe-
 " cial Judges whatsoever; as well by Cove-
 " nant or Contract which they may have
 " made, as by the Preeminences or Immuni-
 " ties which they may have, because that of
 " the

" the said Causes only the said Judge Confer-
 " vator may take Cognizance, and no other
 " Judge or Tribunal whatsoever, altho' it be
 " for any Excess or notorious Crimes, or in
 " any other manner and form whatsoever.
 " And the said Judge Conservator for the pre-
 " sent shall be Doctor Don *Francisco de Ver-*
 " *gara*, Judge of my Court of Degrees of
 " the City of *Sevilla*, during the time that he
 " shall act therein; and in his absence Doctor
 " Don *Francisco de Medrano*, Judge of the
 " same Court; who for Matters and Law-
 " Suits which shall offer in the said Cities of
 " *Cadiz, Malaga* and *San Lucar*, may substi-
 " tute his Conservatorship in the Person that
 " shall be proposed by the said Nation, that
 " they may be laid before and remitted to him
 " for the determination thereof: And of that
 " which shall be so determined by him, they
 " may appeal to my Council, and not to any
 " other Tribunal. And because that my Will
 " is, that each one in his time may have Ju-
 " risdiction and special Commission to pro-
 " tect and defend you in all that is contained
 " in this my Letter, and that all of it may be
 " observed and accomplish'd in the form that
 " it is offer'd unto you; I have thought fit to
 " give charge, as by these Presents I give them
 " charge of the Protection and Defence there-
 " of, and command them, that they see this
 " my Letter, and the Qualities, and Condi-
 " tions, and Preeminences, and Amplifica-
 " tions, contained therein; and cause all of
 " it to be observed and accomplished in the
 " form accordingly, and in the manner that
 " is

Judge Con-
servator
which shall
take Cogni-
zance speci-
al of your
Causes.

That the
Judge Con-
servator
may substi-
tute his
Commission
for Matters
which shall
offer
in Malaga,
Cadiz and
San Lucar.

The British Merchant.

“ is contained therein and declared, without
 “ consenting or allowing that in whole or in
 “ part, they may put, or do put any doubt
 “ or difficulty therein; and before the said
 “ Don *Francisco Vergara*, and in his absence
 “ before the said Don *Francisco de Medrano*,
 “ and not before any other special Judge, the
 “ first Motion shall pass, and be follow'd in
 “ all Causes and Law-Suits for what relates
 “ thereunto, and cause the same to be exe-
 “ cuted, and a Chastisement of the Disobe-
 “ dient. For such is my Will, and that the
 “ Cognizance and Determination of all that
 “ is contained in this Special Letter, shall
 “ concern them, and doth concern them, that
 “ they proceed against those that shall be guil-
 “ ty, executing on them such Penalties as the
 “ Law requires; reserving, as I do reserve to
 “ my Council, the Appeals which by their
 “ Acts and Sentences they shall interpose,
 “ and not for any other Tribunal, without
 “ that any of the rest of my Councils, Tribu-
 “ nals, Courts or Chanceries, or any other
 “ Judges or Justices of these my Kingdoms
 “ and Dominions, of whatsoever Quality they
 “ be, may intermeddle, or do intermeddle
 “ therein, neither in the Practise nor Exer-
 “ cise of the special Jnrisdiction which by this
 “ my Cedula I grant them, be it by way of
 “ Excess, Appeal or any other recourse what-
 “ soever; to whom and to each of them I in-
 “ hibit, and hold for inhibited their Cogni-
 “ zance, and declare them for Judges incom-
 “ petent thereof, for the whole, and in each
 “ thing, and part thereof, granting them as
 “ full

*Inhibition
 of Courts
 and Chan-
 ceries, &c.*

Trade with Spain.

“ full and complete Power, and most ample
 “ commission, as in Law required, and is ne-
 “ cessary, with their Incidences, Depend-
 “ cies, Annexities, and Connexities; and that
 “ after them the said *English* Nation of the
 “ said City of *Sevilla*, may name in the said
 “ Commission, one of the Judges of the said
 “ Court, whom the said Nation shall think
 “ fit: and I command the President, and those
 “ of my privy Council, that presenting before
 “ them his Name in case the said Commission
 “ be vacant by Promotion or Vacation of the
 “ said Don *Francisco de Vergara*, or Don
 “ *Francisco de Medrano*, or in any other Man-
 “ ner, they shall be dispatcht by him that shall
 “ be named, in the Form accordingly, and as
 “ by this my Letter is ordained. And for
 “ the better Performance hereof for time to
 “ come, I grant them Power, Licence, and
 “ Authority, that they may substitute, and do
 “ substitute this Commission for Matters, and
 “ Law Suits, which shall offer in the said Ci-
 “ ties of *Cadiz* and *Malaga*, and *San Lucar*
 “ *de Barrameda*, in the Person which by you
 “ shall be proposed to them, that they may
 “ examine Matters and bring them to con-
 “ clusion, and remit them the Law Suits and
 “ Causes you shall have, to determine them
 “ in the Form they shall think fit, and see
 “ convenient for the Security of what is con-
 “ tained in this my Letter; and I encharge
 “ the most Serene Prince Don *Balthasar Car-*
 “ *los*, my very dear and beloved Son, and
 “ command the Infantes, Prelates, Dukes,
 “ Marqueffes, Counts, Barons, Knights,
 “ V O L. III. G “ Es-

*That the
 English Na-
 tion which
 reside in the
 City of Se-
 villa may
 name in the
 Commission
 one of the
 Judges of
 the Court of
 the said City.*

*That the
 Judge Con-
 servator may
 substitute his
 Conservator-
 ship in the
 Person which
 shall appoint
 the said Na-
 tion in the
 Cities of Ca-
 diz, Malaga
 and Saglucara*

“ Esquires, Governors of Castles, Fortresses,
 “ and Plains, and those of my Council. Pre-
 “ sident and Judges of my Courts, Officers
 “ of my House, and Court, and Chancery,
 “ and all Mayors, Governors, Deputy Go-
 “ vernors, Justices of the Peace, and other
 “ whatsoever Justices and Judges of my King-
 “ doms and Dominions, that they observe to
 “ you and accomplish, and cause to be ob-
 “ served and accomplished this my Letter, and
 “ Favour, which I do grant you, and against
 “ the Tenor and Form thereof, not to go,
 “ nor act now, nor at any Time, nor by a-
 “ ny manner, perpetually, for ever, nor con-
 “ sent, or allow that they be limited to you,
 “ or suspended in whole, or in part, all its
 “ contents, whatsoever Laws or Orders of
 “ these my Kingdoms, and Dominions, Or-
 “ dinances, Stile, Use, and Custom of the
 “ said Cities of *Sevilla*, *Cadiz*, *Malaga*, and
 “ *San Lucar*, and all others, which they have,
 “ or may have, to the contrary notwithstanding,
 “ for as much as doth concern these Pre-
 “ sents; accounting it to be here inserted and
 “ incorporated as if it had been Word for
 “ Word. And of this my Letter *Geroni-*
 “ *mo de Canencia*, my chief Treasurer and
 “ Accountant, and my Secretary *de la Media*
 “ *Anata*, is to take cognizance, to whose
 “ Charge is committed the Account of the
 “ said Duty. And I declare, that of this
 “ Favour, you have paid the Duty of *Media*
 “ *Anata*, which imports thirty and five thou-
 “ sand one hundred fifty and five Maravedis
 “ in Silver, which you are to pay every fif-
 “ teen

“ teen Years perpetually. And that being
 “ complied with, you shall not have the Pow-
 “ er to use this Favour, without that it first
 “ appears that you have satisfied this Duty.
 “ And also, that you pay the Judge Conser-
 “ vator you shall name the Salary which he
 “ shall enjoy by the said Occupation, which
 “ is to be manifested by Certificate from the
 “ Office of this Duty. Given in *Zaragoza*
 “ the Nineteenth Day of *March*, in the
 “ Year One thousand six hundred forty and
 “ five.

I the KING.

“ **I** *Anthony Carnero*, Secretary of the King
 “ our Lord, ordered this to be written by
 “ his Command.

Lic. Don Juan Chamacero y Carrillo.

El Lic. Don Antonio del Campo Re-
dondo y Rio.

Dr. Joseph Gonzales, Register.

Miguel de Olaragiar.

Tome la Razon.

Geronimo de Canencia.

“ **I** *N* the City of *Sevilla*, the Twelfth Day *Obedience,*
 “ of the Month of *April*, in the Year One
 “ thousand six hundred forty five, Doctor
 “ *Don Francisco de Vergara* of the Council of
 “ his Majesty and his Judge in the Royal Chan-
 “ cery in the City of *Granada*, having seen
 “ the Royal Provision and Privileges granted
 “ to the *English* Nation, which his Majesty
 “ hath been pleased to grant them, with which
 “ his Worship was required by *Francisco Car-*
 “ *reto,*

The British Merchant.

“ *reto*, in the Name of the said Nation ; his
“ Worship took it in his Hand, kissed it, put
“ it upon his Head, and said he obey’d it, and
“ doth obey it with the Respect and Reve-
“ rence that is due to it ; and says, That he
“ is ready to do and accomplish that which
“ his Majesty by it commands ; and accepts
“ the Title of Judge Conservator, and firm-
“ ed it.

Lic. Don Francisco de Vergara.
Before me,
Fernando Infantes Notary.

Decree of
the Court of
Sevilla.

“ **M**onday the Twenty fourth of April,
“ the English Nation, the Lords the
“ Governor, and General Assembly, ordered
“ it to be engrossed, when offered by the said
“ Nation.

Francisco Carrion de la Serna.

T H E K I N G.

Second Ce-
dula ampli-
fying and
confirming
the Privi-
leges grant-
ed to the
English
Nation.

“ **T**O Doctor Don Francisco de Medrano,
“ Judge of my Court of Degrees of the
“ City of Sevilla : Know ye, that by one of
“ my Letters and Decrees of the Nineteenth
“ of March of this present Year, I did grant
“ to Richard Anthony, Consul of the English
“ Nation, and to the Subjects of the Kingdom
“ of England which reside and trade in Anda-
“ luzia, principally in this City, and in that
“ of Cadiz, and in that of San Lucar de Bar-
“ rameda, the Privileges, Exemptions and Li-
“ cences which appertain to them, as well by
“ the

Trade with Spain.

“ the Confirmation, and other Favours and
“ Indultos which the King my Lord and Fa-
“ ther (now in Glory) granted them ; and with
“ the other Qualities, Conditions, Preemi-
“ nences and Amplifications in the said De-
“ cree declared, for having offered to serve
“ me with Two thousand five hundred Du-
“ cats of Silver, according as more largely
“ thereby doth appear, to which I refer my
“ self. And one of the Conditions which I did
“ grant them, was, That I would name and
“ allow them a Judge Conservator for Andalu-
“ zia, principally for the said two Cities and
“ San Lucar de Barrameda ; to whom should
“ be given sufficient Commission for the ob-
“ servance and accomplishment of the said
“ Privileges, Liberties and Exemptions ; who
“ shall take cognizance of all Causes both civil
“ and criminal, which should be brought a-
“ gainst them, in which they were made De-
“ fendants ; that before him should come all
“ Law-Suits and Causes whatsoever, which
“ should concern the said English, or any o-
“ ther Persons whatsoever, of what quality
“ soever they may be, as well those in which
“ they shall be Defendants, as in those in
“ which they shall be Plaintiffs, altho’ the
“ Person that shall sue them may have special
“ Judges, as well by Agreement or Contract
“ which they may have made, by the Preemi-
“ nence or Immunity which they may have
“ because of the said Causes, only shall take
“ special Cognizance the said Judge Confer-
“ vator, and no other Judge or Tribunal, al-
“ tho’ it may be by way of Excess, or in any

That of the
Causes the
Judge Con-
servator, and
no other Tri-
bunal, shall
take Cogni-
zance.

“ other

" other manner or form whatsoever : And
 " that for the Causes and Suits that shall offer
 " in the said Cities of *Cadiz* and *Malaga*, and
 " *San-Lucar*, may be substituted their Com-
 " mission in the Person which by the said Na-
 " tion shall be proposed, that he may bring
 " things to a conclusion, and that they be re-
 " mitted to him to determine : And of that
 " which the said Judge shall so determine, they
 " may appeal to may Council, and not to any
 " other Tribunal ; and that the time you shall
 " act in the said Court you shall be esteemed as
 " such, and in your absence, and after you, he
 " whom the said Nation in the said City of
 " *Sevilla* shall appoint. And because that my
 " Will is, that all this be observed and ac-
 " complished in the form as is express'd, I have
 " thought fit to give charge to you, and by
 " this Present do give you charge of the Pro-
 " tection and Defence hereof ; and command
 " you, that you see the said Decree and the
 " Conditions, Preeminences and Amplificati-
 " ons therein contained, and all of it be ob-
 " served and accomplished in form accord-
 " ingly, and after the manner that in the said
 " Decree, and in this my Cedula, is declared,
 " without consenting or allowing that in the
 " whole, or in part, may put or be put any
 " doubt or difficulty ; and before you, and
 " not before any other Judge, at the first In-
 " stance, shall be brought and followed all
 " Causes and Law-Suits which thereupon, or
 " any other thing, or part thereof, shall be
 " made, and cause cognizance to be taken of
 " all Causes civil and criminal in which they
 " shall

" shall be prosecuted, or against them shall be
 " attempted, and before you shall be brought
 " whatever Law-Suits and Causes which shall
 " concern the said *English*, between whatso-
 " ever Persons, or whatsoever Quality they
 " may be, and the execution and chastise-
 " ment of those that shall disobey. And be-
 " cause that my Will is, that the Cognizance
 " and Determination of all that is contained
 " in the said Provision, and in this my Cedu-
 " la of Amplification, especially shall and do
 " concern you, proceeding fully against those
 " who shall be guilty, executing upon them
 " the Punishments you shall find by Justice
 " due to them, without that any of the Tribu-
 " nals, Courts or Chancery, or any other
 " Judges or Justices of my Kingdoms and
 " Dominions of *Castile*, of whatsoever Quali-
 " ty they may be, may intermeddle, or do in-
 " termeddle herein, neither in the Use nor
 " Exercise of the special Jurisdiction in the
 " said first Instance, which by this my Cedula
 " I grant you, be it by way of Excess, Appeal,
 " or any other Recourse or Manner ; to
 " whom and to each of you, I inhibit, and
 " hold for inhibited, their Cognizance, de-
 " claring you for Judges incompetent thereof,
 " as for the whole, and every thing, and part
 " thereof. And I grant you the most full and
 " complete Power and most ample Commis-
 " sion, as by Law is required and necessary,
 " with their Incidences, Dependancies, An-
 " nexities and Connexities ; and that after
 " you, the said *English* Nation of the said Ci-

*That in the
 first Instance
 shall be
 brought and
 followed
 Law Suits
 before the
 Judge Con-
 servator,
 made in Za-
 ragosa the
 26th of
 June 1645.*

“ ty of *Sevilla*, may have power to name in
 “ the said Commission one of the Judges of
 “ this Court, whom the said Nation shall
 “ think fit: and I command those of my Pri-
 “ vy-Council, that presenting before them his
 “ Name, the said Commission being vacant
 “ by Promotion or otherwise, him who shall
 “ be named, shall have his Dispatches in due
 “ Form, according as in this my Cedula is or-
 “ dained. And that it may the better be ac-
 “ complished, all that is contained in the said
 “ Decree and in this my Cedula, I grant you
 “ Licence, Power and Authority, that you
 “ may substitute and do substitute this Com-
 “ mission for Matters and Law-Suits that shall
 “ offer in the said Cities of *Cadiz*, *Malaga*,
 “ and *San Lucar*, in the Person that by the
 “ said Nation shall be proposed to you, that
 “ he may conclude Matters, you remitting to
 “ him the Termination thereof, in the Form
 “ you shall think fit, such as may be for the
 “ Security of the said Decree, and that all may
 “ be observed in the Form which by it is or-
 “ dained and commanded, any Laws and Prag-
 “ maticas of my said Kingdoms and Domini-
 “ ons, Ordonnances, Stile, Use, and Custom,
 “ or any thing whatsoever, to the contrary
 “ notwithstanding. All which, and for as
 “ much as relates to these Presents, I dispense
 “ with, abrogate and derogate, make void
 “ and annul, count for nothing, or of no va-
 “ lue and force, and that these Presents remain
 “ in full Force and Vigour for the future.
 “ Done in *Zaragoza*, the twenty sixth of *June*,
 “ in

“ in the Year one thousand six hundred and
 “ forty and five.

I the King.

“ By Command of our Lord the King.
Antonio Cannero.

“ **D**ON Philip, by the Grace of God,
 “ King of *Castile*, of *Leon*, of *Arragon*,
 “ of the two *Sicilies*, of *Jerusalem*, of *Na-*
 “ *varra*, of *Granada*, of *Toledo*, of *Valencia*,
 “ of *Galicia*, of *Majorca*, of *Sevilla*, of *Sar-*
 “ *dinia*, of *Corcega*, of *Murcia*, of *Jaen*, of
 “ the *Algarves*, of *Algecira*, of *Gibraltar*, of
 “ the Islands of the *Canaries*, of the *East*
 “ and *West Indies*, Islands, and *Terra firma*
 “ of the Ocean, Archduke of *Austria*, Duke
 “ of *Bourgonna*, of *Brabant*, and of *Milan*,
 “ Count of *Apsburg*, of *Flanders*, of *Tirol*,
 “ of *Barcelona*, Lord of *Biscay*, and *Molina*,
 “ &c.

“ For as much as by my Letter and Decree
 “ of the 19th of *March*, of this present Year,
 “ I did grant to you, the Subjects of the King
 “ of *Great Britain*, who reside in *Andaluzia*,
 “ a confirmation and approbation of the Pri-
 “ vileges, Cedula, and Franchises which
 “ were granted you by the Crowns of *Castile*
 “ and *Portugal*, and commanded that they
 “ should be kept, and observed to you the
 “ said Articles of Peace made between my
 “ Crowns and that of *England*, and that by
 “ my other Cedula of the 26th of *June* of the
 “ same Year, you may name a Judge Con-
 “ servator, that shall take cognizance of all
 “ your causes Civil and Criminal, as well in

That the Ar-
ticles of
Peace be
kept and
observed.

“ those in which you shall be Plaintiffs, as in
“ those in which you shall be Defendants, with
“ other Conditions, Amplifications, and Pre-
“ eminences, in the said Decree and Cedula
“ contained, referring my self to the Tenor
“ thereof.

“ And now on your part, relation having
“ been made to me, that having presented the
“ last Cedula in the Assembly of the Court of
“ of Decrees of the City of *Sevilla*, a Copy
“ thereof was ordered to be given to Don
“ *Juan de Villalva*, my Fiscal of the said
“ Court, who kept it in his Possession from
“ the 19th of *July*, without having answered
“ it till now, which hath hindred and depri-
“ ved you of the benefit and performance of
“ the said Decree and Cedula, altho’ by what
“ is ordain’d thereby, the Judge Conservator
“ ought to take Cognizance of all Causes ci-
“ vil and criminal, as well being Plaintiffs as
“ Defendants, with any Person whatsoever
“ you should trade with, your intent being
“ only to enjoy the said Privileges and Judge
“ Conservator, when there should be any
“ Law Suits between those of your Nation,
“ whether you be Plaintiffs or Defendants, and
“ whether the Causes be Civil, or whether
“ they be Criminal; and when the Suits shall
“ be with *Spaniards*, or with other Persons of
“ different Nations, the Conservator is to
“ take Cognizance so far only of the Causes
“ in which you shall be civilly or criminally
“ prosecuted as Defendants, and not in which
“ you shall be Plaintiffs; humbly intreating
“ me, that whereas in this particular you have
“ waved

“ waved and desisted from the said Privilege
“ before *Alonso de Alarcon*, that I would be
“ pleased to declare it, with the conditions,
“ amplifications, and preheminences, as may
“ be most convenient for you, and shall be
“ most necessary for the greater force of what
“ is insisted, of what my Pleasure shall be;
“ and because that for the service of the Wars,
“ you have offered to assist me with 1500
“ Ducats in Silver, payable at certain prefix-
“ ed days, I have thought fit, and by these
“ Presents I Will and Declare, That when
“ the Suits shall be between those of your Na-
“ tion, whether you be Plaintiffs or Defen-
“ dants, or the Causes shall be Civil or Cri-
“ minal, you shall enjoy the said Privilege and
“ its Conditions: And when the said Suits
“ shall be with *Spaniards*, or with other Per-
“ sons of divers Nations, that the Judge Con-
“ servator shall take Cognizance, and do take
“ Cognizance only of the Causes in which you
“ shall be civilly or criminally Defendants, and
“ not when you shall be Plaintiffs.

“ And because that the Duties of Excise of That the
“ Millones, which are imposed on Bacallao Duties of
“ Dry and Fresh, Pilchards, Herrings, and Millones
“ Salmon, and other kinds of Fish, fresh and which are
“ salted, it was ordered that it should be re- recovered of
“ covered of those that consume it; and by Bacallao,
“ reason the Farmers of these Duties, and dry and
“ Judges which take cognizance of these fresh, and
“ Causes, do occasion you great grievances, other Goods
“ and oblige you to pay 200 Maravedis for be recovered
“ each Quintal of Bacallao, and accordingly of those that
“ on other sorts as are permitted, and upon the consumethem.
“ arrival

" arrival of the Ships at the Ports of *Malaga,*
 " *Cadiz* and *San Lucar,* they oblige you to
 " declare the quantity of Fish you bring,
 " charging you by the great for the whole,
 " obliging you to the payment thereof, as
 " Money due to me, and oblige you to the
 " payment thereof in four Months of what it
 " amounts to, which is unjust, because that
 " those who buy these Kinds, are Clergymen,
 " Fryers, Monks, and other Persons which
 " have Privileges and Habits, Mayors, Al-
 " dermen, and Common-Councilmen, for
 " which cause the Farmers of these Duties
 " will not recover them of such, but recover
 " them of you for the whole, without confi-
 " dering the quantity they steal from you,
 " that which is rotten, and what you spend
 " in your own Families, and if you insist on
 " the recovery thereof of such Persons, they
 " treat you ill, and do not pay you; therefore
 " I Will and Command, that this Duty be
 " recovered of the buyers and consumers, and
 " that the Farmers put a Person for their ac-
 " count, that may recover the same, as is
 " done in the Revenues of *Alcavala* and *Al-*
 " *moxarifargo,* with this Condition, that you
 " be obliged, as I oblige you, that you shall
 " Register all the said kinds of Fish aforesaid,
 " as you are obliged to do, according to the
 " general Dispatches, without that this may
 " be in any manner avoided.

" And because from the Visits which the
 " Farmers of Duties make you, there results
 " a great deal of trouble, I Will and Com-
 " mand, that in the Cities of *Malaga,* *San*
 " *Lucar*

" *Lucar* and *Cadiz,* be observed to you, and
 " kept the Privilege, that they may not exa-
 " mine the Merchandizes which are in your
 " Houses, according to what is ordered and
 " commanded by the said Decree of the 19th
 " of *March* of this present Year, being the
 " same which is granted to those which re-
 " side in the City of *Sevilla.* And likewise I
 " command that the said search may not be
 " made by any Farmer, if in the Custom-
 " house you have paid all the Duties, and that
 " this be observed to you, and accomplished
 " inviolably.

That their Houses may not be searched, nor the Entries of their Merchandizes be demanded.

" And because that all Ships that come to
 " these my said Kingdoms, from those of *En-*
 " *gland,* *Ireland* and *Scotland,* the Minister of
 " the *Contrabans,* and of the *Almoxarifargo,*
 " upon searching them as they enter the Ports,
 " cause great Vexations and trouble to the Ma-
 " sters of them, and shut up the Holes and
 " Hatches of the said ships, deferring the vi-
 " siting them 8 or 15 days, putting Waiters
 " aboard at the cost of the Masters, who they
 " will have to maintain them, and make them
 " Presents, I command the said Ministers, as
 " well of the *Contraband,* as those of *Almox-*
 " *arifargo,* and every of them, that within
 " three days they shall and do make the said
 " Visit, without putting Waiters aboard
 " them, or taking any Duties by reason there-
 " of; and if they shall put them, it shall be at
 " the cost of the chief *Almoxarifargo,* and the
 " Admiralty, since you owe nothing. And
 " when there shall come into the said Ports of
 " *Malaga,* *Cadiz,* and *San Lucar,* any Ship
 " with

That they may not put in the Ships Waiters at the Cost of the Masters or Owners; and that they shall visit them within 3 Days.

“ with Provisions or Merchandizes, neither
 “ at the time of the Visit, and of the Unload-
 “ ing, nor at any other, as aforesaid, I order
 “ that the Judges and Officers of the Contra-
 “ band, nor Admiralty, nor any others, may
 “ not put, or do put in them Waiters at the
 “ cost of the Masters or Owners, nor do give
 “ you any trouble, either the one or the o-
 “ ther, upon that account, according to
 “ what is ordered in the fourth Article of the
 “ Institution of the said Admiralty, by which
 “ it is exprest, relating thereunto, for the sa-
 “ tisfaction of the Waiters and other Officers
 “ in the 8th Article of the Peace, in which it
 “ is ordered, that the Vassals of the one King
 “ in the Territory of the other, shall be treat-
 “ ed as the Natives themselves, in whose Ships
 “ never are put Waiters at the cost of the Ma-
 “ sters or Owners thereof.

*That shew-
 ing Bills of
 Lading for
 the Merchan-
 dizes, they
 may not be
 obliged to
 any thing
 else, and that
 the Masters
 comply with
 producing
 their Mani-
 fest within
 the 3d Day
 of their Ar-
 rival in the
 Port.*

“ And because also that the Officers of the
 “ Contraband in the said Ports, as soon as the
 “ Ships cast Anchor, demand of the Masters
 “ their Manifest, and if they do not find in
 “ it the Merchandizes that come consigned to
 “ you, they give you trouble, altho' you have
 “ the Bills of Lading that the Masters have
 “ signed for them, to deliver them according
 “ to their consignment, in which you receive
 “ a great deal of Damage, because that the
 “ best Instrument you can have is the Bills of
 “ Lading, because that by them you may ob-
 “ lige them by Justice to deliver you your
 “ Goods, and if the Masters by neglect or ma-
 “ lice, do not write them in the said Mani-
 “ fest, it is not just, that they execute the
 “ Punishment

“ Punishment upon the owners of the Goods,
 “ but upon the Masters and Ships, and in so
 “ doing the Manifest shall be always justifiable.
 “ Wherefore it is my Will, and I declare,
 “ That the Masters do comply with exhibiting
 “ their Manifest, within three days after their
 “ Arrival in the said Ports; and I command
 “ that by reason hereof, the Owner of the
 “ Goods shewing the Bill of Lading, you
 “ may not give him any trouble or molestati-
 “ on whatsoever.

“ And because likewise the Judges for Ex-
 “ portation, and other Officers, cause you
 “ much Trouble and Vexation if they find in
 “ the Ship any Money, and it being necessa-
 “ ry that the Masters have a Sum according
 “ to the Tonnage, to buy Sails, Cables, An-
 “ chors, and other necessary Stores, I give
 “ Licence and Permission, that having first
 “ made a Register, as is usual, every Ship
 “ may have three Pieces of Eight for every
 “ Ton, for the said Purpose and for any o-
 “ ther, without therefore that upon that ac-
 “ count they be put to any Trouble.

*That having
 made a Re-
 gister, every
 Ship may
 have 3 pieces
 of Eight for
 every Ton.*

“ And because, that also they of the Ex-
 “ cise office of the said City of Sevilla, occasi-
 “ on you Trouble, Vexation, and Law-
 “ Suits, saying, That there is an Order that
 “ you shall manifest the Butter, Leather,
 “ and other Merchandizes and Provisions, and
 “ that you declare the Price you sell them at,
 “ and to what Persons, by which means it is
 “ two Years since that you have not brought
 “ any Butter to the said City, and the Order
 “ doth not relate to the Strangers who bring
 “ these

*That they
 may not be
 obliged to
 manifest But-
 ter, Leather,
 nor other
 Merchan-
 dizes in the
 Excise Office.*

“ these Goods and Provisions by Sea, but on-
 “ ly with the Retailers that go to buy them
 “ in the Ports, and bring them to the said
 “ City to gain by them, I declare, That you
 “ have no Obligation to make the said Mani-
 “ fest and Declaration, nor can they be o-
 “ bliged thereby to make them nor to make a
 “ Procefs against you ; and if they do, I com-
 “ mand they be remitted to the Judge-Con-
 “ servator to determine them.

*That their
 Houses may
 not be taken
 from them
 till their
 Leases be
 complied
 with.*

“ And because that many times you have
 “ taken Leases of the Houses in which you
 “ you-live and keep your Merchandizes, and
 “ while you are in them, Persons of great
 “ Authority take them from you before your
 “ Lease is expired, because they be large and
 “ stand where Trade is, and oblige you to
 “ remove the Goods, whereby they are da-
 “ maged and stolen from you ; I will and
 “ command, That during the time of your
 “ Lease, the said Houses may not be taken
 “ from you by any Person, altho’ he be a
 “ Judge, and have a particular Privilege.

“ And that all this may be certain and se-
 “ cure, I command the Regent and Judges
 “ of my Court of Degrees of the City of
 “ *Sevilla*, and the Judges of the Courts
 “ thereof, and my Governour of the said Ci-
 “ ty, and his Deputy, and the other Judges
 “ and Justices thereof, and of others whatso-
 “ ever Cities, Villages, and Places of my
 “ Kingdoms, and Dominions of my Crowns
 “ of *Castile*, to whom principally, or acci-
 “ dentally shall concern what is here contain-
 “ ed, that all causes which shall be depending,
 “ in

“ in which you shall be Defendants, being
 “ of the Qualities in this my Letter contained,
 “ that they may provide and give order, that
 “ they may be remitted presently to the Judge
 “ Conservator, as I have named you, in the
 “ posture they shall be, tho’ they may have
 “ been begun before, or after my said Decree
 “ of the 19th of *March*, of this present Year,
 “ together with the said Decrees and Cedula
 “ (notwithstanding it having been ordered by
 “ my said Court of Degrees to give a Copy
 “ thereof to my said Judge) without making
 “ therein any excuse, reply, doubt, or any dif-
 “ ficulty whatsoever ; and I command, That
 “ they do not intermeddle, nor may inter-
 “ meddle in any thing concerning what is
 “ contained in the said Decree and Cedula,
 “ and in this my Letter, but that they ob-
 “ serve, and fulfil, and cause to be observed
 “ and fulfilled, and executed in all, and
 “ through all, as therein is contained, and
 “ that each of you, in that Part which shall
 “ concern him, do cause them to be put in
 “ true and due Execution effectually, so as in
 “ all respects it may be complied with, with-
 “ out that it be necessary to have further re-
 “ course to me hereupon, whatsoever Laws
 “ and Pragmaticas of these my Kingdoms and
 “ Dominions, Ordinances, Stiles, Use and
 “ Custom, which they have, or might have,
 “ to the contrary notwithstanding ; with
 “ which, for as much as relates to these Pre-
 “ sents, I dispense, abrogate and derogate,
 “ make void and null, and give for no Value
 “ and effect, these Presents remaining in full
 “ force

*That the
 Suits which
 shall have
 been begun
 before or af-
 ter the Cedu-
 la of the
 19th of
 March, be
 remitted to
 the Conser-
 vator, they
 being De-
 fendants.*

“ force and vigor for the future, and of this
 “ my Letter, the Clerks of my Royal Treas-
 “ fury are to take notice, and I declare, That
 “ for this grant you have paid the Duty of the
 “ Media anata. Given in *Valencia*, the 19th
 “ Day of *November*, in the Year 1645.

I the King.

ROYAL DECREE.

“ **D**ON Carlos, by the Grace of God,
 “ King of *Castile*, of *Arragon*, of the
 “ Two *Sicilies*, of *Jerusalem*, of *Navarre*, of
 “ *Granada*, of *Valencia*, of *Galicia*, of *Ma-*
 “ *lorca*, of *Sevilla*, of *Cerdenna*, of *Cordova*,
 “ of *Corcega*, of *Murcia*, of *Jaen*, Lord of *Bis-*
 “ *cay*, of *Molina*, &c. the Queen *Donna Ma-*
 “ *riana de Austria*, his Mother as his Tutrefs,
 “ Guardianes, and Governes of the said King-
 “ doms and Dominions; to you Don *Francisco*
 “ *Diaz de Valecilla*, our Judge in Commission
 “ for the visit of Exportations, and things
 “ prohibited in the City of *Sevilla*, and its
 “ Districts, Send Greeting. Know ye, That
 “ the Ambaffador of *Great Britain* hath repre-
 “ sented to us, that you have caused to be no-
 “ tified to the Merchants of the *English* Nati-
 “ on of this City, that you would searh and
 “ register, and even mark the Books and Pa-
 “ pers of their Traffick and Correspondency,
 “ which said Proceeding hath been a manifest
 “ contravention of what hath been agreed to
 “ by the Articles of Peace, especially in the
 “ One and Thirtieth Article thereof, in
 “ which

“ which it was established and agreed, to all
 “ that relates to the said Books, that they
 “ might have liberty to keep them in what
 “ Tongue they pleased, and in particular, that
 “ the said Merchants might not be Examined,
 “ nor upon any account whatsoever Fined by
 “ them, nor the said Books registred, nor ta-
 “ ken from them, upon which occasion those
 “ of the said Nation have had recourse to Don
 “ *Carlos de Herrera Ramirez de Arellano*, Re-
 “ gent of our Court of this City, and Go-
 “ vernor thereof, and Judge Conservator of
 “ the said *English* Nation, requiring him, as
 “ such Judge, that he would dispatch his Let-
 “ ter of Inhibition, inserting the aforesaid Ar-
 “ ticle of Peace, that you might desist from
 “ your Proceedings, and keep and observe
 “ what is contained in the said Article, and
 “ might not disquiet, and disturb those of the
 “ said Nation, as in effect he had dispatched
 “ the said Inhibition, notwithstanding which,
 “ you have opposed and preserved in your first
 “ Intent, and there was notice that you were
 “ soliciting a stronger Commission and Autho-
 “ rity to prosecute your Intent, in which it
 “ seems you had more regard to your particu-
 “ lar Interest, than the Inconveniency which
 “ might result to us, from the said trouble gi-
 “ ven the Merchants, and the violating of
 “ the said Treaty, desiring, that we would be
 “ pleased to provide a Remedy, and command
 “ you, that you would cease and forbear your
 “ Proceedings, and Pretentions, and comply
 “ with the Inhibition I have laid on you, for
 “ such publick Concerns ought not to be sa-
 “ crificed

The British Merchant.

“ crificed for private Ends ; and likewise that
 “ we would send an order all Judges what-
 “ soever shall observe the Articles of Peace
 “ between the Two Crowns, and that under
 “ no Pretence they shall intermeddle or take
 “ cognizance of the causes relating to the
 “ *English Nation*, nor presume to any Juris-
 “ diction over them, unless it be their Judges
 “ Conservators ; and the Article which is
 “ referred to it having been perused by our
 “ Council, is of the Tenor following, viz.
 “ *The Inhabitants and Subjects of the one*
 “ *Part and the other, may in all Parts or*
 “ *Territories, under the Obedience of the said*
 “ *Kings, make use of Advocates, Proctors,*
 “ *Notaries, and Solicitors, which they shall best*
 “ *think fit, to whom they may give Charge of*
 “ *their Law Suits, by consent of the Judges in*
 “ *ordinary, when it shall be necessary, and the*
 “ *Plaintiffs shall require it ; and they shall not*
 “ *be constrained to exhibit their Books and Papers*
 “ *of Account to any Person, unless it be to make*
 “ *Proof to avoid Law Suits and Controversies,*
 “ *nor shall they be attacked, detained, nor taken*
 “ *out of their hands, for any Cause whatsoever,*
 “ *and it shall be lawful for the Subjects and In-*
 “ *habitants of the one Part and the other, in the*
 “ *Places where they shall have their Residence,*
 “ *that they may keep their Books of Traffick and*
 “ *Correspondency in what Tongue they will, in*
 “ *Spanish, English, Flemish, or any other,*
 “ *without that by reason hereof they may be mo-*
 “ *lested or examined, with what else is granted*
 “ *to any other Nation in particular, relating to*
 “ *the said Books of Traffick or Correspondency.*
 “ And

Trade with Spain.

“ And we having thought good for the said
 “ Reasons, that we ought to send you this
 “ our Letter, by which we command you,
 “ that upon Exhibiting to you the abovesaid
 “ recited Article, that you observe, accom-
 “ plish, and execute the same in all, and
 “ through all, as is therein contained, without
 “ contravening it under any Pretext whatsoe-
 “ ver, and a Penalty of Twenty Thousand
 “ Maravedis for our Exchequer ; and we
 “ command under the said Penalties any No-
 “ tary whatsoever, who shall be required to
 “ notifie you with this our Letter, to give
 “ you a Certificate thereof. Given in *Ma-*
 “ *drid* the 12th day of *July*, of the Year,
 “ 1674.

The Count de *Villa Umbrosa*.
 Doctor *Gil. de Castejon*.
 Don *Alonso de los Rios Angulo*.
 Don *Antonio de Riano y Salamanca*.
 Don *Martin de Olea*.

Treaty with Spain in 1667.

Article III.

“ **W**HEREAS by the Treaty of Peace
 “ lately concluded between their Royal
 “ Majesties, it was laid as the Basis and Foun-
 “ dation of the said Treaty, That the Sub-
 “ jects of *Great Britain* should use and enjoy
 “ the same Privileges and Liberty of Trade
 “ throughout all the Dominions of *Spain*,
 “ which

The British Merchant.

" which they enjoyed in the time of *Charles*
 " the Second ; And therefore the same Rule
 " is likewise and ought to be the Basis and
 " Foundation of the present Treaty of Com-
 " merce (which is understood to extend reci-
 " procally to the Subjects of *Spain* trading in
 " *Great Britain*, in regard to whatsoever by
 " Agreement belongs to them.) And where-
 " as a certain clear, and expeditious Method
 " of paying the Duties is of the greatest use
 " in settling Trade upon a good Foot, and
 " to the mutual Advantage of each Nation ; it
 " is therefore agreed and concluded, That
 " within the space of Three Months from the
 " Ratification of this Treaty, Commissaries
 " appointed for that purpose by their respective
 " Majesties, shall meet on the part of each of
 " their Royal Majesties, either at *Madrid* or
 " *Cadiz* ; By whom a new Book of Rates shall,
 " without any delay of time, be made, which
 " Book of Rates shall be published in every
 " Port, and shall contain, and severally ex-
 " press the Duties which are hereafter to be
 " paid for Wares brought into, or carried out
 " of *Castile*, *Arragon*, *Valencia*, and *Catalonia*,
 " and shall settle them in such a manner, that
 " all the different Imposts which in the time
 " of the late King *Charles* the Second were paid
 " under several Names, and in different Cu-
 " stom-houses, for Wares entring into or going
 " out of the Ports of *Spain* (the Kingdoms of
 " *Arragon* and *Valencia*, and the Principality
 " of *Catalonia* being comprehended therein,
 " *Guipuscoa* and *Biscaya*, of which mention
 " shall be made hereafter, only excepted)
 " shall

Trade with Spain.

" shall be put together and be contained
 " in one Duty, and payable only in one
 " Sum.
 " But whereas the *British* Ambassador
 " made pressing Instances that it might be
 " given as a Rule to the said Commissaries,
 " that no greater Duties or other Imposts
 " whatsoever, should be made payable in
 " any Port, wet or dry, in his said Catho-
 " lick Majesty's Dominions, by the said
 " new Book of Rates, that what were paid
 " in the Custom-houses of the Port of St.
 " *Mary's* or *Cadiz*, in the Reign of the late
 " King of *Spain*, *Charles* the Second ; the
 " Ambassadors of *Spain* have consented, and
 " it is agreed and stipulated, That that Rule
 " shall be observed in those very Ports of *Ca-*
 " *diz* and St. *Mary's*. So that all Augmenta-
 " tions of Duties which were introduced in the
 " said Ports after the Time of *Charles* the
 " Second, on occasion of the War, or under
 " the Title of *Habilitation*, or any other what-
 " soever, ceasing and being taken away, the
 " *British* Subjects shall not, before or after the
 " said Book of Rates is settled, be bound to
 " pay any greater Duties, of what sort soever,
 " or under what name soever, for their Im-
 " ports or Exports in the Ports of St. *Mary's*
 " and *Cadiz*, than what were paid there in
 " the time of King *Charles* the Second.
 " Moreover, in regard to the Ports of St.
 " *Mary's* and *Cadiz*, the said Commissaries
 " shall be strictly enjoyned not to make the
 " new Book of Rates according to the old In-
 " dexes of Duties, which, by reason of the
 " exorbi-

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“ exorbitant Rights that were appointed to be
“ paid by them, ceased to be in use in the
“ Time of *Charles* the Second; but shall fol-
“ low in the Tenor of those Indexes only,
“ which, (whether they were commonly called
“ Arancel or Registers) shall be found to have
“ subsisted in the Time of King *Charles* the
“ Second, and to have been the Rule by which
“ the Duties were then paid.

“ And it is further agreed, That the Sub-
“ jects of *Great Britain*, having paid these
“ Duties for their Wares in the said Ports,
“ to wit, those, until the new Indexes are
“ made, which were paid in the time of *Charles*
“ the Second, or else such as shall be made
“ payable by the said new Book of Rates,
“ shall have liberty to transport the said Wares
“ either by Sea or Land, into any other Port
“ or Place of the aforesaid Dominions of *Spain*,
“ nor shall the Duties which were paid be-
“ fore, be re-exacted on that occasion.

“ Moreover, for preventing all disputes
“ which (notwithstanding the exact Admini-
“ stration of Justice in *Spain* in all other res-
“ pects) have formerly arisen concerning o-
“ ther Duties, which, to the great prejudice
“ of Trade and Traders, have been exacted
“ formerly; it is agreed, That Wares which
“ have paid the Duties in the manner afore-
“ said at *Cadiz*, or the Port of *St. Mary's*,
“ and are transported in order to be sold by
“ wholesale, shall be free and clear from any
“ other Duty whatsoever, throughout all *Spain*;
“ provided however, that the Proprietor of
“ the said Wares, or Factors, brings Certifi-
“ cates

“ cates

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“ cates that the Duties were duly paid in the
“ manner aforesaid, otherwise such Wares
“ shall be look'd upon as fraudulently trans-
“ ported. But as to the Payment of the
“ Rights commonly called *de Alcaualos*, *Cien-*
“ *tos*, and *Millones*, it is agreed, That it
“ shall be regulated according to the fifth and
“ eighth Article of this Treaty.

“ But because the *Spanish* Ambassadors are
“ persuaded that the Duties in every Port of
“ *Spain* cannot be reduced to the same Rule
“ with those which are or may become cu-
“ stomary in *Cadiz*, or the Port of *St. Mary's*,
“ without violating the Laws of *Spain*, and
“ several Privileges there, which have the
“ force of Laws, nor without the too great
“ prejudice of the King their Master: It is
“ therefore thought proper to leave this Mat-
“ ter to the determination of the Commissa-
“ ries who shall be appointed to settle the new
“ Book of Rates.

“ But his Catholick Majesty promises,
“ That he will immediately take off all Aug-
“ mentations of Duties in the said Ports,
“ which have been introduced there since the
“ Time of *Charles* the Second, on occasion
“ of the War, or under the Title of *Habili-*
“ *tations*, or any other whatsoever; and that
“ either the same Rule shall be observed in
“ those Ports, which is agreed to in the Ports
“ of *St. Mary's* and *Cadiz*, or else at least
“ that the same Rule shall be observed, as well
“ before as after the said new Book of Rates
“ shall be made, which had obtained in each
“ respective Port in the Time of King *Charles*

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“ the Second: So that hereafter, no greater
 “ Duties shall be exacted there, or in any o-
 “ ther Place of Passage, than what were paid
 “ in the said Places in the Time of *Charles*
 “ the Second. In the same Places shall be
 “ likewise observed what has been above ap-
 “ pointed in this Article concerning the
 “ Rights *de Alcavalos, Cientos, and Millones.*
 “ As to the Ports of *Guipuscoa and Biscaya,*
 “ and others, not subject to the Laws of *Ca-*
 “ *stille,* in which less Duties were paid in
 “ the Time of *Charles* the Second, than at
 “ *Cadiz* or in the Port of *St. Mary's;* his
 “ Catholick Majesty promises, That those
 “ Duties shall not be augmented in the said
 “ Places by the new Book of Rates, but
 “ shall, in the mean time, remain as they
 “ were in the Time of *Charles* the Second.
 “ All Wares, however, brought into the
 “ Ports of *Biscaya and Guipuscoa,* which shall
 “ afterwards be carried by Land into the King-
 “ doms of *Castille or Arragon,* shall be bound
 “ to pay such Duties in the Port where they
 “ first enter the said Kingdoms, as were paid
 “ there in the Time of *Charles* the Second, or
 “ else such as shall be established by the new
 “ Book of Rates.

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“ To prevent Abuses in collecting the
 “ Rights called *de Alcavalos & Cientos,* his Ca-
 “ tholick Majesty consents, That the Sub-
 “ jects of *Great Britain* who shall bring their
 “ Wares into any Port of *Spain,* wet or dry,
 “ in

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“ in order to sell them by Wholesale, shall have
 “ their choice whether they will pay the said
 “ Rights *de Alcavalos & Cientos,* in the first
 “ Place or Port that they shall arrive at, or
 “ else according to the Laws of *Castille,* at
 “ the Place where and the Time when they
 “ were sold; which said Rights shall be the
 “ same as were paid in the Time of King
 “ *Charles* the Second. And it is further a-
 “ greed, That the Subjects of *Great Britain*
 “ may send or carry the Wares, for which
 “ the said Rights *de Alcavalos* have once been
 “ paid, into any Port or Place whatsoever be-
 “ longing to his Catholick Majesty's Dominions
 “ in *Europe* (in order to sell them there by
 “ Wholesale) without any Molestation or Re-
 “ petition of the said Duties, or Exaction of
 “ any others for the first Sale: Provided how-
 “ ever, that they who carry the said Wares
 “ shall bring Receipts or Certificates from
 “ the Farmers, or Commissioners of the Cu-
 “ stom-houses, from whence it may appear
 “ that the said Rights have been paid for those
 “ Wares, and likewise other Certificates,
 “ proving that the said Wares have not yet
 “ been sold. But if any Merchant sells his
 “ Wares by Retail, he shall be bound under
 “ such Penalties as are inflicted by Law, to pay
 “ all the local and municipal Duties which are
 “ due and customary at the Sale of them, to-
 “ gether with the Rights *de Alcavalos & Cien-*
 “ *tos,* and all others whatsoever.
 “ His Catholick Majesty farther consents,
 “ That if after the Certificates above-men-
 “ tioned have been shewn, any Officer, or
 “ Gatherer

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“ Gatherer of Duties, shall exact the said
 “ Rights again, or shall give any Trouble,
 “ or stop the Passage of the Wares on that
 “ account; the Officer guilty of the said Fault
 “ shall incur the Penalty of 2000 Ducats, pay-
 “ able to the Use of his Majesty’s Chamber,
 “ or of the general Hospital at *Madrid*. The
 “ Notaries of the Custom-houses, or the Con-
 “ traband, shall not receive above 15 *Ryals*
 “ *Vellon* for dispatching the said Certificates,
 “ unless it shall be otherwise agreed in settling
 “ the new Book of Rates.

Article VIII. 1713.

“ It is agreed, and his Catholick Majesty
 “ will give effectual Orders to that purpose,
 “ that the Duties upon Fish and other Provisi-
 “ ons, called *Millon*, shall not be demanded
 “ in the Place where the said Wares first ar-
 “ rive; but the said Duties shall be paid ac-
 “ cording to the antient Custom established
 “ by Law, only in the Place of Consumpti-
 “ on, and when the Wares are sold, and
 “ not before.

Article XV. 1713.

“ As to the Judge Conservator, and others
 “ to be substituted by him, if this Privilege be
 “ granted to any other Foreign Nation what-
 “ soever, the Subjects of *Great Britain* shall
 “ likewise enjoy it. In the mean time howe-
 “ ver, and until some thing certain shall be
 “ determined in this matter, his Catholick
 “ Ma-

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“ tholick Majesty will give exprefs Orders to
 “ all and every one of the Judges of his King-
 “ dom, and to all others whosoever, who are
 “ any ways concerned in the Administration
 “ or Execution of Justice, and shall enjoyn
 “ the same under the strictest Penalties, to do
 “ Justice, and cause it to be executed with-
 “ out any Delay, Partiality, Favour, or Af-
 “ fection, in all Causes relating to the Sub-
 “ jects of *Great Britain*.
 “ The Catholick King consents, That Ap-
 “ peals from Sentences in Causes concerning
 “ the *British* Subjects, may be brought before
 “ the Tribunal of the Council of War at *Ma-*
 “ *drid*, and no where else.

WE having seen and considered the above
 written Treaty, have approved, ratified,
 and confirmed the same, as *We* do by these Pre-
 sents, for Our Selves, Our Heirs and Succes-
 sors, approve, ratify and confirm it, excepting
 only three Articles thereof, viz. The third, fifth,
 and eighth, concluded at *Utrecht*, which are to
 be observed and understood in the Manner and
 Form following.

Article III.

“ **W**HEREAS by the late Treaty of
 “ Peace it is agreed and established as
 “ a Basis and Foundation, that the Subjects
 “ of *Great Britain*, in what regards Com-
 “ merce, shall enjoy the same Liberties and
 “ Privileges which they enjoyed in the Reign
 “ of

“ of King *Charles* the Second, in all Parts of
 “ the King of *Spain's* Dominions, in which
 “ Rule is what is also to serve for a Basis and
 “ Foundation of the present Treaty of Com-
 “ merce, and is to be understood reciprocally
 “ in Favour of the King of *Spain's* Subjects
 “ trading in the Dominions of *Great Britain*.
 “ And as nothing can contribute more to es-
 “ tablish the Commerce to a mutual Benefit
 “ than a fixed, clear, and easie Rule in
 “ paying the Duties, especially on a mode-
 “ rate footing, and proportionable to the Va-
 “ lue of the Merchandise, in order to pre-
 “ vent the Frauds that otherwise would be
 “ practised, to the Prejudice of the Revenues
 “ of either Crown, which has been often ex-
 “ perienced in *Spain*, where the established
 “ Duties by the antient Books of Rates are
 “ excessive; in consideration whereof his Ca-
 “ tholick Majesty, being desirous to avoid the
 “ like consequences, and to favour, augment,
 “ and facilitate, in all that depends upon him,
 “ the Commerce, in as ample a manner, as
 “ her *Britannick* Majesty desires, hath con-
 “ sented, on his part, to suppress and make
 “ void the different Duties payable upon Im-
 “ portation and Exportation, contained in
 “ the antient Books of Rates, as also those
 “ that have been imposed since, under any
 “ name or pretence whatsoever, and content
 “ himself with one only Duty to be paid on
 “ Importation of all Goods and Merchandize,
 “ after the Rate of 10 per Cent. of their Va-
 “ lue; And the like Duty upon all Goods and
 “ Merchandize which shall be exported out
 “ of

“ of his Dominions, whether the Valuation
 “ be made by Weight, Measure, Piece, or
 “ *ad Valorem*; and the same Duty shall be
 “ collected in all the Ports of Entry in *Spain*,
 “ comprehending those of *Arragon, Valencia,*
 “ and *Catalonia*, excepting out of this Gene-
 “ ral Rule *Biscaya* and *Guipuscoa*, whose Du-
 “ ties of Importation and Exportation are to
 “ remain as they were in the time of *Charles*
 “ the Second. And that the said 10 per Cent.
 “ being once paid, the Farmers or Officers of
 “ the Custom-houses where those Goods shall
 “ be Entred, shall be obliged to Mark the
 “ same with the proper Seals and Marks of
 “ their Office, and also give the requisite
 “ Dispatches; by virtue of which, the Pro-
 “ prietors of the Goods may freely Transport
 “ them to all the other Parts of *Spain* where
 “ they please, without being liable to pay any
 “ other Duty, Imposition, or Charges, to
 “ the Use or Benefit of his Catholick Majesty
 “ in any Ports or Parts of *Spain* whatsoever,
 “ in respect of Transporting the said Mer-
 “ chandize, over and above what they have
 “ paid, in pursuance of this new Arancel,
 “ provided the Receipts and Marks are pro-
 “ duced; in default of which they shall be e-
 “ steemed to be fraudulently transported. But
 “ it is to be understood, that this is not to
 “ extend to the *Alcavalas, Cientos, and Mil-*
 “ *lones*, in relation to which, Provision is
 “ made in the fifth and eighth Articles of
 “ this Treaty.
 “ And for as much as the Ambassador of
 “ *England* hath represented, That to avoid
 “ all

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“ all differences and disputes for the future, it
 “ is absolutely necessary to establish a certain
 “ Valuation or Rate of the several sorts of
 “ Merchandize, by which the said Duty of
 “ 10 per Cent. shall always be paid and not
 “ altered, either by means of the Augmenta-
 “ tion or Diminution of the Price of the said
 “ Merchandize, which may hereafter happen
 “ in the Commerce, in any time, or in any
 “ part of the Kingdom : It is agreed by their
 “ Catholick and *Britannick* Majesties by their
 “ Ambassadors, That in the Term of Three
 “ Months, from the Ratification of this Trea-
 “ ty, or sooner, if possible, Commissaries
 “ named and authorized by both their Maje-
 “ sties in due Form, shall meet at *Madrid*
 “ or in *Cadiz*, who, without loss of time
 “ shall proceed to the forming a new Book of
 “ Rates, in such a manner as to fix and limit
 “ what shall be paid for the future on all sorts
 “ of Merchandize, as well upon Importation
 “ as Exportation ; and so as that all the diffe-
 “ rent Duties which were payable, either be-
 “ fore or in the time of *Charles* the Second, or
 “ since, under whatsoever name or pretence,
 “ or collected in different Custom-houses or
 “ Offices, shall be comprehended in this only
 “ Duty, payable in one Sum, whether upon
 “ Importation or Exportation in all the Ports
 “ of *Spain*, and shall extend to the Kingdoms
 “ of *Arragon*, *Valencia*, and Principality of
 “ *Catalonia*, and their Dependencies, except-
 “ ing only the Provinces of *Guipuscoa* and *Bis-*
 “ *caya*, of which mention has been already
 “ made. And whereas great Instances have
 “ been

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“ been made by the Ambassador of *Great Bri-*
 “ *tain*, that directions be given to the said
 “ Commissaries, that they take care, and a-
 “ bove all, do observe as a fixed Rule, That
 “ this Duty be laid equally and generally in all
 “ the Ports and Custom-houses of *Spain*, up-
 “ on the Importation and Exportation of all
 “ Goods and Merchandize, after the Rate of
 “ 10 per Cent. of the value which such Goods
 “ and Merchandize bear in the course of
 “ Trade between the Merchants of *Cadiz* and
 “ Port of *St. Mary's* ; to which the Amba-
 “ sadors of *Spain* have consented ; always pro-
 “ vided, That the Goods and Commodities
 “ which shall be Imported into the Kingdom
 “ of *Spain* by the Ports of *Biscaya* and *Gui-*
 “ *puscoa*, and afterwards Transported into the
 “ other Provinces depending on the Kingdoms
 “ of *Castile* and *Arragon*, shall be obliged to
 “ pay at the first Custom-house of Entry
 “ into the said Kingdoms, the Duties which
 “ shall be established in this new Book of
 “ Rates.

Article V.

“ To prevent the Abuses that may be com-
 “ mitted in collecting the Duties called *Alcava-*
 “ *las & Cientos*, his Catholic Majesty consents
 “ that the Subjects of her *Britannick* Majesty
 “ shall not be obliged to pay these Duties during
 “ such time as they think fit to let their Mer-
 “ chandize remain in the Magazines of the
 “ Custom-houses appointed for that purpose ;
 “ but when they shall think fit to take out the
 H 5 said

“ said Goods, either to be transported farther
 “ into the Country, sell them in the same
 “ place, or carry them to their own Houses,
 “ it shall be permitted them so to do, upon
 “ giving his Bond with sufficient Security to
 “ pay the said Duties of *Alcavalas* and *Cientos*
 “ for the said first Sale in two Months after
 “ the Date of his Bond, upon which he shall
 “ have Receipts given him for the said Duties,
 “ and the Goods shall be marked with the
 “ proper Mark and Seal of the Farmers of the
 “ said *Alcavalas* and *Cientos*, where such Bond
 “ and Security shall be given for the first Sale,
 “ after which the said Merchandize may be
 “ Transported and sold by Wholesale in any
 “ Port or Place belonging to the King of *Spain*
 “ in *Europe*; and that no obstruction or hin-
 “ derance shall be made upon Account of the
 “ said Duties, nor the Proprietor liable to pay
 “ a second time in respect of the first Sale,
 “ provided those who carry the said Mer-
 “ chandizes produce the Receipts and Marks
 “ of the Farmer or proper Officer concerned
 “ in the collection of these Duties, or making
 “ sufficient Proof of their not being sold be-
 “ fore. But if on the contrary any Merchant
 “ do sell his Goods by Retail, he shall be ob-
 “ liged to pay the said Duties of *Alcavalas*
 “ and *Cientos* a second time, under the Pains
 “ established by the Laws. And his Catholick
 “ Majesty declares, That if any Officer of
 “ the *Alcavalas* and *Cientos* shall exact a second
 “ time the said Duties on the same Merchan-
 “ dize, when the said Receipts and Marks
 “ have been produced, or should obstruct their
 “ Passage

“ Passage or Transportation, or occasion the
 “ least Impediment, such Officer shall be fin-
 “ ed 2000 Crowns to the Benefit of his Ma-
 “ jesties Revenues. And the Officers of the
 “ Custom-houses shall not demand or take for
 “ making such Receipts or Certificates more
 “ than 15 *Reals Vellon*, unless it be otherwise
 “ settled in the new Book of Rates.

Article VIII.

“ His Catholick Majesty consents, That
 “ the Duties commonly called *Millones*, which
 “ are payable upon Fish and other sorts of Do-
 “ mestic Provisions, shall not be demanded
 “ in the first Ports or Custom-houses of Entry
 “ in *Spain*, during such time as the Proprie-
 “ tors will let them remain in the Warehouses
 “ appointed for that purpose. But in case
 “ the Owners shall desire to take them out,
 “ either to send into the Country, sell them
 “ on the Place, or carry them to their own
 “ Houses, they are then to give Bond, with
 “ good Security, to pay the said Duty of *Mil-
 “ lones* in two Month after Date of the said
 “ Bond, upon which the necessary Dispatches
 “ are to be given them. And the said Mer-
 “ chandize shall be marked with the Seals or
 “ Marks of the Farmers of the *Millones* where
 “ the said Duties were secured, after which
 “ the said Goods may be Transported to, and
 “ sold in the Places where they are to be con-
 “ sumed, without paying any new Duties of
 “ *Millones*. His Majesty also declares, That
 “ if after the Receipts are produced, any Of-
 “ ficer

“ ficer belonging to the Farmers of the *Mil-*
 “ *lones* should exact a second time the same
 “ Duties on the same Goods, or should op-
 “ pose their Passage, Transport or Sale, or
 “ occasion the least Impediment, the said Offi-
 “ cer shall be fined 2000 Crowns for the Be-
 “ nefit of his Majesties Revenue.

A NNE, by the Grace of God, Queen of
 Great Britain, France and Ireland, De-
 fender of the Faith, &c. To all and singular
 to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting.
 Whereas the Right Reverend Father in God,
 Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Counsel-
 lor, John Bishop of Bristol, Our Ambassador
 Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Dean of
 Windsor, and Register of Our Most Noble
 Order of the Garter, did on Our Part, to-
 gether with the Plenipotentiaries of the most
 Serene Catholick King, Conclude and Sign at
 Utrecht on the ²⁸ Day of ^{November,} ₂₉ ^{December,} 1713,
 a Treaty of Commerce between the Crowns of
 Great Britain and Spain, and at the same
 time a Separate Article was Concluded, made
 between the said Plenipotentiaries, who were
 severally furnished with sufficient Authorities,
 and is as follows:

Separate Article.

“ **B** Y the present Separate Article, which
 “ shall be altogether of the same Validity
 “ and Force, as if it was inserted word for
 “ word

“ word in the Treaty of Commerce, this day
 “ concluded between their Royal Majesties of
 “ *Great Britain* and *Spain*, and shall for that
 “ end be Ratified, as well as the said Treaty ;
 “ his Catholick Majesty consents, That it
 “ shall at all times hereafter be lawful for the
 “ *British* Subjects, who shall live in the *Ca-*
 “ *nary-Islands* for the sake of their Trade, to
 “ nominate some one Person, being a Subject
 “ of *Spain*, who shall Execute the Office of
 “ Judge Conservator there, and shall at the
 “ first Instance take cognizance of all Causes
 “ relating to the Commerce of the *British*
 “ Subjects; and his Royal Majesty promises,
 “ That he will grant Commissions to such
 “ Judge Conservator so named, together with
 “ the same Authority, and all the Privileges
 “ which the Judges Conservators have former-
 “ ly enjoyed in *Andalusia*. And if the *British*
 “ Subjects shall desire to have more Judges of
 “ that sort there, or to change those that are
 “ appointed every Three Years, it shall be
 “ allowed and granted them. His Catholick
 “ Majesty consents likewise that Appeals from
 “ the Sentences of the said Judge Conservator,
 “ shall be brought before the Tribunal at the
 “ Council of War at *Madrid*, and no where
 “ else.

“ In Witness whereof, We the under
 “ written Ambassadors Extraordinary, and
 “ Plenipotentiaries of her Sacred Maje-
 “ sty of *Great Britain*, and of His Sa-
 “ cred Catholick Majesty, have Sign-
 “ ed

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“ ed and Sealed these Presents at *Utrecht*,
“ the ²⁸th Day of ^{November,} in the Year
“ of our Lord. 1713.

(L. S.) *Job. Bristol.*

(L. S.) *Duc de Ossuna.*

(L. S.) *El Marque de Monteleon.*

WE having seen and considered this Separate Article, have approved, ratified, and confirmed, as we do by these Presents approve, ratify and confirm the same, Promising and Engaging Our Royal Word, That we will Faithfully and Inviolably keep all and singular the Things therein contained, and that We will not suffer any thing to be done contrary thereunto. For the greater Testimony and Validity whereof, We have Signed this Instrument with Our Royal Hand, and caused Our Great Seal of Great Britain to be affixed thereunto. Given at Our Castle of Windsor the 7th Day of February 1713-4 in the 12th Year of Our Reign.

Anne R.

IN the first Article of this Treaty, which recites and confirms my Lord *Sandwich's* Treaty of Peace and Commerce, and several Cedulas or Grants of the Kings of *Spain* to the *English* Nation, except what is altered by subsequent Articles of the late Treaty, there are a great many Pages shewing the Constitution, Use,

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Use, and Necessity of a Judge Conservator for the *English* Nation.

But in the 11th Article are these Words: *No Judge Conservator* As to the Judge Conservator, and others to be substituted by him, if this Privilege be granted to any other Foreign Nation whatsoever, the Subjects of Great Britain shall likewise enjoy it. That is as much as to say, till this Privilege shall be granted to any other Nation, the Subjects of Great Britain shall not enjoy it. I believe this Article will be no otherwise understood either in *Spain* or *England*.

The News-writers it seems mistook the Consul for the Judge-Conservator. But it is manifest to the Treaty that the Judge-Conservator, which is a Privilege of ten times greater Necessity to us than that of having a Consul, is taken from us by the 15th Article.

King *Philip IV.* by his Royal Orders or Cedulas bearing date the 19th of *March*, the 26th of *June*, and the 9th of *November*, in the Year 1645, granted to the *English* a Liberty to chuse one of the Court of *Seville* Judge-Conservator to their Nation.

By the ninth Article of the Treaty of 1667, it is stipulated, that the *British* Subjects shall have, use, and enjoy, all the Privileges and Immunities granted by the said Cedulas or Orders.

Now the Privileges and Immunities granted by the said Cedulas, are, that the *English*, and especially in the *Sevilla*, *Cadix*, *St. Lucar*, and *Malaga*, shall not be chosen into publick Offices, that their Goods and Merchandizes shall not be taken from them, for the Dispatch

Our former Privileges in Spain.

Dispatch of Armadas, Fleets, or Galloons for Assentists or Estranqueros, but at their own Prices; that they shall not be at the costs of Guards or Waiters to be put on board their Ships, which import Fish or other Goods into that Kingdom; that no Procefs shall be made against them for selling rotten Fish; that they shall not be imprisoned on Lawfuits; that they shall not be molested on account of their Religion, and shall be as good Witnesses in every Court as the *Spaniards*; that their Books of Trade shall not be taken from them; that Merchants Houses shall not be visited, nor any dispatch of Goods demanded from them; that the Duties of Millones on Fish dry and fresh, and other Goods, be recovered only on the Consumers; that their Houses may not be searched, nor the Entries of their Goods demanded of them; that Merchants Houses may not be taken from them till their Leases be complied with.

These without doubt will be allowed to be very considerable Privileges and Immunities, and were all confirmed to us by the ninth Article of the said Treaty.

Damage to the English for want of a Judge Conservator.

But what if contrary to this Treaty, an *English Merchant* should have been chosen into any publick chargeable Office? What if his Wheat or Barley should be taken from him at the Price of the King's Purveyors, for the necessary Dispatch of the King's *Armadas*? what if Guards or Waiters should be put on board his Ships, and Pay exacted for these Fellows from the Masters of the Vessels? What if

if Procefs should be made against the Merchant for selling rotten Fish? What if he should be imprisoned on a Law-Suit, or molested on account of his Religion, or his Evidence should be refused in any Court of Justice on the same account? What if the Millones should be exacted from the Merchant, and not from the Consumer? What if his House should be searched or visited, his Books taken from him, or the Entries of his Goods demanded? In all these Cases he must be either Plaintiff or Defendant in the King's Courts, he must plead the Royal Cedula, and the Confirmation of them by the Treaty of 1667; this he must do in every Court, as he shall be removed from one to another; and perhaps he will find, that tho' the Right should at last be adjudged with him, yet the costs and expences of his Suits might make it better to have submitted quietly to the first Loss.

But there is one thing that is yet worse than all the rest, which is, that the Exportation of Silver out of that Kingdom is very criminal. The Merchant who shall export Silver, must be supposed to make Entries of this in his own Books; If the King's Officers may enter and search his House, and take away his Books, they may produce them as Evidence against the Owner, which has been often practised in *Spain* heretofore; but in *England* we have never thought it reasonable to force any Man to be his own Accuser. But how innocent soever a Merchant may be of this Offence, the very seizing his Books, under the Colour of searching for an account of Silver unlawfully exported,

Damage of seizing our Books.

Necessity of having a Judge Conservator.

exported, may discover so much of his Condition as shall prove his Ruin.

A Judge Conservator therefore chosen by the English Nation, and under their own Pay, is absolutely necessary to protect our Merchants in the enjoyment of all these Privileges and Immunities, and to inhibit all Courts and Officers that shall act in Contravention to them. And for this very Purpose, as the Cedula expresses, the Judge-Conservator was erected, to inhibit all other Courts to take Cognizance of any Causes between the English and the Spaniards, to try the Merit of every such Cause himself, and to make a just Representation of it to the Court of War at Madrid, for the Determination of that Court. And certainly we had little reason to fear a severe or partial Administration of Justice against us, by a Judge Conservator of our own choosing, and under our own Pay; tho' nothing that is unjust should be desired of him in our Favour.

It is hard to imagine why the Judge-Conservator is taken from us, unless it is resolved on the part of Spain that it shall not be possible for us hereafter to get any Ballance by that Trade; if this is their Resolution, for my own part I do not know any great Reason for trading with them.

One allowed at the Canaries.

They have granted us, by a separate Article of this Treaty, a Judge-Conservator for the Canaries, because we can carry off nothing from that Country but their Wines, and they cannot get them off to any other Nation. It is plain therefore the Privilege of a Judge-Conservator is taken from us in Spain, to hinder

der our carrying off any Silver from that Country. An excellent Treaty of Commerce, which has deprived us of a Privilege we have enjoyed from 1645 to K. Philip's Accession to the Spanish Throne!

What English Merchant will ever live in a Country where his Books are liable to be searched on every Occasion, which is the Condition of no Man in England that is not a Bankrupt by our Laws? There are Secrets in Trade, tho' contrary to no Laws of any Country, which cannot be discovered but to the exceeding Damage of the Merchant. But whatsoever shall be the Damage, we shall be forced to submit to it, if our Judge-Conservator shall be taken from us.

The searching of the Houses, or taking away the Books of our Merchants, is indeed contrary to the 31st Article of the Treaty of 1667; but we see by a Royal Decree of K. Charles II. of Spain, in the Year 1674, recited in the first Article of the present Treaty, how hard it is to have Justice done us in an arbitrary Dominion without a Judge-Conservator that is in our Interest, and whose very Salary is from our selves, and depends upon our continuing him in that Office. It appears there, that Francisco Diaz de Villacilla was preparing to enter their Houses, and to search and register, and even mark the Books and Papers of their Traffick and Correspondency, and was hardly restrained from so doing by the Representation of our Ambassador, and the Inhibition of the Judge-Conservator, till at last they made a Shift to obtain a particular Injunction to him from

from the King. Was a Judge Conservator then to be given up?

In the Name of God, why so many Pages in the first Article to tell us the Use and Necessity of a Judge-Conservator, if by five Lines in the 15th Article this Privilege was to be taken from us? Were so many Pages made Part of the first Article only to be Witnesses of our Disgrace, and to instruct us how great a Privilege we enjoyed formerly, and that we shall never enjoy the same again?

Evasions in the Treaty as to our Privileges.

But it will be objected, why should we repine? We shall have this Privilege, if it shall be granted to any other Nation. But there may be Ways of favouring *France*, without directly granting to her this Privilege, as by giving secret Orders to the Officers of the *Spanish* Customs to connive at any of her Deviations from the Laws of that Country, while the Houses and Books of our Merchants are to be searched to find out Offenders in order to their Punishment.

The third Article, both as signed by her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, and as ratified with Alterations not at all for the better, says it was laid down as the very *Basis* of the Peace, that we were to enjoy the same Privileges and Liberty of Trade as in the Reign of *K. Charles II.* A Judge-Conservator was one of those Privileges, and the most Fundamental of all, and without which all the rest of our Privileges are worth nothing. But this is yielded up by the present Treaty.

The News-writers undoubtedly mistook the Consul for the Judge-Conservator, as I have said

said before. And I think I have pretty plainly shewn that the *Spaniards* would not allow us a Judge-Conservator. If they would, why have we given it up? The *Mercator* perhaps may say that this Privilege was never demanded on our Part, but he will not be able to say that it was never refused on the Part of *Spain*.

I assure my self, this will not be called an advantageous Treaty, if it shall appear that it gives up almost all the Advantages we formerly had in *Spain*.

I shall now give an Account of the Duties that our Goods in Spain before King Philip came to the Throne, and of the State of them now, by which it appears that the late Treaty with Spain is to our disadvantage.

THE *Mercator's* second Charge against the News-Writers, Numb. 83. is, that they had published, *That the Spaniard demanded an Advance of Duties on our Merchants in Valencia, Catalonia, &c.* He says the King of *Spain* had made no such demand.

I am now to show that the King of *Spain* has advanc'd the Duties on our Goods in *Spain*, but indeed higher in *Valencia* and *Catalonia* than in the rest of *Spain*, because the Duties formerly there were lower, and that we have left him at liberty to do this by the late Treaty.

First then, I am to consider what the Duties in *Spain* were before this King's Accession to that Throne.

The Duties we paid in Spain formerly.

The British Merchant.

Secondly, What they are or may be without prejudice to the late Treaty.

For the first, my Reader will forgive me If I am a little too long in stating the several Duties in Spain as they stood before the late War.

All Goods in Spain are rated at the Custom-house by Maravedies or Ryals;

And the Customs are paid by one or other of these Denominations.

The Customs called Alcavalas, and some others, are paid in Vellon or Copper Money; the old Duty call'd Almoxarifargo, and some other, are paid three Quarters in Vellon, and one quarter in Plata or Silver Money.

The Plate Money is 50 per Cent. better than the Vellon Money of the same Denomination.

The Merchants there always make up the Accounts of their Customs in their own Books in Vellon, and therefore make an Addition of 50 per Cent. for such part of it as is paid in Plate.

15 Ryals Vellon are a Piece of Eight equal to 4 s. 6 d. English Money, and 34 Maravedies make a Ryal.

The Duty called Almoxarifargo is 11 per Cent. on some of our Woollen Manufactures, on others not above 5 per Cent.

On those Goods where the Almoxarifargo is 11 per Cent. the old Alcavala is no more than 1 per Cent.

But where the Almoxarifargo is no more than 5 per Cent. the old Alcavala is 5 1/2 per Cent.

Let

Trade with Spain.

Let us see then how the Duties will arise in 100 Maravedies, even to the 100th part of a Maravedie, on the Goods which pay the highest Almoxarifargo.

100 Maravedies are supposed to be the Value of the Goods.

11 per Cent. Almoxarifargo—Quarto Plata.

2 Dos per Ciento—Quarto Plata.

1 1/2 Uno y Medio per Ciento, with a Premio or Addition of 5 per Cent.

1 Uno per Cent. Noevo Alcavala.

1 Uno per Cent. Donativo.

2 Dos per Ciento — Quarto Plata.

1/2 per Ciento.

1 per Ciento.

2 Dos per Ciento — Quarto Plata.

1 Old Alcavala.

1 1/4 per Ciento — Quarto Plata.

24 1/4 in all; so that by this Account the whole Duties are 24 1/4 of 100 Maravedies.

But here the Reader ought to observe that a quarter part of some of these Duties is paid in Plata, which, as I said before, is 50 per Cent. better than Vellon; and that there is also a Premio or Addition of 5 per Cent. on one of the Duties. The Addition then of this 5 per Cent. and also of the 50 per Cent. will still swell the Account, and add to the aforesaid 24 per Cent. that is to say,

The

The British Merchant.

The quarter part of 11 per Cent. Almozarifargo is $2\frac{1}{10}$ Maravedies, which being paid in Plata, which is 50 per Cent. better than Vellon, the half of $2\frac{7}{10}$ Maravedies must be added, viz. ————

The quarter part of three times Dos per Ciento paid in Plata for the same Reason must add ————

The Premio of 5 per Cent. on $1\frac{1}{2}$ Maravedies must amount ————

The last Duty is $1\frac{1}{4}$ Maravedies, and the Quarter of this being $31\frac{1}{4}$ hundredth Parts of a Maravedie, the half of that Sum should be added for its being paid in Plata; but to avoid so inconsiderable a Fraction, the Merchants in their Accounts add only the half of 30 ————

In all ———— 2 — 35
 The Customs without these Additions amount to $24\frac{1}{4}$ per Cent. Maravedies ———— 24 — 25

So that the whole Custom is 26 — 60 on every 100 Maravedies.

But where the Almozarifargo is no more than 5 per Cent. the old Alcavalla is $5\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. and the whole Customs were as follow,

- 5 per Cent. Almozarifargo—Quarto Plata.
- 2 Dos per Ciento ———— Quarto Plata.
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ per Ciento, with a Premio, or Addition of 50 per Cent.
- 1 per Ciento Nova Alcavala.
- 1 per Ciento Donativo.
- 2 Dos per Ciento. ———— Quarto Plata.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ciento. ———— 1 per

Trade with Spain.

- 1 per Ciento.
- 2 Dos per Ciento. ———— Quarto Plata.
- $5\frac{1}{2}$ Old Alcavala.
- $1\frac{1}{4}$ Uno y Quarto per Ciento. Quarto Plata.

22 $\frac{3}{4}$, so that according to this Table the whole Duties are $22\frac{3}{4}$ per Cent. Maravedies.

But in this as well as in the former Case, for the Quarto Plata and the Premio, Additions ought to be made, viz.

	Mar. Hund. Pts of Mar.
For the Quarto Plata on 5 per Cent. Almozarifargo	0 — 62 $\frac{1}{2}$
For the Quarto Plata on 3 times Dos per Ciento	0 — 75
For the Premio of 5 per Cent. on $1\frac{1}{2}$ Maravedies	0 — 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
For the Quarto Plata on the last Duty of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent.	0 — 15
	1 — 60
To which add the 22 three fourths abovementioned, viz.	22 — 75

And the whole Duty on Goods paying but 5 per Cent. Almozarifargo amounted to ———— 24 — 35

These Duties of $26\frac{63}{100}$ Maravedies and $25\frac{11}{100}$ Maravedies per Cent. were reckoned in Vellon or Copper Money.

But to shew how much this amounted to upon the real Value of our Goods, it will be necessary first to fix the value of our Goods, and then to shew what Gratas were allow'd,

or Abatements made to the Merchants out of these Customs.

To begin with a Comparison of the Custom-house valuation and the real value, and particularly in the Case of Bays.

A Piece of Bays was rated at 10000 Maravedies, and paid 2660 Maravedies Customs.

The same was usually sold for 20 Ducats, or 220 Ryals Plate: To which add 50 *per Cent.* for Vellon and Copper Money, and it will amount to 330 Ryals; and these multiplied by 34 Maravedies; that is, 11220 Maravedies; that is, 1220 more than the Custom-house Valuation.

Now 2663 Maravedies on 10000 is 26 $\frac{3}{4}$ or 26 $\frac{60}{100}$ *per Cent.* but on 11220 is not quite 23 *per Cent.*

But in the next Place 33 *per Cent.* was abated for the Farmer's Gratia; that is, in 100 Pieces of Bays, the Farmer counted no more than 67, he received Customs for no more, so that the whole 100 Pieces paid only the Customs of 67 Pieces.

Again, upon the Payment of these Customs, a Quarter Part was abated for the King's Gratia. A quarter Part of 67 is 16 $\frac{3}{4}$. This reduced the Customs on 67 Pieces to no more than the Custom on 50 $\frac{1}{4}$.

But other Allowances were also made to the Merchants, which brought the Customs on 100 Pieces of Bays down to 43 or thereabouts, which makes an Abatement of 57 *per Cent.* on the Customs, which I have already shown were not above 123 *per Cent.* of the real value of the Goods, and reduced the same to about 9 $\frac{6}{10}$ *per Cent.* on our Bays. On

On other Goods the Deductions were yet greater. The Farmer's Gratia was 45 *per Cent.* the King's Gratia a 4th Part of the remaining 55, which amounts to 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ *per Cent.* and reduc'd the Goods to 41 $\frac{1}{4}$ *per Cent.* of the Quantity whereon the Customs were paid; which is the same thing as abating 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ *per Cent.* out of the Customs, and reduced the same on all Goods paying the 11 *per Cent.* Almojarifargo to less than 9 $\frac{6}{10}$; on all others which paid but 5 *per Cent.* Almojarifargo to about 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ *per Cent.*

Thus stood the Duties in the Reign of King Charles II. of Spain on our Woollen Manufactures, a little more or less, and this even for the Province of *Andalusia*, where they were the highest; in *Catalonia*, *Valencia* and *Arragon*, they were much lower than in *Andalusia*: But now *Andalusia* is to be the Rule for these Places, and the Reign of King Charles II, by the late Treaty, is not to be the Rule for *Andalusia*.

The Articles sign'd by the Bishop of Bristol say, the Duties in Spain shall not exceed those in the Reign of King Charles II, but the ratified Articles have given up this Rule. The Bishop's Articles had bound down King Philip not to exceed the Duties in the time of his Predecessor, and consequently to allow the Gratias that were then allowed; but the ratified Articles oblige us to pay 10 *per Cent.* the first Custom, and this not only in *Andalusia*, but also in *Valencia*, *Catalonia* and *Arragon*, and leaves us to pay his Alcavalas and Cientos in all the aforementioned Places; nay, leaves

The Duties by the late Treaty unlimited.

leaves that Prince at liberty to make his Alcavalas and Cientos what he pleases. He is not obliged by these Articles to allow any Grati-
as, he is not restrained from increasing his Alcavalas and Cientos, he may make them amount to Prohibitions, without any Prejudice to his Treaty.

It appears that the 11 per cent. Almojarifargo was reduced formerly by the several Grati-
as and Allowances to 4 1/2 per cent. but for this Duty we are now obliged to pay 10 per cent. without any Abatement.

It appears likewise, that the 5 per cent. Almojarifargo was reduced by Grati-
as, &c. to 2 per cent. but now we have bound ourselves to pay 10 per cent. the first Duty, and this too for Valencia, Catalonia, and Arragon, where those Duties were still more easy than in Andalusia.

It were something if this were to be the whole; but the Alcavalas and Cientos besides are left upon us. What these were formerly we see by the Table above, and what was paid for them we see by the several Grati-
as: But what they shall be hereafter King Philip only knows; in this we are left to his Mercy. Doubtless he ought to be very merciful to us for having left him in the quiet Possession of that Kingdom.

The Alcavalas and Cientos on the Goods which paid 11 per cent. Almojarifargo were 13 1/2 per cent. on those that paid but 5 per cent. Almojarifargo were 17 3/4 per cent. as appears by the foregoing Table; but by the several Grati-
as and Allowances they were re-
duced,

And left to King Philip's Mercy.

duced, the former to 5 1/2 per cent. the latter to 6 1/2. It is extreme hard that we should now be obliged, besides the 10 per cent. Almojarifargo, to pay these Alcavalas and Cientos, tho' all our former Allowances should be made us. This would make our Duties in the first Case from 15 to 16 per cent. in the second from 16 to 17, where the whole before never amounted to ten, and this for Valencia, &c. as well as in Cadiz and Andalusia.

But where is there any one Word in the Treaty that obliges King Philip to grant us any Grati-
as, to make us any Allowances on the Alcavalas and Cientos, or indeed not to make these Duties as much higher as he pleases? But he need not make them higher, the very withdrawing his former Grati-
as will leave, besides the 10 per cent. 13 1/2 per cent. on a very great Part of our Woollen Manufactures, and 17 1/2 Alcavalas and Cientos on all the Rest.

Let the Mercator now tell us if he thinks our Woollen Manufactures will bear from 20 to 30 per cent. in Spain; let him look into the Treaty, and then tell us if that Prince is under any Restraint as to Cientos and Alcavalas, and whether he is obliged to lessen them, or may not increase them as he thinks fit: Let him tell us, that he has not demanded an Advance of Duties in Catalonia or Valencia; but I am very sure, if he has not demanded it, we have granted it without his asking.

No Grati-
as allow'd.

Woollen
Goods pay
now from
20 to 30
per Cent.
and former-
ly not 10
per Cent.

An Objection against the Necessity of a Judge-Conservator in Spain, answered by a Letter of my Correspondent.

AN Objection has been made against me for charging the Spanish Treaty of Commerce with giving up the Privilege of a Judge-Conservator in that Nation. It has been said that this is an Officer of so little Use to us; that in Cadix, for several Years together, we never chose one; and that nothing can be a clearer Demonstration of our not wanting such an Officer.

This Objection is so well answered by the following Letter, that I think my self obliged to give it my Readers as it came to my Hands.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

THIS on occasion of our Privileges in Spain, that I give you this Trouble. You have rightly judged that it was to no manner of purpose to make a pompous Recital of the Privileges granted us by the former Kings of Spain, if under the present we are deprived of them. The greatest of those Privileges was that of chusing a Judge-Conservator, to be in the Nature of a Chancellor in all manner of Affairs relating to the English Merchants: And if, as you have truly

A Judge-Conservator the greatest Privilege we had in Spain.

truly observed, they were hardly restrained from entering our Houses while we had such a Judge, who shall pretend to hinder them now we are to be deprived of such a Protector? 'Twill be impossible for any of her Majesty's Subjects (unless you will call a few Irish Papists by that Name) to live there with any tolerable Ease, which must either prevent the sending our Goods thither, or else they must be sent to the Native Spaniards, either on their own Account, or by Commission from hence; in both which Cases the Profit that formerly accrued to us, will then be gained by them.

The Trade to Spain was formerly an extraordinary Nursery to Merchants, and a great many Gentlemens younger Sons were usually provided for that way; who must hereafter stay idling away their time at home, to the Detriment (not Advantage) of the Commonweal. And should any Englishmen be so weak as to settle there, they could never stay there any time. They may perhaps buy and ship thence the Produce of that Country; but no Merchant in his Senses will ever consign any Woollen or other Goods from hence, or entrust them with any Effects to lie by them for a Market: If he should, he must every Post expect to hear they are ruined by the Spaniards, whose Bigotry will prompt them to be eternally harassing and teizing them till they have forced them to leave the Place, that so if any of her Majesty's Subjects should still live amongst them, it may be only Irish Pa-

Our Spanish Trade formerly an extraordinary Nursery of Merchants, but can't be so by the late Treaty.

The Govern-
nor of Cadiz
used as our
Judge Con-
servator, and
why.

“ pists, and not the Sons of our *English* Gen-
 “ try.
 “ But I am told that 'tis reported, the
 “ yielding up this Point is owing to a Mis-un-
 “ derstanding of what was said by the *Spanish*
 “ Merchants, who acknowledged that they
 “ they had for some Years no Judge-Confer-
 “ vator at *Cadiz*. Now the Truth of the
 “ Fact is, That the Judge-Conservator cho-
 “ sen by our Merchants for *Sevilla*, was au-
 “ thorized and obliged to appoint such Depu-
 “ ties for *Cadiz*, *St. Lucar*, and *Malaga*, as
 “ should be chosen also by our Merchants for
 “ those other Cities; that the Governour of
 “ *Cadiz* was always too great a Man to obey
 “ the Inhibitions of the Judge-Conservator of
 “ *Sevilla*, or his Deputy at *Cadiz*; that there-
 “ fore the Merchants for several Years made
 “ choice of no Person for their Judge-Confer-
 “ vator at *Cadiz*, but applied themselves to the
 “ Governour to act as their Judge-Conserva-
 “ tor, tho' he was above accepting the Title,
 “ and made him annually Presents of greater
 “ value than the Salary given to that Officer;
 “ that for the sake of these Presents, that Go-
 “ vernour protected them in the Enjoyment of
 “ all their Privileges and Immunities, as much
 “ as if he had been chosen into that Office:
 “ and this I have heard was represented by the
 “ *Spanish* Merchants to the Lords Commissio-
 “ ners of Trade. So that the Governour of
 “ *Cadiz* was to our Merchants there instead of
 “ a Judge-Conservator, and that therefore
 “ they did not need one. Was this a Reason
 “ for giving up the Judge-Conservator in *Ca-*
 “ *diz*

“ *diz* and every other *Spanish* City? Did not
 “ that Governour of *Cadiz* receive an Al-
 “ lowance annually at *Christmas* for his Civil-
 “ ties to us, as the Judge-Conservator used to
 “ do? And did he not know the *English*
 “ Merchants had a *Right* to have chosen a
 “ Judge-Conservator if they had pleased? Did
 “ not that oblige him to use us civilly, left by
 “ another sort of Treatment we should have
 “ been provoked to have put that Privilege in
 “ actual Execution, and have chosen us one
 “ who should have procured us Justice from
 “ the Court, if he should refuse or neglect to
 “ do it? Suppose further, that any *Spanish*
 “ Merchant had said that we never chose a
 “ Judge-Conservator for *Cadiz*, can any Man
 “ bred to Letters (as 'tis presumed some of
 “ those were to whom this was said) be so
 “ weak as to make no difference between the
 “ not putting *this Right* in Execution, and
 “ the giving it up? Besides, 'tis notorious
 “ that at *Sevilla*, *Malaga*, and other Places
 “ in *Andalusia*, there actually were such Offi-
 “ cers, or their Deputies; there could have
 “ been no living quiet without them. The
 “ Officers of the Revenues are so despotick
 “ and insolent in that Country (as well as in a-
 “ nother I could name) that without the
 “ *Right* of chusing our own Judge, we should
 “ not have had a free Hour in the Day with-
 “ out being liable to their Visitation, as well
 “ as to that of the Court of the Inquisition.
 “ 'Tis very well known to those Merchants
 “ who have resided in that part of *Spain*, that
 “ none of the Inquisitors, nor any of the King's
 “ Officers,

Where in
Spain we
had Judges
Conservators
and the Ne-
cessity for it.

Our Advan-
tages by it.

“ Officers, could come into our Houses with-
 “ out first acquainting the Judge-Conservator
 “ therewith; nor the very *Alcade Mayor*,
 “ without having obtained the Judge-Conservator’s
 “ leave; and that whenever he did
 “ (tho’ upon a Visit of Friendship) he was ob-
 “ liged to leave his Staff (the Ensign of his
 “ Authority) without our Houses.

“ Innumerable are the Vexations to be ex-
 “ pected, unless we can obtain the *Right* of
 “ chusing such an Officer when we find it ne-
 “ cessary. And indeed it seems very strange,
 “ that the Subjects of her Majesty, to whom
 “ the present King of *Spain* owes the Security
 “ of his Crown, should be levelled with those
 “ of any other Prince or State who have not,
 “ or did not, come so soon, or so heartily in-
 “ to a Peace with him; and that no distin-
 “ guishing Mark of Favour should be shewn to
 “ her Subjects more than to any others (the
 “ *Affiento* instead of a Favour, being really a
 “ Burden the *French* would couch under no
 “ longer;) but that in this Point, which is a
 “ noble Privilege, we must have no other Fa-
 “ vour than what will be in common with a-
 “ ny other Nation. Have the *Hans-Towns*,
 “ the *Dutch*, or *Portuguese* been so instru-
 “ mental in fixing the Royal Diadem on his
 “ Head, as we have? And must we be with-
 “ out this Privilege till some or other of them
 “ have *first* obtained it? Nay, could *France*
 “ itself have secured to him his Crown so ef-
 “ fectually as this Nation has done? She who
 “ was not able to defend her own before the
 “ Cessation of Arms between this Kingdom
 “ and

“ and that? And must we not enjoy this Ad-
 “ vantage till She has led the way? I say, till
 “ *France* or some other Nation have it first!
 “ For you cannot but remark that we are not
 “ to be allowed this Privilege, unless it be
 “ granted to some other; that is, we must
 “ come after them. This is such an Indigni-
 “ ty as must raise every honest *Englishman’s*
 “ Indignation, to see the Preference thus gi-
 “ ven to all the Nations upon the Earth before
 “ us. The Inspector-General in his first Re-
 “ port, where he mentions the Hardships put
 “ upon us by the *French*, says, they acted as
 “ if they thought *the Genius of France has got*
 “ *the Ascendant over that of England*. When-
 “ ever he takes cognizance of that Trade we
 “ are hereafter to carry on to *Spain* by this
 “ Treaty, I am apt to think he must con-
 “ clude the same for that of *Spain*.

Tuesday, April 27. 1714.

The Reader sees by this time what poor
 wretched Shifts the Advocates of the *Spanish*
 Treaty are reduced to for an Answer to so ma-
 nifest an Objection as that of giving up the
 Privilege of a Judge-Conservator! A Judge-
 Conservator we did not stand in need of in
Cadiz, as long as we had a Right to chuse one
 in that City, and had it in our power to sup-
 ply the Want of one in the Governour; there-
 fore we must put it out of our power to chuse
 an Officer, nay, put it out of the power of
 the Governour of *Cadiz* to be to our Mer-
 chants instead of a Judge-Conservator! A
 Judge-Conservator we did not chuse in *Cadiz*,
 where,

where, for the Reasons of my Correspondent, the Governour was the same thing; therefore we must not have one in any other City, where such an Officer was always wanted, and always chosen.

A Judge Conservator allowed in the Canaries.

But I think myself obliged to correct an Error of my own (if I am guilty of one) in saying, that the Spaniards have granted us a Judge-Conservator for the Canaries, because we can carry off nothing from that Country, but their Wines, and they cannot get them off to any other Nation. At the first sight this seemed to me to be granted to us by the Separate Article of the Spanish Treaty; but I am afraid, upon a more careful Perusal of that Article, that the Privilege of a Judge Conservator, so as we enjoyed it heretofore, is not granted to us even in the Canaries.

His Power restrained.

The Words of that Article are, That it shall at all times hereafter be lawful for the British Subjects who shall live in the Canary Islands, for the Sake of their Trade, to nominate some one Person, being a Subject of Spain, who shall execute the Office of Judge-Conservator there, and shall at the first Instance take Cognizance of all Causes. RELATING TO THE COMMERCE OF THE BRITISH SUBJECTS. So that according to this they are only to take Cognizance of all Causes relating to the Commerce of the British Subjects. Is this the thing that is only wanted in a Judge-Conservator.

The Duty and Power of a Judge Conservator.

No, the thing that is wanted, is that he and he only shall in the first Instance try all Causes, whether Criminal or Civil, relating to the British Subjects; whether they relate to Trade, or

or any other Matters whatsoever: That he only shall have the Privilege of entering the Houses of the British Subjects, and shall have Power to restrain all other Persons from visiting their Houses, or searching their Books.

For what if any other of the King's Officers or Judges should arrest or try the British Merchants for any pretended Crime, such as the Exportation of Silver, or the like; shall they be inhibited by the Judge-Conservator? No, he will presently be told that he is Judge-Conservator only in Causes relating to the Commerce of the British Subjects, and that he can have no Cognizance of any of their Offences against the State. What if the Merchants Houses should be visited, or their Books, and Papers, and Letters of Correspondency should be searched for an Offence against the State? Will not the Judge-Conservator be told that his Authority does not reach to any thing besides their Commerce? But on whatsoever pretence the Merchants Houses shall be visited, such Discoveries shall perhaps be made, as shall subject them to every other Court, and render their Privilege of a Judge-Conservator of no use.

The Danger we are in for want of a Judge Conservator in the Canaries having full Power.

I know it is added in the Separate Article, that the King will grant Commissions to the Judge-Conservator so named, and all the Privileges which the Judges-Conservators enjoyed formerly in Andalusia. But whether all the Privileges shall not be restrained to the Causes relating to the Commerce of the British Subjects, which is the only thing that seems to be granted in the former part of this Separate Article, may be thought to merit an Explanation.

But

But if after all it shall be said, that the Privilege of a Judge-Conservator is granted to us in the *Canaries* in as ample a manner as we could wish, I must ask why it is refused to us in *Spain*?

A Judge Conservator more necessary in Spain than the *Canaries*.

Do we so much want a Judge-Conservator in the *Canaries*, from whence we can carry off almost nothing but their Wines? And is it not of use in *Spain*, to which Country it is hardly possible for us to trade to any considerable Advantage without bringing away some part of their Bullion thence? But this is criminal by their Laws, and therefore we are to be deprived of our Protector.

We can't trade safely in Spain without such an Officer.

For my own part, after the loss of such a Protector I am obliged to be of my Correspondent's Opinion, that it will not be safe for any Englishman or Protestant to reside in that Kingdom. I think any such Person is in danger of being ruined every hour, and that he must be a Man of very great Courage that will ever trust the value of 500 *l.* in the Hands of any *English* Factor or Merchant in that Kingdom.

I make no doubt that this was the very Intention of the *Spaniards*, to fright every Englishman out of their Country; perhaps to engross the whole Profit of Commission and Factorage to themselves. If this was really the Case, our *Spanish* Merchants here are like to have very fine Accounts from their *Spanish* Factors. There will soon be an end of our Trade to that Nation.

Perhaps our *Irish* Papists, on account of their Religion, may meet with better Quarter in that Country. This is agreeable to the ancient

tient Conduct of *Spain*, which was to keep that People as much divided as possible from the *British* Interest. Did the *Spaniards* intend by taking away our Judge Conservator, that none but *Spaniards*, or *Irish* Papists, should be our Factors and Correspondents in that Country? But it was our Misfortune that our Ministers did not understand Trade; if they had, they had clearly understood the Importance of this Privilege.

A Letter concerning the Spanish Treaty.

Remarks on the Ratified Articles; proving them to be more to our Disadvantage than the Treaty it self.

I Am glad of every Information that shall help me to correct any Error of my own, and therefore give my Reader the following Letter.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

I Take leave to give you two Tables of the Duties formerly in *Spain*, the first on Goods paying 11 per cent. *Almoxarifargo*, which is as follows:

— *Almo*

	Marave- dies.	Hund. Ets of Mar.
— Almojarifargo, or old Custom, <i>per Cent.</i> Marav.	11	—
The 4th Part of this is $2\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{7\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ Maravedies; the Merchant was obliged to pay this in Plate, which is 50 <i>per Cent.</i> better than Vellon, and consequently to pay more	1	37 $\frac{1}{2}$
— Bolfillo another Duty, which was 2 <i>per Ciento</i>	2	—
The 4th Part $\frac{50}{100}$ Marav. and this paid in Plate adds to the said 4th Part 50 <i>per Cent.</i> <i>viz.</i>	0	25
— Dos per Ciento	2	—
Quarto Plata as above adds 50 <i>per Cent.</i> <i>viz.</i>	0	25
— 1 and half per Ciento	1	50
A Premio or Addition of 5 <i>per Cent.</i> was paid on the last Sum, <i>viz.</i>	0	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
— Also $1\frac{3}{4}$ <i>per Cent.</i>	1	75
— Old Alcavala	1	—
— Noeva Alcavala	1	—
— Noeva Alcavala	1	—
— Noeva Alcavala	1	—
— Donativo	1	—
— Confulado 1 <i>per Cent.</i>	1	—
Lonfa $\frac{1}{3}$ <i>per Cent.</i>	0	33 $\frac{1}{3}$
A Premio or Addition of 5 <i>per Cent.</i> was paid on the two last Sums, <i>viz.</i>	0	6 $\frac{2}{3}$
Total	26	60

“ But

“ But on the Goods which paid 5 *per Cent.*
 “ Almojarifargo, the whole Duties without
 “ Allowances or Gratias were as follow.

	Marav.	Hund. Pts.
— Almojarifargo <i>per Cent.</i>	—	—
Maravedies	5	—
The 4th Part of this is $1\frac{1}{4}$ or $1\frac{20}{100}$ Maravedis. This the Merchant was oblig'd to pay in Plate, which was 50 <i>per Cent.</i> better than Vellon, which added to $1\frac{1}{4}$ or to 125 hundredth Pts of Maravedies, the half of that Sum	0	62 $\frac{1}{2}$
— Bolfillo, which was 2 <i>per Cent.</i>	2	—
The Quarto Plata on this, as in the Table above	0	25
— Dos per Ciento	2	—
Quarto Plata as above	0	25
— 1 and half per Ciento	1	50
Prem. of 5 <i>per C.</i> thereon 7 and half <i>per Cent.</i> of the said 1 and half or 150 hundredth Parts	0	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
— $1\frac{3}{4}$ <i>per Ciento</i>	1	75
— Old Alcavala	5	50
— Noeva Alcavala	1	—
— Noeva Alcavala	1	—
— Noeva Alcavala	1	—
— Donativo	1	—
— Confulado	1	—
Lonfa	0	33 $\frac{1}{3}$
Premio on two last Sums 5 <i>per Cent.</i> as in former Tables	0	6 $\frac{2}{3}$
Total	24	35

Duty on Bays
computed.

“ For Example ; On a Piece of Bays which
 “ paid the 11 *per Cent.* Almozarifargo, and
 “ consequently according to the former of the
 “ the two Tables, 26, $\frac{10}{100}$ *per Cent.*
 “ A Piece of Bays was valued at the Custom-
 “ house at 10000 Maravedies, and conse-
 “ quently was to pay 2660 Maravedies.
 “ The Farmer's Gratia or Allowance re-
 “ duced it thus, on a Hundred Pieces he took
 “ only the Customs of 67.
 “ And then the fourth Part of the Customs
 “ on 67 were also abated : This was called
 “ the King's Gratia.
 “ By this means 100 Pieces paid only the
 “ Customs of 50 $\frac{3}{4}$, and consequently a Piece
 “ valued at 10000 Maravedis paid Customs
 “ only for 5025 Maravedies, part of that Va-
 “ lue.
 “ By this the Duty, which on a Piece of
 “ Bays valued at 10000 Maravedies, amoun-
 “ ted to 2660, by being paid only on 5025
 “ (part of the said 10000) was reduced to
 “ 1336, $\frac{65}{100}$ Maravedies.
 “ N. B. 35 Maravedies make 1 Ryall Vellon
 “ or Copper.
 “ 15 Ryals Copper, } make 1 Piece of 8 old
 “ or 8 Ryals Plate, } Money, which at a Me-
 “ } dium is worth 4s 6d
 “ } Sterling ;
 “ And 11 Ryals Plate make a Ducat : So
 “ that the whole Piece of Bays, valued at
 “ 5025 Maravedies, amounted to 220 Ryals ;
 “ and the said 1336, $\frac{65}{100}$ Maravedies, mak-
 “ ing according to the aforementioned Rule
 “ about 21 Ryals old Plate, the Duty was
 “ about 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ *per Cent.* of the Value for
 “ which the Bays were sold. “ On

Duties on
Says.

“ On Says, which were on the second Ta-
 “ ble, that paid 5 *per Cent.* Alm. and 24, $\frac{33}{100}$
 “ *per Cent.* of the Custom-house Valuation,
 “ after just Allowances for the Farmer's and
 “ the King's Gratias, it will be found that
 “ the 24, $\frac{33}{100}$ *per cent.* were reduced to about
 “ 10, $\frac{39}{100}$ Pts. So that on the real Value there
 “ was not paid above 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ *per cent.* as you have
 “ said in your Paper.

I am, &c.

My Correspondent and my self have gone *Former Du-
 different Ways ; we call our Spanish Duties by ties, what.*
 different Names, but we agree in the End,
 that the whole Duties levy'd in that Country
 on our Goods did not amount to 10 *per cent.* of
 the real Value of any of our Goods, and on ma-
 ny not to 9 *per cent.*

The Gratias or Allowances made by the *Gratias ex-
 King, and the Farms of the Customs, might plained.*
 perhaps be called Favours to which we had no
 just Right ; tho' I believe the contrary might
 be shewed, and that these Gratias were made
 to us on the several Alterations of the Coin in
 that Country, which had raised our Duties
 without the allowance of those Favours.

But whether it is to be called a Right or a
 Favour, that we did not pay 10 *per cent.* in
 Spain for all manner of Duties, such was the
 Fact, and we had all the Reason in the World
 to expect it would be so again. One would
 have imagined King Philip could have done no
 less for a People, to whose giving over the War
 he owes the Enjoyment of his Throne.

He

He had promised, as the very Basis of the Peace, as appears by the third Article of the Treaty of Commerce, that our Commerce should be the same as in the Reign of his Predecessor, except what should be altered in the said Treaty.

How! our Commerce the same, and yet not allow us a Judge-Conservator! Our Commerce the same, and yet that Prince left at liberty to double or treble the Duties at discretion on our Goods!

I was about to complain on the Articles signed by the Bishop of *Bristol*, that it raised our Duties in *Valencia*, *Arragon*, and *Catalonia*, to the high Duties of *Castile*: But if this Treaty had been ratified, still the Duties on our Goods had not exceeded 10 per cent. in any part of *Spain*.

But the Articles of Ratification have finely explained the Matter. We are to pay 10 per cent. of the real Value of our Goods in every part of *Spain*, except *Biscaya* and *Guipuscoa*, as the first Duty, which is that of the *Almoxarifargo*, and afterwards whatsoever his Catholic Majesty shall please for *Cientos* and *Alcavalas*. Is this to be called a fixing and ascertaining the Duties on our Goods? King *Philip* could but have been left at liberty, if no Treaty at all had ever been made with him.

If Mr. *Methuen* had treated thus with the King of *Portugal*, "Sir, you shall charge our
 "Woollen Manufactures with no more than
 "10 per cent. Custom on their Value; but
 "under the Name of Excises you may load
 "them with Duty after Duty, till you have
 "driven

"driven them entirely out of your Country:" Should we have thought our selves obliged to Mr. *Methuen*? What matter is it to us if our Goods be prohibited, whether it were by *Almoxarifargos*, or by *Alcavalas*, or *Cientos*?

The Bishop's Treaty had well provided, that all together should not exceed the Duties in the Reign of his Predecessor. How come then these ratified Articles to set him at liberty to burden and prohibit our Manufactures?

King *Philip* was restrained from this liberty by the Articles signed both by her Majesty's Minister and his own. How came then the Articles of Ratification to restore him to his Liberty? What Equivalent has he given for it? Was it a Prejudice to us to have our Manufactures admitted into that Country upon easy Terms? And was it for this Reason that the Terms of their going thither were to be made so very difficult?

Her Majesty had nothing undoubtedly more at heart than the promoting and extending the Commerce of her People, and the opening new Markets for their Manufactures: And doubtless she was advised that these ratified Articles were for the Benefit of her Subjects, or else we had never seen them.

Her Council too that advised the Ratification, which has charged us with higher Duties than the very Treaty, will be believed to have advised according to the best of their Skill. All their and our Unhappiness is, that they were not bred to the Knowledge of Trade, and in all
 Affairs

The British Merchant.

Affairs of this kind were obliged to advise with other People: Our only Quarrel is with their Advisers. Merchants they were, no doubt, one may justly believe they had a Penny-worth for their Advice: They may very properly be called Merchants who live by Buying and Selling.

I believe it will be objected, that the King of Spain is not left at liberty to encrease his Alcavalas and Cientos; that our enjoying the Liberties and Privileges we had in the Reign of King Charles the Second was the very Foundation of our Peace (except in what should be altered by the Treaty) and that there is not one Word to empower the King of Spain to encrease his Alcavalas and Cientos.

And I am afraid not a Word to hinder him: 10 per Cent. is made the first Duty by the third Article; but this is declared not to extend to Alcavalas and Cientos. We are referred for these to the fifth Article.

All that the fifth Article does for us, is to explain how the Alcavalas and Cientos shall be levied, but not to adjust the Quantities.

If we are to enjoy these Duties as we did in the Reign of King Charles the Second, we are to enjoy them with the same Allowances and Gratias. But our latest Advices tell us, that no Gratias are to be allowed: And the King may as consistent with the Treaty raise the Duties, as take from us those Allowances.

Present Duties.

But if he may not raise these Duties, and were obliged to allow us our former Gratias, our Duties in that Country will be above 50 per Cent. higher than they were before, and above

Trade with Spain.

bove 150 per Cent. more than they were before, if he is at liberty to disallow those Gratias. But lastly, there will be no need of his increasing the Alcavalas and Cientos, his disallowance of all Gratias is a direct Prohibition.

An Extract of a Letter from Cadiz, concerning the Loss of our Trade to Spain by the late Treaty.

Remarks on the said Letter.

Extract of a Letter from Cadiz, dated June 3. 1714. N. S.

" I Am sorry that the State of publick Affairs
" does at present so manifestly prejudice
" Trade. Our Commerce here (that is the
" Factors) have made remarks on the Arti-
" cles of Peace and Commerce, and repre-
" sented that in many Particulars we are in a
" worse Condition than in the Reign of King
" Charles the Second, and not half so much
" favoured in Duties as the French Nation. It
" is likewise set forth, that in the interim ex-
" cessive Customs are exacted, more than e-
" ven in time of War; by which means no
" Goods are dispatch'd, and all Trade stop'd.
" It is made appear that the French continue a
" clandestine Trade to the Spanish Indies by the
" King's Connivance, expressly contrary to the
" Treaty. It is hoped, when these Matters
" are fully understood, that the Parliament
" will

“ will stir in the Matter ; and if IT BEN'T
 “ TOO LATE, remedy those Grievances,
 “ and prevent the bad Effects of several *Over-*
 “ *sights in the late Negotiations.* There are at
 “ present in this Bay an Aviso or Pacquet-
 “ Boat, and four other Ships fitting for *Vera-*
 “ *Crux,* and the *Honduras,* laden entirely with
 “ French *Effects,* besides some other French
 “ Ships for the South Sea.
 “ Mexico Plate Prem. 7 per Cent. Ex-
 “ change for London 52 d. to 52¼ per Piece
 “ of Eight.

The Reader has here an Extract of one single Letter from *Spain* ; if I were to give him the Extracts of all the Letters to the same purpose from the *English* and *Irish* Merchants in that King, they would make a very large Volume.

We are not so much favour'd there as the French.

The Complaints of every one are, *that we are not so much favour'd in Duties as the French; that we are in a worse Condition than we were in the Reign of King Charles II. that more excessive Customs are exacted now than when we were in actual War with the Spanish Nation; that none of our Goods are dispatch'd, and that all our Trade is stop'd; that the French in the mean time have a full Trade, by the Connivance of the King of Spain, to the Spanish Indies; and that whole Ships are entirely laden with French Effects for those Countries, besides many which the French themselves send directly for the South Sea.* These are the Complaints which our Merchants residing in *Spain* singly represent to their Correspondents here, and also jointly as a Body with their Consul to the Government.

Now

Now what is the Answer to all this ? It's possible we may be told, that *these Things have for a long time been the Town-talk of this City; that they have been transmitted hence to the Spanish Nation, and are represented back again by our Factors in obedience to their Principals; so that the Turn given to them may be, that they are only the unreasonable Murmurs of the City of London, and that our Factors in Spain write just as their Masters dictate to them.*

What ? Are all Mankind become a Faction ? *Tories* and *Whigs,* *Christians* and *Jews,* *English* as well as *Irish,* all our *Spanish* Traders both at home and abroad agree in the same Complaints, and are they all a Faction ? Are all these Things false, because they all affirm that they are true ?

If a notorious Highway-Man should be arraigned and indicted at the *Old-Baily* of twenty several Robberies, and the Persons he had robb'd and their Servants should all come in as Witnesses against him, should all swear to the several Robberies, and that this was the very Man, would he be suffered to make his Defence in this manner ? Would it be thought a good Defence that he was long before accused by publick Fame, that this had rais'd an Oidium against his Person, and that the whole Cloud of Witnesses were prevailed with upon this account to bear their Testimony against him ? Yet just such a Defence as this is that of the *Spanish* Treaty of Commerce; the *Spanish* Treaty is innocent, because every one says it is guilty. No Highway-Man would be suffered to escape so.

V. O. L. III.

K

But

But should the unanimous Complaints of all our Merchants now at last bring some Gentlemen to change their Language ; should they say now, if we have made an ill Treaty, we must retrieve this Error, and make a good one ; should they say, that if hand over head we have given up our *Spanish* Trade, we must now take the Advice of the Merchants by what means it may be recovered ; I must ask what Advice are they able to give, which will be agreed to by the *Spanish* Nation ? We have already bound our selves by a Treaty, and can we oblige the King of *Spain* to give us a better ? Or what Equivalent shall we give him for it ? But this should have been thought of before we had made our Peace, and while at the Head of a numerous Confederacy we were every Year carrying on a successful War against *France* and *Spain*, such a War as we might reasonably have expected would have ended in a better Treaty of Commerce than this, which is universally complain'd of by every *Spanish* Merchant both within and without the Kingdom.

Reasons why we ought to have expected a better Treaty with Spain.

And yet one would think if we should now desire of the King of *Spain* a better Treaty of Commerce, it could hardly be deny'd us : One would think we had deserv'd it by securing to him the quiet Possession of the *Spanish* Throne, and all the Riches of the *Indies* ; by abandoning the unfortunate *Catalans*, whom we had taken under our Protection, to be plundered and destroyed as Rebels ; by dissolving a Confederacy which was upon the very point of shaking his Crown from off his Head. One would

would think in mere Gratitude he should now, even now, give us a good Treaty of Commerce ; but the Lord have mercy upon us, if we have left our selves nothing to depend on but the Gratitude of Foreign Princes. I hope it is not yet too late to obtain a good Treaty of Commerce with the *Spanish* Nation, and I believe we shall obtain it, when the Advice of proper Persons shall be taken for a new Treaty, and not of such ignorant ones as advised the last. *Spain* may perhaps stand in awe of us, when our Friends and our Enemies shall have lost all Credit in this Kingdom.

For what was it, that we gave over prosecuting so successful a War ? That we ended the Confederacy to which we were obliged by the Grand Alliance ? That we gave up the *Catalans*, whom we had taken under our Protection ? That we establish'd King *Philip* on his Throne, which was every Day sinking under him ? Why, we were told we should be made amends for all by a glorious Treaty of Commerce ; a Treaty of Commerce which was to reimburse us all our Charges.

Behold then what we have got by our Treaty ; all we have got is to pay higher Duties than the French ; higher than we paid in the Reign of K. Charles II. who was not obliged to us for his Crown ; higher than we paid while we were in actual War with this very Prince. We have got a stop of all our Trade to Spain, while France has as open a Trade to the *Spanish* Indies, as if they were her own. We have the Authority of all the *Spanish* Merchants both at Home and Abroad, that this is our very Case.

Higher Duties paid now than in the time of Charles II.

For our paying higher Duties than the *French*, we must take the Information of our Merchants residing in that Country. They live upon the Spot, and publickly and privately they all agree in the same Thing. This is our Usage from a Prince of the House of *Bourbon*. Should we have been used thus by a Prince of *Austria* on the *Spanish* Throne? Would such a one have favoured *France* more than *Great Britain*? Would it have been his Interest to have done it? Had not *France* been his nearest and most dangerous Rival? And would he have enrich'd her against himself? But we are already brought to feel, that which every wise Man before was afraid of.

Which did not exceed 9 or 10 per Cent.

There is not an old *Spanish* Merchant who was a Trader in the time of *K. Charles II.* but what knows to a single *Maravedie*, what Customs were exacted on our Goods in that Reign; we have the Testimony of all these that they are vastly higher now. They all agree, they show by their Books, that for all manner of Duties by whatsoever Name, whether by the Name of *Almoxarifargo*, *Alcavalas*, *Cientos*, or any other, they paid not 9 per cent. on some of our Goods, and not above 10 per cent. on all the rest; and in *Valencia*, *Arragon*, and *Catalonia*, not so much. But 'tis manifest by the very Articles of our late Treaty, as it now stands, that our very first Duty to be paid in *Spain*, in all Places except *Bilboa*, is 10 per cent. besides which we are also to pay the *Alcavalas* and *Cientos*. Nothing in the Treaty obliges the *K. of Spain* to levy less for these Duties than he did before. And

And the *Spanish* Merchants are able to shew, that more than half the Sums that were formerly levied, were under the Name of *Alcavalas* and *Cientos*; so that if over and above the first Duty of 10 per cent. to be paid by our late Treaty, we are also to pay by that Treaty the *Alcavalas* and *Cientos*, we must pay above 50 per cent. on our Customs more than we did before. The Merchants therefore will be believed, when they tell us that our Goods are heavier loaded than they were in the Reign of *K. Charles II.* their old Books, and the new Treaty will make good that Part of their Accusation. Have we preferred *K. Philip* before the Emperor, that he should serve us after this manner? Have we given him Peace, and the quiet Possession of his Throne, to be thus used? Then all the World must confess we have deserved it.

The Duties now 50 per Cent. more than formerly.

But it appears also by their Complaints, that we are now more heavily tax'd since the Treaty, than we were even when in actual War with this very Prince. Surely one would think by this that the War was ever prosperous to *K. Philip*, and that we are obliged to sue to him for Peace. Certainly, if we would return to our old Measures, if according to the Advice of the Lords, we should cultivate a good Friendship with the Emperor and the *K. of Prussia*, *Spain* would not dare to insult us any longer in this manner. The Friendship of these Princes might not only secure to us the Protestant Succession, but a good Treaty of Commerce with *Spain*, which is so much wanted.

Our Spanish Trade formerly the best we had.

The Merchants tell us, that there is now a universal stop of all our Trade to Spain. This, that was formerly esteemed as the best Flower in our Garden, that took off more of our Woollen Manufactures, and made us greater Returns of Money than any other Trade; that enabled greater Numbers of our People to live without help from the Parish, and paid greater Sums for the Product of our Lands than any Foreign Trade whatsoever, quite stopt! How dismal must this sound in the Ears of every Englishman? Yet this is represented by the universal Consent of all our Merchants abroad as the Effect of the late Treaty.

Now lost to France.

But France in the mean time loads whole Ships for the Spanish Indies, by the Connivance of the K. of Spain, and from the very Ports of his Kingdom, besides what she sends for the South Sea. The whole Riches of the Spanish Nation are thus given up to France; yet the K. of France could not secure his Grandson on the Spanish Throne, so far from this, that he was every Day losing some Branch of his own Dominions. Is he to be used so much better, who could not save him; And must we for saving him be so ill rewarded? It is hard to read such Representations from our Merchants without the utmost Indignation. It is a great Aggravation of what we suffer, that we have sat still for two Years together even before any Peace was made, and at the last suffered such a Treaty of Commerce to be imposed upon us; and that yet in the mean time we have raised every Year such Sums as were sufficient to have carried on the War, and to have

have forced the Spanish Nation to grant us such Terms of Commerce, as God knows now whether we shall ever be able to obtain.

Trade from Jamaica to the Spanish Indies.

The Mercator is outrageous that any Trade should be carried on from Jamaica to the Spanish Indies. Yet I cannot find that we ever had disabled ourselves to do this at Sea, (keeping our selves out of their Ports) by any Treaty with Spain, unless we have done it by the last. Before this, if at any time they seized any of our Ships, it was always granted to our Merchants to make Reprisals. This was done even in the time of K. Charles II. only this last Treaty can have deprived us of this Liberty.

But he insists upon it, that it is better for us to be wholly debarred this Liberty of trading from Jamaica to the Spanish Indies, and that it is more profitable for us to trade only to Old Spain. I shall not dispute this Matter with him. But what then will he say for the Permission to the South Sea Company, to send 500 Tons of Goods per Ann. to the Spanish Indies, if yet they are ever to have this Liberty? But let the Mercator say what he will, I am not able to understand how it can be for our Advantage to be entirely debarr'd trading from Jamaica; and also to have lost our whole Trade to Old Spain, as it appears we have done by the Representatiun of the Merchants.

The Interrogatories to the Spanish Merchants, concerning our Treaty of Commerce with Spain.

And, An Answer to the Reasons for depriving us of the Privilege of a Judge Conservator.

THE Rewards which were promised to the Nation, if we would but make our Peace with France and Spain, were Mountains of Gold in the Spanish Indies, a Treaty of Commerce with France, which was to be worth the Lord knows what, and the Restoration of our Trade to Spain, which was always beneficial to this Kingdom!

Our Mountains of Gold are now at last dwindled into the Title of the South-Sea Company: The Moths have been these two Years eating up their Cargoes of Woollen Manufactures, which were to be sent to the South-Sea to be exchanged for those Golden Mountains.

As for our glorious Treaty of Commerce with France, it has been rejected by a Parliament of Great Britain. Thanks be to God, it cannot be render'd effectual without the Parliament: For it is such a Treaty as would impoverish and exhaust the Kingdom. Every Man begins to be sensible of this.

And lastly, For the Restoration of our Spanish Trade, it appears by the Consent of our Merchants that we have little or no Trade to that Country. Some of the Articles of our Treaty with Spain are found to be so very fatal to

to us, that instead of promoting our Trade to that Kingdom, they must destroy it.

But since the French Treaty is now so well understood, that the Fear of its being render'd effectual is almost vanished; and since the Answers of our Merchants concerning several Parts of the Spanish Treaty are become the chief Subjects of Discourse, they shall now farther be consider'd.

The Spanish Merchants have been interrogated concerning the Use and Necessity of a Judge-Conservator, and the Right they had to such an Officer; whether they did not of themselves discontinue the Choice of such an Officer at Cadiz? and then what Mischief it could be if the Treaty has given it up in other Places? What were the antient Duties of Alcavalas, Cientos, and Millones? and what are to be paid by this Treaty? What were the whole Duties ad Valorem in the Reign of King Charles the Second, and what to be paid now? What were the antient and present Customs on Goods exported out of Spain, as well as on those imported into that Kingdom? Whether the Favours shown us by the late Treaty on the Goods we bring from Spain, are not an Equivalent for the Duties being raised on the Manufactures we shall send thither? Whether we are now able to carry on an advantageous Trade to Spain, as the Customs stand by the late Treaty? and which of the two is now the more favoured Nation in Spain, France or Great Britain? The Answers to these Questions shall be my present Subjects, and all of them put together will shew how little we have

got, or rather how much we have lost by the Spanish Treaty.

I shall begin with the Privilege of chusing a Judge-Conservator.

First then, It is plain we had a Right to chuse a Judge-Conservator, one of that Nation, to whom we paid a Salary.

The Office of Judge Conservator in Spain.

The Office of this Judge-Conservator was to enforce the Execution of the Treaties between the two Crowns, to take cognizance of all Causes in which English Merchants were Defendants, and to represent the same to the Council of Madrid for the Determination of that Court; to inhibit all other Judges or Officers that presumed to intermeddle in any of the said Causes; but above all to take care that no other Officers should at any time enter or search the Houses, or seize the Books of our said Merchants, upon any pretence whatsoever, without his knowledge.

This perhaps will look like a very strange and unnatural Jurisdiction: but if we will please only to remember that Spain is a bigotted Popish Country; that the Will of the Prince is above all the Laws; and that the Inquisition prevails there, which by a secret and sudden Process can destroy any Man in a moment, and by Evidence to which he is never suffered to give an Answer; if we will but remember that our whole Nation are Hereticks in the Opinion of the Spaniards, and as such expos'd to the Fury of that People; we must needs think the Privilege of chusing our own Judge-Conservator but just sufficient for our Protection. I am almost confident no Man would ever trust the

the value of 100 l. of his Effects in his Factor's hands, if he did but know how much they must be expos'd for want of such an Officer.

The Privilege therefore of chusing a Judge-Conservator for our necessary Protection was granted to us by several Cedula's in Anno 1645, which were all confirmed by the 9th Article of the Treaty between the two Crowns in the Year 1667, and has been enjoy'd ever since, till the Accession of the present King to the Spanish Throne, and even during his Time till the breaking out of the War. So that I think I have fully shewn the Necessity of our chusing a Judge-Conservator for our selves, and also our Right to such a Privilege.

Granted us by former Treaties.

But the present Treaty determines otherwise. The Words of the 15th Article are:

But given up by this.

As to the Judge-Conservator, and others to be substituted by him, if this Priviledge be granted to any other Foreign Nation whatsoever, the Subjects of Great Britain shall likewise enjoy it.

It is manifest by these Words, we are not to enjoy this Privilege, we are not to have any right to it, if it shall not be granted to any other Nation. The present Treaty has given away a Privilege we had before, a Privilege to which we had a Right by the solemn Stipulation of a former Treaty.

It has been objected against the Importance of this Privilege, that even in Cadiz it self, where we ever had the greatest Trade, we never

Objections against having one.

ver

ver but once chose a Judge Conservator, and got rid of him as soon as possible, as being rather a Charge and Incumbrance than any real Advantage to our Merchants.

Answer'd. To this I answer, That from the Grant of King Philip IV. to the beginning of the last War, we always chose a Judge-Conservator for *Sevilla*, *Malaga*, and other Places, and found it necessary so to do. We had a Right to do it by the former Treaty, and we have parted with this Right by the latter.

Why the Governor of Cadiz acted as Judge-Conservator. But *Secondly*, 'Tis true, we have discontinued the making choice of this Officer in *Cadiz*: And for what Reason? Our Judge-Conservator was always to be one of the graduated Lawyers, too inferior a Person to contend with so great a Man as a Governor of *Cadiz*, who, as the King's chief Military and Civil Officer, would hardly be restrained from entering the Houses of our Merchants. The Cost and Trouble of keeping him from doing this was so very great, that we rather chose to make the Governor of *Cadiz* a present of the same yearly Salary; and then, tho' he was above accepting the Title of the Office, he was contented to act as our Judge-Conservator, and to give us the same Protection. Yet surely this could not be a Reason for our giving up, by a formal Treaty, our very Right to the Choice of such an Officer. The Governor of *Cadiz* might indeed do us the same Justice, as long as we preserv'd the Power of choosing a Judge-Conservator, who perhaps was able, tho' with some Difficulty, to controul him. But

now

now we have parted with this Privilege, the Governor of *Cadiz* cannot for any Salary we would give him, protect us from any Officer who shall enter our Houses, and take away our Books.

A Judge-Conservator therefore was of the greatest use to us in every other Place; and my Reader sees by this time how we came to discontinue the choosing one in *Cadiz*. It is by no means such a Reason as will justify our parting with so necessary a Privilege by a solemn Treaty.

But it is objected in the next Place against our insisting upon this Privilege, that we have Neighbours Fare, we shall have our Judge-Conservator, if any other Nation shall have one. And how can we think of having any greater Privilege than the *French*, who have so near a Relation to King *Philip*, and who have placed him on the *Spanish* Throne?

To this I must reply, That our Neighbours Fare is no answer to the Charge against this Treaty, of giving away a Privilege to which we had a Right. The Treaty has given away this Privilege, a Privilege of that Importance, and so necessary for our Protection; and shall it be said in defence of those Persons that framed or advised this Article, that the *Spaniards* have taken away this Privilege also from other Nations? The Privilege was our own, it was our own by a solemn Treaty, what have we to do to refer our selves to other Nations?

Again, if we are to come after other Nations, it is plain we are not so much favoured:

The

The Treaty is said to be *Safe, Honourable, and Advantageous*. I have sufficiently shewn that the depriving us of a Judge-Conservator was not for our Safety or Advantage; but the entitling *England* to this Privilege only after other Nations, is to the Dishonour of the whole Kingdom.

France may value herself upon having placed King *Philip* on the *Spanish* Throne; but 'tis visible to all *Europe*, that he owes his Establishment on that Throne to *Great Britain*; he set but very tottering before, till we deliver'd him from his Enemies. And does he thus ungratefully reward us, by taking from us an antient and necessary Privilege? by telling us we shall then enjoy it when he will please to grant it to any other Nation?

Spaniards favour the French Trade to the Spanish Indies contrary to the Treaty of Peace.

But it raises our Indignation when we are told that King *Philip* is as kind to *England* as he is to *France*. We hear of Ships continually fitting out at *Cadiz* for the *Spanish Indies*, with entire Cargoes of the *French*, directly contrary to the very Treaty of Peace; while all the Goods we send thither lie moth-eaten on board the Ships, or in the Custom-house, while none of them can be sold either in *Spain*, nor the *Spanish Indies*. And shall we be told now that King *Philip* favours *Britain* as much as *France*? King *Philip*, who can suffer *France* so openly to run away with the whole Trade of his *Indies*, in direct contravention to his Treaties, can easily save that Nation the whole Charge of a Judge-Conservator, and yet secure to her all the Advantage of such an Officer. Let but his Pleasure be once known, and it

it will be received every where as his Command. Not an Officer in *Spain* shall dare to enter the House, or seize the Book of a *French* Merchant. He is as secure without the Privilege of a Judge-Conservator, as if it were granted to his Nation by express Treaty. And the King seems not to have granted it to *France* for this only Reason, that he may excuse himself from making the like Grant to any other Nation, and especially to *Great Britain*: But the Difference is very great, *France* does not want the Privilege; her open Trade to *Cadiz*, and from thence to the *Spanish Indies*, is a Demonstration, that *France* does not want a Judge-Conservator, but all our Merchants know that *England* cannot trade without one.

To deprive us then of so great and so necessary a Privilege, and then to tell us that it is not granted to *France*, is, instead of giving us an Argument, to insult us. By the Pleasure of King *Philip*, which is a Command to all his Officers, *France* has the Substance of this Privilege without the Form; and she very contentedly abstains from the Form, to keep all other Nations from the Substance: So that not accepting the Form of this Privilege by *France*, on purpose that the Substance of it may more speciously be denied to *England* and other Nations, ought to be looked upon as one of her Artifices, by which she intends to engross the Trade of *Spain* and the *Spanish Indies*.

The Fallacy of the Treaty as to our Judge Conservator.

I think I have said enough to shew the absolute Necessity of a Judge-Conservator, that we

we had a Right to this Privilege, and that our late Treaty has depriv'd us of this Right.

An Answer to another Question to the Spanish Merchants, with Proofs how much we are worsted by the Treaty of Commerce with Spain with respect to Duties.

The Duties we paid in Spain in Charles II's Reign.

A Second Question put to the Spanish Merchants was, What Duties our Manufactures paid in Spain during the Reign of King Charles II. and till the beginning of the last War? and what are to be paid by our late Treaty of Commerce with King Philip?

To this their Answer was, That on some of our Manufactures the whole Duties amount- ed to not above Nine and a half per cent. and not above Eight and a half on all the rest; that these included all manner of Duties, whe- ther Almojarifargos, Alcavalas, or Cientos, or by whatsoever other Names, and this even for the Kingdom of Castile, where they were highest; for in Valencia, Arragon, and Cata- lonia they were more moderate. But now by the Ratification it is explained, that not only in Castile, but also in Valencia, Arragon, and Catalonia, the first Duty to be paid shall be 10 per cent. ad Valorem; and that besides this our Manufactures are also to pay the usual Duties of Alcavalas and Cientos. This the Mer- chants unanimously agreed amounted to near double the Duties they paid before, and was utterly inconsistent with our carrying on any Trade to Spain, or vending any Manufactures in that Country. To

To this I have heard it was replied, That indeed it might be true that our Manufactures paid only the Sums first above-mentioned, some of them no more than Eight and a half per cent. and the rest not above Nine and a half per cent. as the Merchants say; but that this was in the Reign of King Charles II. which was a very weak Administration; and that it was not to be expected that such Indulgence would be shewn to them whenever a wise Prince came to be at the Head of the Spanish Affairs. It was said, that even in that Reign the established Duties on our Manufactures in Spain were a great deal higher; that they were between 24 and 25 per Cent. on some, and between 26 and 27 on the rest; that these Du- ties were reduced by several Grantias or Allow- ances both of the King and the Farmers to the Sums last before mentioned; that the Far- mers had a Custom to tell no more than 60 or 80 Pieces to the Hundred, and consequently took only the Duties of a Part upon the Whole; this was called the Farmer's Gratia, but was in reality no other than a Fraud; that the King's Gratia was an Abatement of one fourth Part of the Customs which were already so much reduced by a short Tale of the Goods; that by these means our Merchants paid so much less than the established Duties; but could they claim this as their Right? Had they a Right to the Farmer's Grantias? Had they a Right to the King's? This is as ridiculous as it would be to affirm, that a Man may have a Right to a Favour. Our Merchants had little Reason to expect any such Favours when that Ad-

The Duties by the Trea- ty prevent any Trade thither.

Objections to the Com- plaints of the Mer- chants.

Administration came to be in wiser Hands ; they might then justly expect the full legal Duties would be levy'd without any Allowances or Gratiās. This happens to be the present Case ; King *Philip* is not so weak a Prince as his Predecessor ; he insists upon his full Right, and will not suffer himself to be cozened and defrauded by his Farmers. Our Merchants are now no longer suffer'd to pay a Part of the Duties for the whole, and of this it is that they complain ; but their Complaints ought to be very little regarded. Are not our Legislators sufficient to judge for themselves and the whole Nation, without calling in the Advice of Merchants to their Assistance ? Are these Mens Judgments to be taken in a Matter that concerns themselves ? Have they not private Views and separate Interests of their own ? And ought they not to be suspected upon this account ? The Merchants complain of the *Spanish* Treaty, and the exorbitant Duties in that Country, and no doubt they would have complained tho' the Duties by the Treaty had been a great deal less, tho' they had been less than they paid by Favour or Indulgence, by Fraud or Cozenage, in the Reign of King *Charles II.* No Administration can ever have it in their Power to oblige them ; but certainly then their Opinions ought never to be taken against any Administration. It is plain the Treaty has provided, that the Duties on Goods exported out of *Spain* shall be a great deal less than they were before ; yet of this too the Merchants have complained. If they complain of high Duties and of low Duties, we may depend upon it they are never to be satisfied,

and

and the Administration must have a very unhappy time that should be obliged to please such a complaining Generation. To decry the late Treaty of Commerce with *Spain*, they applaud that of 1667 ; but this had left all the Duties uncertain, and the Merchants to agree with the Farmers as they could, so that the Favours or Gratiās allowed to them were unequal. This surely was not for the Interest of the Nation, that one Merchant should be more favoured than another : The late Treaty has settled all the *Spanish* Duties ; it has made them alike, or the very same, for every one of our Merchants ; the least Merchant has Justice done him, and the greatest can claim no more ; he has not the Privilege of trading to *Spain* upon better Terms than the least. The Distinctions that were made heretofore were certainly a very great Discouragement to Trade. The Treaty therefore has restored us to our *Spanish* Trade, which was wholly lost, and to a better Trade than we ever had before.

For my own part, I will not presume to know any thing that is said or done in the highest and most honourable Assembly in this Kingdom ; but to the Charge of the *Spanish* Merchants against the Treaty, I have heard the above-mentioned Reply without Doors, and without Doors I have also heard the following Answer to that Reply.

If the Administration of King *Charles* the Second was so very weak, and that of his Successor King *Philip* the Fifth so much wiser, that we had no Reason to expect the same Indulgence to our Merchants that we had before,

Answers to them.

fore, then it is plain we have suffered by the Translation of that Crown to the House of *Bourbon*. Every Man of understanding might have seen that such would be the Consequence of that Translation, that we should not be suffered to enjoy our former Privileges of Commerce; but one could hardly expect so soon such a Confession out of the Mouths of the very Authors of that Translation. We owe this Loss to the Persons who have thought fit to place so wise a Prince at the Head of the *Spanish* Nation.

But they quite mistake the matter, who make the Payment of no more than Eight one Half *per Cent.* on some of our Manufactures, and of not above Nine one Half *per Cent.* to be the mere Indulgence of the Prince and the Farmers. To conclude this from the Name of *Gratias* is ridiculous. It shall appear hereafter that our Merchants had a Right to pay no greater Customs, till this Right was given up by the late Treaty.

It must therefore be insisted on, that the Allowances which were made, howsoever improperly called *Gratias*, were the Right of our Merchants; and that they paid only Eight one Half on some Goods and Nine one Half *per Cent.* on others, because no more would be levied on them with Justice.

*Our Duties
doubled by
the Treaty
with Spain.*

But now it seems we are very unfortunate in the great Wisdom of King *Philip* the Fifth. He has had the Dexterity to get us into a Treaty, by which he has doubled the Duties on our Goods. We have given him a Right to do this by a solemn Treaty.

Again, what strange Persons are those that think our Merchants ought not to be advised with

with in Matters of Trade? Who else then are so proper to be heard upon this Subject? Are Soldiers or Statesmen more sensible of what the Merchants feel than themselves? Do they feel the Losses of the Merchants, when the high Duties in a foreign Nation shall obstruct the Sale of their Goods? The Merchants are unanimous that the old Duties are doubled by this Treaty, that their Goods lie Moth-eaten in that Country, that it is utterly impossible to sell any Manufactures there under the Duties of that Treaty.

It is a vain thing to think we can be made amends for this vast Increase of Duties on our Imports into *Spain*, by the Abatements made by this Treaty of the Duties on Goods exported from that Kingdom.

The Treaty indeed has made it more easy for us to buy their Wines and Fruits for our Consumption; if, on the Contrary, it had made it more difficult, it had been our Interest. What does our Nation get by the Consumption of *Spanish* Goods? King *Philip* has made the Exportation of these things more easy than it was before; he has done this for the Benefit of *Spain*, 'tis not at all for the Benefit of *England*; no Man in the Interest of *England* would desire this of him, or accept it as a Favour.

Every wise Nation by all possible ways will endeavour to encrease the Exportation of their own Manufactures, without being desired to do it. *England* has done this by taking off the Duties on our Woollen Manufactures, and even by giving a Bounty on Corn. But we did this for our own sakes, and not for the sake of any other Nation; we wanted no Treaty for

for this purpose : And *Spain* no doubt in time, and for her own sake, will do the same ; but we shall not be at all obliged to her, we shall pay her so much the more for our Consumption.

Duties on
Cochineal
and Indigo
rais'd 10
per Cent.

Yet one thing is remarkable ; *Spain* by this Treaty has lessened the Duties on Wines and Fruits, and it had been better for us they had been doubled ; but *Cochineal* and *Indigo*, so useful in our Manufactures, the former indeed absolutely necessary for the dying in Grain Colours, are raised 10 per Cent. by this Treaty ; so high a Duty is laid upon them : So that we must send out one half of our Woollen Manufactures to *Turky* 3 or 4 per Cent. the dearer on this account ; and is this one of the Favours, one of the *Gratias* of this Treaty ? Upon the whole matter it is manifest, the Reductions of the Customs on the *Spanish* Exports, are no Equivalent for that heavy Load of Duties which is laid on all our Goods that shall be imported into that Country.

The Advisers of this fatal Treaty may now decry that of 1667, they may charge it with Uncertainty, with leaving *Spain* at liberty to favour one Merchant more than another, but no Man in his Senses will believe them.

They may if they please applaud their own, they may value themselves upon the Equality of Duties which it has laid on all our Goods, and upon having secured that no greater Favour shall be shewn to one Merchant than another : They are certainly in the right, they have made a very impartial Treaty, such a one as shews no manner of Favour to any one of our

our Merchants, such a one as equally debars every one from carrying on any Trade to *Spain*.

The Affiento Contract ruinous to *Jamaica*, and no Benefit to *England*, made appear in Defence of myself, in Answer to the following Letters.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

Remember that you have mentioned formerly these Words ; *The Rewards which were promised to the Nation, if we would but make our Peace with France and Spain, were Mountains of Gold in the Spanish Indies, &c.* And a little after, *Our Mountains of Gold are now at last dwindled into the Title of the South-Sea Company.* What then ! is the *South-Sea Company* a Title only ? And do they not intend to trade to the *Spanish Indies* ? Had they brought great Quantities of Goods for these Provinces, when the Queen had reserved a Quarter-part of the Profit of that Trade ? And do they not intend to send them now, when the Queen has made a Grant of her Quarter-part to the Company ? This is a very great Reflection on the Company, if they are not in earnest to trade, tho' her Majesty has so graciously given them this Encouragement ; and if even with this Encouragement they cannot trade to Profit, it

“ it is a very great Reflection upon the Advi-
“ sers of the *Assiento Contract*. Your Answer
“ is expected, and will oblige.
Your very humble Servant.

South-Sea
Company's
Trade to
the Spanish
Indies a
Chimera.

In answer to this I must frankly own, I ever look'd upon the *South-Sea Company*, considered as an Institution for carrying on a Trade to the *Spanish Indies*, as a romantick and chimerical Project, and ruinous to our present Commerce, tho' the Author and Founder of it has been cry'd up by his Flatterers as a Person of uncommon Genius, as a Person remarkable for his Learning, Experience and great Sagacity in publick Affairs, and a world of such nauseous Stuff, by which I am never to be convinced. But I desire now to give the Reasons of my Opinion.

Preamble to
the South
Sea Act.

The Preamble of the Act for erecting this trading Company is as follows: *Whereas it is of the greatest Consequence to the Honour and Welfare of this Kingdom, and for the Increase of the Strength and Riches thereof, and for the vending the Product and Manufactures, Goods and Merchandizes of, or brought into this Kingdom, and Employment of the Poor, that a Trade should be carried on to the South-Seas, and other Parts in America within the Limits herein after-mentioned; which cannot be so securely and successfully carry'd on as by a Corporation with a Joint-Stock EXCLUSIVE OF ALL OTHERS: Now for the better Encouragement of all and every the Person and Persons who shall be or become Members of the said Company or Corporation to be erected as aforesaid; and to the*
end

end and intent that a Trade to the South-Seas and other Parts of America within the Limits herein after-mentioned, may be carried on and promoted for the Advantage and Honour of this Kingdom; Be it enacted.

It is plain here, that the Company by its first Institution was to have an exclusive Trade, and that our People of *Jamaica* by this very Act are deprived of the Trade to the *South-Sea*, which was to the great Advantage of themselves and the whole Nation: So that this Act for erecting this exclusive Company of Traders deprived the Nation of a very beneficial Commerce. And therefore, whatever might be the Gain of the Company, it could not be all Profit to the Nation; only so much could be esteemed the Gain of the Nation, as the Gain of the Company exceeded that of the *Jamaica* Merchants. The Loss of these Gentlemen ought to be deducted out of the Company's Gain, and then I believe that very little would be coming to the Nation.

*Jama'ca de-
prived of
that Trade,
to our great
Loss.*

But was the Company to hope for any Profit by this exclusive Trade? They were to build Forts and Castles in the *South Sea*, for their Security in Countries already settled by our Enemies, at such a Charge and at such a Distance from this Kingdom. They might as well have thought of building Castles in the Air. For this Reason therefore I might well be allowed to esteem this Project as romantick and chimerical. It was giving up the Profit of the *Jamaica* Trade to a Company, which was so far from having any Prospect of Advantage

vantage by it, that they were in a fair way of losing Stock and Block.

It is true, the *Jamaica* Traders were not excluded but only from *Buenos-Ayres* Southwards, and from the *South-Sea*; they had still left the Places in the *Atlantic Ocean* for themselves. But the Profit they annually introduced from the *South-Sea* was considerable, and the Company's Act has given it up for nothing.

This was the Case of the *South-Sea* Project till the Peace was made, and till the *Affiento Contract* made an Alteration.

Affiento Contract ruinous to Jamaica.

By this the *Jamaica* Traders are entirely excluded from the *Spanish Indies*, and the Company's Castles in the Air are turned into an Obligation to sell the *Spaniards* 4800 Negroes per Annum, and a Permission to send 500 Tons of Goods to *Portobello*, but this under such Limitations and Restrictions, and paying such Duties to the King of *Spain*, that they rather suffer their Goods to lie moth-eaten on board the Ships, than export them on such Conditions.

Danger of losing Jamaica.

This *Affiento Contract* is like the Dog in the Manger, it neither trades it self, nor will suffer those that would. In all probability that once valuable Island of *Jamaica* must soon fall into the Hands of the *French*: There could not have been a better Contrivance than this of the *Affiento Contract*, to throw this whole Island into their Possession.

It is situated among such Neighbours, that it had need of much greater Numbers of People than are there for its Defence. Yet our false
Maxims

Maxims of suffering our People there to possess greater Tracts of Land than they can plant, must needs hinder their Increase; and this *Affiento Contract*, by depriving them of their best and most valuable Trade, must make them desert apace; this in a little time may expose the little Remainder to our Enemies. Was the *Affiento Contract* contrived for this purpose?

Yet I am afraid this will not be our whole Loss: *Dr. Davenant* has said, if his Authority is good, that our Loss of *Jamaica* must probably be followed with the Ruin of our Interest in *America*.

The Act for erecting the *South-Sea-Company* deprived *Jamaica* of trading to the *South-Sea*, but the *Affiento Contract* has shut them out of the *Spanish Indies*; yet their Returns of Gold and Silver from the *Spanish Indies* in exchange for Negroes and other Merchandizes, were 2 or 300000 *l. per Annum*. Let the *Spaniards* have deprived us of this Trade; but was it fit for our selves to give it up? How vast must be the number of Deserters from that Island? It was at least half the value of its whole Trade, therefore half the People desert; for it will be allowed that no body lives there for the Air, or for any thing but their Trade: And will the Island after this Desertion be able to defend it self?

*Jamaica formerly gained 300,000 *l.* per Ann. from the Spanish Indies.*

Thus there is no Prospect of the Company's trading under this Contract, or getting any thing by it if they did. Can their Goods that are to be kept three Years in the King's Warehouses, and under his own Lock and Key, and
L 2 in

in so hot a Climate, be brought to a good Market? or will not one half of them first perish? Can the Assientists hope for Profit from their Negroes, that are to pay a heavy Load of Duties to the King? Certainly no Man in the Kingdom could have contrived a Treaty so little for the Benefit of the Nation.

Extracts of two remarkable Spanish Letters, with Reflections thereon.

NEVER was any Writer more impatient to make an end than my self; but the two following Extracts of Letters from Spain are so remarkable, that I must first give them to my Readers, with some Reflections of my own. They were translated before my face, and they shew the Sense the Spaniards have of their own Condition as well as ours.

Cadiz, June 24. 1714. N. S.

S I R,

No Consumption for our Goods in Spain, the People being oppress'd by Taxes, and their Trade to the Indies interrupted by the French

THIS Week came an Order to the Officers of our Custom-house, to permit the Dispatch of Goods as formerly until the general Peace and Commerce is concluded, when there will be a new Arancel (or Book of Rates) for the regulating the Payment of the Duties. And altho' with you Goods are exceeding cheap, here it happens the same, and what is still worse, we have no Consumption for them, thro' the miserable Condition of this Country, which is

is oppress'd with Taxes and Duties, and the Navigation of the Spaniards to the Indies interrupted; whilst in the Interim from this Bay and divers of France, sail every Month Ships for Peru and other Coasts of the Indies. It is much to be admired, that England, having obtained so many Advantages in the War, it was not IN EARNEST CAPITULATED to exclude all other Nations from that Commerce. For tho' England may have the Liberty to send some Goods directly thither, it will be rather a Detriment than an Advantage to them, being the only CLOAK that could cover the French Designs of enjoying the Benefit of the Indies.— When I can foresee any Probability of Advantage in ordering any Goods hither, I will be concerned with you.

Sevilla June 26, 1714. O. S.

S I R,

WE are very desirous here that the British Ambassador may soon arrive at Madrid, and fix the Customs out of hand, that the Dutch, Flemish, Italians, and SPANIARDS may obtain the same Privileges. Since Thursday last there is come an Order to dispatch Goods at the Custom-house as formerly: The Reason of it is, that they found no body dispatched any on the new Terms.

The French buy up all the Wool in Spain.

" I much doubt whether the English Ambassador can, on his Arrival at Madrid, prevail that the French may not sail to the West-Indies. Several Ships of that Nation are now loading in the Ports of Spain and France; and from Cadiz lately sailed several for the South-Sea and Vera Cruz. They have enriched themselves so much by that Trade, that they have engaged in this Country for all the Wools at such high Rates, that they cannot be bought up for Holland or other Parts as usual; and the same they have done for Oils, for which they give 65 Pieces of Eight per Pipe.

French overstock the Spanish West-Indies with Goods.

" The Factors from Cartagena (in the West-Indies) write, that they cannot sell Goods enough to pay Freights; and all that Country was stock'd so full, that Goods sold there as cheap as in Spain. And the Case is the same in Peru, where the French had swept away all the Plate to such a Degree that they loaded their Ships with Mineral Oar to be refined in France. The said Nation has engross'd all the Commerce of America, and also of Europe; and as long as THEY REIGN IN SPAIN, there is no Hopes of anything favourable for other Nations.

English must lose by the Assiento.

" The English Ships concerned in the Assiento of Negroes must lose on the Goods they carry to the West-Indies; for where the French resort it's in vain to expect Profit: And until that Navigation return as in Charles II's Reign, nothing favourable can be hoped for Spain.

" Since

Seville and Cadiz have no Vent to the Indies.

" Since Seville and Cadiz have no Vent to the Indies, and the Consumption of the Country is so little, and the Scarcity of our Money every Day increases, it's not to be doubted but those who send Goods will receive tedious and bad Accounts. And as I have Experience of what passes herein, it is but Reason I should not engage with you in any Goods from your Parts. For at present there is no demand for any Thing: And our Ware-houses are full of all Sorts of Merchandize. The Towns in this Country with such continual Contributions are ruined; most not having to eat. I assure you, all Spain is in a miserable Condition, and their Indies lost; add notwithstanding what is capitulated, there is no Hopes of relief, for the French study nothing more than to impoverish these poor Vassals. And those who persuade themselves otherwise are deceived, as they that are interested in the Buenos Ayres Ships will find, who will not be able to make any Sales for that Province. Potosi, Lima, and Chili were full stock'd with Goods, there being above 20 French Ships in several Ports of the South-Sea, and some gone since; insomuch that if England and Holland do not redress this Disorder, they had as good not think of the Trade to the Indies, while the French Government predominates in Spain.

Spain in a miserable Condition and their Indies lost.

Alas, poor Spain! Spain to complain of miserable Condition! of her being oppress'd with Taxes and Duties! of her ruined Towns

The British Merchant.

and continual Contributions? of her People's not having Bread to eat! and that the French study nothing more than to impoverish those poor Vassals! How! King Philip's loyal Castilians suffer this, they that so fondly brought him back again after he had been twice driven out of his Kingdom! Are they thus rewarded for their Loyalty? What could they have suffered worse if they had been Catalans, if they could have join'd themselves with his Enemies?

Catalans
betray'd.

No certainly; if they had done this, it had not now been in the Power of France to oppress them in this grievous manner; it had not been in the Power of any one Potentate to deliver them up to such Oppressions, like the brave unfortunate Catalans, who are stiled Rebels in our Gazettes, whom we have suffered to be treated as Rebels by the Prince we have established on the Spanish Throne. Their Rebellion was their joining their Arms with England and her Confederates, and confiding in their Protection. The poor Catalans are to be pity'd, but who can pity the Castilians?

But, like Fools, they complain now, that their Navigation to their own Indies is interrupted; that Peru and their other Coasts of New Spain are open'd to the Ships of France; that France has engross'd the whole Commerce in America; and that as long as she reigns in Spain there can be no Hopes of any thing favourable for other Nations; that even Spain it self has no Favour in her own Indies; that she can hope for none till the Navigation shall be restored as it was in the Time of King Charles the Second. T

Trade with Spain.

To remedy these and their other Grievances, they pray for the Arrival of the British Ambassador in their Country; they hope by his Mediation they shall obtain their former Privileges, and that the French shall be depriv'd of the Liberty of sailing to the West-Indies.

Yes, no doubt, a British Ambassador is like to do very great Things for the Spaniards. When our Arms are laid aside, when our Alliances are broken, there is a wonderful Force in Ambassadors. Was ever any thing so fond as the Spaniards to cherish such vain Hopes?

But is the British Ambassador then to fix the Customs for the Dutch, Flemish and Italians, nay, for the Spaniards themselves? Miserable People are the last, if they are now to depend upon our Ambassador for their own Trade in their own Countries.

Yet it seems they doubt whether he will be able to prevail that the French may not fail to the West-Indies; it is some Comfort to them that they are in doubt. I believe there is not a sensible Person in Europe can have any doubt, but that his most Christian Majesty will as soon part with Paris as the Footing and Interest he has in the Spanish Indies, though both might have been secured from him. The Gentlemen admire that England, after having obtained so great Advantages by the War, hath capitulated no better for her self or her Neighbours. Our Treaty with Spain was our Capitulation; for I hope no Man will say that 'twas surrendering at Discretion. But it is too late to complain, the Capitulation is over.

Spain has the Name of the *Spanish Indies*, but the *French* Ships sail every Month for those Countries from *Spain* as well as *France*, with entire Cargoes of the latter; they stock the whole Countries with their Goods, and render them as cheap there as they are in *Spain*. *Lima* and *Chili*, *Potosi* and *Buenos Ayres* are full of them; there is no room for any of ours: So that our licens'd Ships are like to have a glorious Trade in those Places, if yet they ever were designed for that Voyage.

For some, and even of our House of Peers, have conjectured, that the Assiento Contract, and the License to send two Ships to the *Spanish Indies*, was calculated for the private Advantage of particular Persons; because there was such Difficulty in complying with the Demands of the *South-Sea* Company, who were to send the said Ships; because it was so long insisted that the Company should advance the Money for the Assignees of the Queen's Part of that Contract; because the first Market since the Peace was lost by this Dispute; and because it was sworn at the Bar of the House of Lords, That a CERTAIN PERSON, who was known to be in the Secret, had advised some Directors of the Company to give a Sum of Money to the Assignees of her Majesty to get rid of that Obstruction.

Such was the Conjecture of these Lords: But the Author of one of the above-mention'd Letters has another Conjecture. He imagines the License granted the *English* to send Ships directly for *New Spain*, was only to serve as a Cloak to cover the *French* Designs of enjoying the whole Benefit of the *Indies*. This

This indeed would be a melancholy Story, if we have only accepted an imaginary Trade for our selves, that we may have the less Pretensions to quarrel with *France* for possessing the whole, and the real Trade to the *Spanish Indies* contrary to her own Treaty; though I believe we should not quarrel for the Matter; at this time of Day we are more likely to solicit by an Ambassador.

Both the above-mention'd Letters agree with that in the *Daily Courant*, that our Goods are now dispatch'd in *Spain* as formerly in the Reign of King *Charles II*. One says, till a general Peace is concluded, and a new Book of Rates shall be made for regulating the Payment of Duties; the other says, because no body would dispatch their Goods upon the new Terms.

But whether new Terms or old Terms, they both agree, that our Trade to *Spain* can be good for nothing, the *Spaniards* are so impoverished, and their Country is so overstock'd with all sorts of *French* Goods; so that the late Order for dispatching our Goods on the Terms of King *Charles II*. comes very late, it has something provoking in it; *France* has had the beginning of the Market for her Goods, and now we may get off ours if we can.

Whatsoever is the Order, we are not obliged to the Treaty for it; it is an Order of the King's, and he may revoke it when he pleases. And no doubt he must revoke it, when *France* shall think it her Interest that he should.

Every

*Trade to
Spain lost.*

The Mischiefs of yielding Spain to the House of Bourbon.

Every wise Man foresaw what would come of yielding Spain to the House of Bourbon ; but I believe the most fearful Creature could not have imagined that France would so soon have shewn herself in those Airs.

In vain now do the Spaniards expect a Redress of those disorders from England and Holland ; alas, 'tis enough for them if they are either singly or jointly able to help themselves ; they are not now at the head of a great Alliance, they are now no more the important People they were so very lately. I am very much afraid they must rest hereafter satisfied with such a share of Trade as France will please to leave them.

Our Spanish Trade is lost, there is no Hopes of any to the Spanish Indies. To whom are we obliged for this ? to the Persons that advised the yielding Spain and her Indies to the House of Bourbon. It is plain the Authors of the two Letters, even now since the King's late Order for dispatching our Goods, think so ill of their own Trade, that they dissuade their Correspondents from sending 'em any Goods.

A Letter ascertaining the low Duties paid in Spain before the last War, and the Right we had by the Treaty of 1667 ; and also shewing that this Right is given up by the late Treaty. With Reflections on the said Letter.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

According to my Promise, I transmit you an exact Account of the Customs and Duties which were payable on our Woollen Manufactures at Cadix and Port St. Mary's, from the Conclusion of the Treaty of Commerce in 1667 by the Earl of Sandwich, to the Commencement of the late War ; and of what we are now liable to pay by the late Treaty ; together with some Reasons, which induced the Kings of Spain from time to time to vest the Administrators or Farmers of the Royal Duties, with Power to make such just and reasonable Allowances to the Merchants as were absolutely necessary to preserve their Commerce, and support the Revenue.

The Almoxarifago or Custom, which was paid upon taking our Goods out of the Custom-house, and the Alcala, which was payable according to the Laws of Castile at the Place where, and at the time when they are sold, as well as all the other Duties which were afterwards imposed, were collected upon the established Rates in the old Arancels or Registers.

In what manner the Duties are payable.

These

“ These were originally made by the People
 “ in the chief trading Cities and Towns, but
 “ varied one from another one or two *per cent.*
 “ and sometimes more; however, they were
 “ generally esteemed moderate, never exceed-
 “ ing the Prices our Goods and Merchandizes
 “ were sold at in that Kingdom in a current
 “ time of Trade.

“ In the Year 1667, and from thence un-
 “ til 1686, our Bays, Serges, Perpets, Cloths,
 “ &c. were charged according to their re-
 “ spective Valuations, with

“ 12 : $37\frac{1}{2}$ *per Cent.* Almozarifargo, and
 “ 12 : $82\frac{1}{2}$ *per Cent.* Alcav. Cien. &c.

“ In all 25 : $1\frac{2}{100}$ *per Cent.* including Premio and
 (Quarto Plata.

“ And our Says, Stockings, Hats, &c. with
 “ 5 : $62\frac{1}{2}$ *per Cent.* Almozarifargo, and
 “ 17 : $32\frac{1}{2}$ *per Cent.* Alcav. Cien. &c.

“ In all 22 : $1\frac{2}{100}$ *per Cent.* including Premios
 (and Quarto Plata.

“ And in *Anno* 1686 they were subject to
 “ an additional Duty of 1 and $\frac{1}{3}$ *per cent.* Con-
 “ sulado and Lonja, which with a Premio of
 “ 5 *per cent.* amounted to $1\frac{4}{100}$ *per cent.* where-
 “ by the whole Duty on Bays, &c. were 26
 “ $1\frac{1}{100}$ *per cent.* and on Says, &c. $24\frac{2}{100}$ *per*
 “ *cent.*

“ These were such exorbitant and exces-
 “ sive Duties, that they formerly discouraged
 “ Trade, and introduced clandestine Impor-
 “ tations: Whereupon the Administrators
 “ who collected these Duties for the King’s
 “ Account,

*Duties of
 1667, so
 high as to
 discourage
 Trade.*

“ Account, or the Farmers who received
 “ them for their own Use, according to the
 “ Power granted them as aforesaid, made it
 “ a constant Practice in the Custom-house to
 “ allow 25 *per cent.* to the Merchants upon
 “ making up their Customs, which was cal-
 “ led the King’s Gratia; and this effectually
 “ secured their Trade, and augmented the
 “ Revenue.

*What the
 Gratas
 were.*

“ When this Abatement was first settled is
 “ very uncertain, but it has probably been of
 “ a long standing; it was an established Rule
 “ in 1667, and was regularly and constantly
 “ allowed by the Farmers, until superseded by
 “ the late Treaty.

“ Since therefore by the 3d Article of the
 “ Earl of Sandwich’s Treaty, no new Custom
 “ or Duties whatsoever shall be taken or encrea-
 “ sed, other than those which in like Cases
 “ the Natives themselves and all other Strangers
 “ are obliged to pay, and that the Spanish Far-
 “ mers never disputed this Deduction for so
 “ many Years successively with any foreign
 “ Nation that traded into that Kingdom, both
 “ before and after that Treaty, or with the
 “ Natives thereof; certainly if this Exemp-
 “ tion had been insisted on, it must have been
 “ allowed us; for to be treated in the same
 “ manner as the most favoured Nation was
 “ our Right, and it is laid down as the Basis
 “ and Foundation of the Treaty.

*Earl of
 Sandwich’s
 Treaty with
 Spain in our
 Favour.*

“ Thus then we had a right to the King’s
 “ Gratia, or rather Abatement of 25 *per*
 “ *cent.* by Custom or Prescription; and it will
 “ also appear, that we had as just, if not a
 “ juster

Gratias rise
and fall with
Pieces of
Eight.

" juster Right to the Farmer's Gratia, tho'
 " this proceeds from another Cause.
 " For the *Spanish* Dollar or Piece of Eight
 " passing current, sometimes but for 12, and
 " at other times for 15, 20, and 25 Ryals
 " Copper or Vellon; therefore as a greater or
 " lesser Number of these Ryals Copper passed
 " for a Piece of Eight, the Administrators or
 " Farmers were necessitated to encrease or di-
 " minish their Gratias to the Merchants.
 " In the Year 1670, when a piece of
 " Eight passed for 20 Ryals Copper, the Far-
 " mer's Gratia was then but 20 *per cent.* on
 " all our Woollen Goods; and tho' the Pie-
 " ces of Eight between 1670 and 1680 rose
 " by degrees to 25 Ryals Copper, yet I can-
 " not find that the Farmers altered their Gra-
 " tias.
 " But after 1680, when a piece of Eight,
 " by the King's Proclamation, passed for no
 " more than 12 Ryals Copper, (whereby our
 " Customs were at once more than doubled)
 " the Administrators and Farmers successively
 " encreased their Gratias.
 " As appears at large by the Adjustments
 " made at *Seville* by the Deputies of the *Eng-
 " lish, Flemish, and Dutch* Nations, with
 " Don *Francisco Eminente*, Administrator-Ge-
 " neral, and afterwards with Don *Gaspar
 " Ruiz Dias*, who allow'd us 50 *per Cent.* on
 " *Perpets, Says, &c.* and 40 *per Cent.* on
 " Bays.
 " And from 1686 to 1702, during which
 " time the piece of Eight passed by another
 " Proclamation for 15 Ryals Copper, the
 " Farmer's

" Farmer's Gratia was reduced to and settled
 " at 45 *per Cent.* on *Says* and other Goods,
 " and 40 *per Cent.* on Bays, all the Mer-
 " chants then resident at *Cadix* and *Port St.
 " Mary's* must acknowledge.
 " By this Management of the Farmers the
 " King's Revenue was not lessened, nor the
 " Merchants injured. For Example,

 " If a Merchant in 1670 entered with the
 " *Spanish* Farmers 100 Bays, tho' they allow-
 " ed thereon but 20 *per Cent.* Gratia, (besides
 " the King's constant Gratia;) yet the Piece
 " of Eight then passing for 20 Ryals Copper,
 " the Custom and Duties on the said Bays, at
 " 25 $\frac{2}{3}$ *per Cent.* amount to 222 $\frac{1}{3}$ Pieces of
 " Eight.
 " And if in 1686 he entered the same
 " Quantity of Bays, whereon the Farmer's
 " Gratia, or Allowance, was then 40 (in-
 " stead of 20 *per Cent.* as in 1670;) yet the
 " Piece of Eight passing but for 15 Ryals
 " Copper, the Custom and Duties at the
 " same Rate of 25 $\frac{2}{3}$ *per Cent.* will amount
 " exactly to the same Sum of 222 $\frac{1}{3}$ Pieces of
 " Eight.
 " So that it is very apparent, the Difference
 " occasioned by the Dollar, or Piece of Eight,
 " passing but for 15 instead of 20 Ryals Cop-
 " per, was justly allowed the Merchant by
 " the Increase of Gratias from 20 to 40 *per
 " Cent.*
 " And it is as obvious by other Accounts,
 " that the Administrators or Farmers, upon
 " every other considerable Alteration of this
 " Coper

Our Rights to the Grantias.

Which might have been fixed by this Treaty.

“ Copper Money, either augmented or lessened their Gratia according to the Rules of Equity and Justice.

“ From whence it must be concluded, that the said Grantias did not proceed from a Remissness, or a false suggested Easiness in the Spaniards, but were granted because reasonable and just.

“ And therefore, as they never deprived us of our undoubted Right to these Grantias or Allowances, this also might probably have been fixed by the Treaty, had it been well understood and strenuously endeavoured; and in such a Case we should have been effectually secured against paying any greater Duties than between the War.

“ For tho’, as aforesaid, the Custom and Duties payable in the Reign both of King Charles II. and his present Majesty were,

“ On Bays, Perpets, &c. $26\frac{60}{100}$ per Cent.
“ And on Says, &c. $24\frac{32}{100}$ per Cent.

“ Yet by the said Grantias, allowed since 1686 on the established Rates in the Spanish Arancel, they were reduced to

“ $9\frac{27}{100}$ per Cent. on Perpets,
“ $10\frac{4}{100}$ per Cent. on Says, and
“ $11\frac{7}{100}$ per Cent. on Bays.

“ And the Valuation in the Book of Rates was so favourable, that all these Duties upon their Sales came out but at

“ $9\frac{3}{100}$ per Cent. on Perpets,
“ $8\frac{4}{100}$ per Cent. on Says, and
“ $8\frac{13}{100}$ per Cent. on Bays.

“ But

“ But by the three explanatory Articles of the late Treaty, we are liable to pay 10 per Cent. on all Goods and Merchandize imported and exported; and this is not to extend to the Alcavallas, Cientos and Millones.

“ Thus those Goods which were charged with $\frac{37\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per Cent. Almojarifargo, are hereby to pay the said Duty of 10 per Ct. And the Alcav. and Cient. $14\frac{22\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per C. thereon are

“ In all, $24\frac{22\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per C.

“ And those that paid $5\frac{62\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per Ct. Almojarifargo, are also charged with the aforesaid Duty of 10 per Cent. 10 And the Alcavallas or Cientos $18\frac{72\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per C. thereon amount to

“ In all, $28\frac{72\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per C.

“ Which is really on the established Rates,

“ $24\frac{22\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per Ct. instead of $9\frac{27}{100}$ per C. on Perpets. and $11\frac{7}{100}$ on Bays, as aforesaid.

And

“ $28\frac{72\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per Cent. instead of $10\frac{13}{100}$ per Cent. on Says.

Conse-

“ Consequently therefore the Duties lately demanded in *Spain* on the foot of the present Treaty, amount to no more than, or are over and above the old Duties,

“ On Perpets $14\frac{25\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per Cent.

“ On Bays $12\frac{25\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per Cent.

“ On Says $18\frac{68\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per Cent.

“ This, I think, is all you ask of me.

I am, Sir, &c.

Upon this Letter of my Correspondent I must take leave to make the following Reflections.

First, That 10 *l.* Custom paid on Goods which are valued at 100 *l.* is less than 10 per Cent. of the real Value of the Goods, if they can be sold for 120 *l.* or for any thing more than 100 *l.*

It is apparent by this Letter, that Perpets, by the Valuation in the Arancel or Book of Rates, did not pay above $9\frac{27}{100}$ per Cent. Says not above $10\frac{27}{100}$ per Cent. and Bays not above $1\frac{27}{100}$ per Cent. But these Goods usually sold for so much more than that Valuation, that the real Customs paid on the first did

did not exceed $9\frac{3}{100}$ per Cent. on the second $8\frac{44}{100}$, on the third $8\frac{13}{100}$ per Cent. of the real Value.

Secondly, It is very true, that by Gratiar of the King and of the Farmers of the Customs, as they were call'd, the aforesaid Goods paid no more than the aforesaid Duties; but then as the King's Gratiar was always the same, viz. an Abatement of one fourth Part of the whole Customs, ever since the Treaty of 1667, and during that time the Farmers of the Customs, or the Administrators of the King's Revenue, made always such an Allowance in the Tale of the Goods, that notwithstanding all the Variations in the *Spanish* Coin, yet the Customs paid on the real Value were still the same; it is a violent Presumption we had a Right to that moderate Valuation in their old Arancel, and also to those Gratiar or Abatements of the King and his Farmers, or the Administrators of his Revenue.

Thirdly, But the very Words in the third Article of the Treaty of 1667 put this Matter out of doubt, viz. *That no new Customs or Duties whatsoever shall be taken or encreased, other than those which the Natives themselves, and all other Strangers, are obliged to pay.*

No new Customs or Duties to be taken by the Treaty of 1667! But we our selves have consented by our late Treaty, as appears by the Letter, that the King of *Spain* may take more than

The British Merchant.

than have been levied ever since the former Treaty, viz.

- On Perpets $14\frac{25\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per Cent.
- On Bays $12\frac{25\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per Cent.
- On Says $18\frac{68\frac{1}{2}}{100}$ per Cent.

So that the Duties are more than doubled by the late Treaty ; we have consented to such Duties as are insistent with any Trade. Our Spanish Merchants, Whigs and Tories, are of this Opinion to a Man. I believe from the Letters to my last the Spaniards may be no better used. But surely there is not a Merchant upon the Exchange that thinks this to be the Condition of the French. We know they have been selling their Goods, while ours have lain perishing in the Custom-house.

Sir W. Godolphin Contriver of the Treaty in 1667.

The Treaty of 1667 was signed May 23. and the next Day Sir W. Godolphin, who was Secretary to our Embassy, and who was the chief Contriver of that Treaty, wrote thus to my Lord Arlington : " The Treaty of Commerce, I dare promise your Lordship, comprehends not only all the Privileges and Advantages which this Growth hath ever granted to any other State or People, but likewise some Conveniencies which it hath never yet permitted to any other ; for the better Security and Perfection whereof I have diligently perused all the Treaties these People have made with others, and all the Roy-

His Caution in it.

Trade with Spain.

" al Cedula's they have granted in favour of
" any particular Factories ; and have not received from our Factories any Grievance or
" Proposition of Advantage in their Commerce
" to be either remedied or procured for them,
" which we think is not sufficiently provided
" for in this Treaty."

And in another Letter to his Brother, May 25. he says, " I will only say to you in general of the Treaty of Commerce, That besides all the Freedoms and Advantages of Trade, which this Crown hath granted to any other State, we have thereby several Concessions and Conveniencies whereof we find no Example in their Articles with any other. And I think they have not made any other these hundred years, which I have not learned as my Lesson, in order to the Treating and Perfection of this.

Sir W. Godolphin might say this, and the World will believe him, since after that Treaty we paid no more than the moderate Duties above-mentioned, and since the Privilege of a Judge-Conservator, without which we cannot trade with any Security in that Country, and which was only granted before by Royal Cedula's to our Merchants, and might have been revoked by the King, was confirmed to us by that Treaty.

But for the Mercator to say, as he does in his last, " That the Treaty with Spain is made as much to our Advantage as it was reasonable to expect, or as the Nature of the Thing could possibly admit, is certainly true ; and that it is very much to the Advantage

“ vantage of our Commerce, is true ; that
 “ our Merchants and Merchandizes have great
 “ Advantages which they never enjoyed be-
 “ fore, is true.” For the *Mercator*, I say,
 to affirm this of a Treaty which has doubled the
 Duties we paid under the former, and which
 has deprived us of the Privilege of a Judge-
 Conservator, so absolutely necessary for our
 Commerce, is superlative Impudence. I desire
 him to tell us what one Advantage we have by
 this Treaty.

No Man in his Senses can believe, that the
 Contrivers of the last Treaty had learned all
 former Treaties as their Lesson, or that indeed
 they had ever read that of 1667, tho' it is re-
 cited in their first Article: It is of almost no
 use in that Place, but to shew the People what
 Privileges they enjoyed before, which are ta-
 ken from them by the last Treaty.

*Concerning the Exit of the Mercator ; with an
 Answer to his two last Papers, and particu-
 larly to his Scandal against the Spanish Mer-
 chants for complaining of the Treaty with
 Spain.*

THE *Mercator* is obliged at last to part
 with his Subject of Trade, and at part-
 ing he rants, and tears.

*Spanish
 Merchants
 wilely slan-
 der'd by the
 Mercator.*

In his last but one he has plac'd two worthy
 Gentlemen by Name at the Head of the *Spa-
 nish* Merchants, and then takes the liberty to
 call the whole Body of them Knaves, Murde-
 rers,

rers, and Traitors. Why? Because when
 they were summon'd before the House of Lords
 to give their Sentiments concerning our Trade
 to *Spain*, and the Treaty of Commerce with
 that Nation, they were unanimous that the
 Treaty had near doubled the Duties on our
 Goods and Merchandizes in that Country; and
 that by doing this, and not restoring us to our
 former Privilege of a Judge-Conservator, it had
 utterly ruin'd our *Spanish* Trade, it was utter-
 ly impossible to carry on our Trade with any ad-
 vantage to *Spain* upon the foot of our late Trea-
 ty. They were not voluntary Complainers,
 they were summoned by the Lords, they only
 answered to their Questions; and for this they
 are treated thus.

And why.

I thought it had been the Right of every Sub-
 ject to complain when he was grieved, and to
 petition for Redress; the *Spanish* Merchants
 have not done this, they only answer'd when
 they were ask'd; they answer'd that their
 Trade was render'd impracticable by the late
 Treaty: And for this they are Knaves, Mur-
 derers and Traitors.

I thought not only our Manufacturers, but
 also the whole landed Interest, was concerned in
 the Preservation of the *Spanish* Trade, to pre-
 serve a Trade which paid heretofore very great
 Sums of Money for the Product of our Lands,
 and the Labour of our People. The *Spanish*
 Merchants are certainly the best Judges when
 they cannot sell their Goods; yet if they speak
 the Truth, when requir'd, they are Knaves,
 Murderers and Traitors.

But why is it that they are called Traitors?
 VOL. III. M All

All Treason is against her Majesty. Her Ministers advise the making of Treaties, and no doubt this last was made by their Advice; and if it is a bad Treaty, it must be laid at their doors. The Subjects have a Right to complain of their Grievances, and to charge them upon the Authors. God preserve her Majesty upon her Throne! But this Man has made it Treason to reflect on the *Spanish Treaty*, as being a Reflection on the Advisers; so that it seems Treason may be committed, in the Opinion of the *Mercator*, as well against the Ministers as the Queen. If this Doctrine shall be once establish'd, that it shall be Treason to complain of Injuries, to petition for a Redress, or to appeal against the Conduct of Ministers to the highest Judicature in the Kingdom, farewell to the Liberties of *Britain*.

But the Knavery, the Murder, the Treason of the *Spanish Merchants*, is, that their Grievance was redrest many Weeks before they made their Complaint; that they knew it was redrest, and redrest at the Instance of her Majesty to the King of *Spain*; that they were Fools if they had no Advice of this so many Weeks after the Redress; that they were Murderers and Traitors if they knew it and yet complain'd; that it can be prov'd they had Advice of the Redress before any of them had complain'd. And the *Mercator* insinuates, that the Court had Letters from *Madrid* with which they could have confronted their Complaint; and that their Complaint therefore was the most horrid Affront ever offered to the Sovereign Judicature of the Nation, the House of Lords,

to

to alarm them with a Complaint of a thing which at the same time they knew was redressed.

But who can believe that the *Spanish Merchants* knew that their Grievances was redressed? Or, that if the Ministers knew any such thing, they would not have confronted their Complaint? Who can believe that they would not have produced their Evidence, to prevent such a Representation as came the 5th of *July* from the House of Lords to the Throne, and which is gone all over the Kingdom? The Words of the Representation are, *That upon the Examination of Merchants at our Bar, and perusing and considering several Representations and Papers laid before us by your Commissioners of Trade, it appears to us, that the carrying on the Trade between your Majesty's Dominions and Spain, on the foot of the present Treaty of Commerce, as it stands ratified with the three explanatory Articles, is attended with insuperable Difficulties; and therefore we do humbly beseech your Majesty to use effectual Means for procuring such Alterations to be made in the same, as may render the said Trade practicable and beneficial to your Majesty's People.* If the Ministers could have shown, that there was no Reason for such a Representation, would they not have produced their Evidence to prevent it, and to prevent the ill Effects of it among the People? Perhaps the Ministers might not think it worth their while to confront the Complaint of the Merchants; but was the House of Lords to be neglected? Was it not worth the while of the Ministers to set them right in this matter? Nothing therefore can be so certain, as that at the

Spanish Merchants vindicated.

Lords Representation against the Treaty.

M 2

time

The Merchants Complaints justified.

time of the Complaint the Ministers knew nothing of the Redress.

But I deny that it is redress at this very Hour. The Complaint was, that by the Loss of our Judge-Conservator, and by the high Duties left by the Treaty on our Goods, our Trade to Spain is render'd impracticable on the foot of the Treaty: And is it now render'd practicable by any Alterations in the Treaty? The Treaty is not altered: It remains as it was made. The King of Spain has not oblig'd himself by any subsequent Stipulation to allow us a Judge-Conservator, or content himself with the Duties that were levy'd before the War. He has not allow'd us the Judge; and if, at the Instance of her Majesty, he has condescended to order the Officers of the Customs to dispatch our Goods as they did formerly, it must be taken as a favour to her Majesty, which the King of Spain may revoke at his discretion, but we have no Right to it by the Treaty. So that it does not yet appear, that the Matter complain'd of was redress at the time of their Complaint.

I think it my Duty, and I think it the Duty of every Subject, to express their Gratitude for every Favour her Majesty has procur'd for her People: But how does it appear that she has procur'd this Favour for them, that their Goods shall be dispatch'd in Spain as they were formerly? It does not appear by her Majesty's Answer to the Representation of the House of Lords. The Answer is, *My Lords, It has been my Care to procure all possible Advantages for my Subjects in Trade. And I shall continue my utmost*

Queen's Answer to the Lords.

most Endeavours to obtain farther Benefits, and particularly in the Trade with Spain, which is so useful for my Subjects. If her Majesty had made any such Instance to the Court of Madrid as is pretended by the Mercator, would it have been omitted in her Answer? Would not the Lords have been told, that the thing complain'd of by the Merchants was redress'd? that the Benefits desir'd for her People were already procur'd? It is therefore a very strong Presumption that her Majesty was never inform'd by her Ministers, or before this Representation of the Lords, that the Spanish Treaty was the Ruin of the Spanish Trade, or that our Goods could not be sold in Spain under the burdensome Duties of that Treaty.

I must therefore insist upon it, till the contrary shall be made appear, that the late Order from the Court of Madrid was the Kindness of the Spaniard to himself more than to this Kingdom. Our Goods lay perishing at the Custom-house, and could not be dispatch'd under the Load of Duties establish'd by the Treaty: This of course must have less'n'd his Trade, and sunk his Revenue; to this we are oblig'd for that Order, and to nothing else. But however we came by this Order, it was not due to us by our Treaty.

I have said that we are Losers by our Spanish Trade, and paid the Ballance to that Nation, and that the Course of the Exchange made it evident. How does the Mercator rant upon that Occasion in his last? His Words are, *It is but a little while ago that they alledg'd in Print, under the Hand of the most scandalous ignorant Creature*

Creature that ever undertook a Cause, that we were Losers by our Trade to Spain, and paid the Ballance in Money; which horrid Affront to Truth the House of Lords, in their late Address and Representations, have effectually damn'd as false and absurd: Nay, the very Application of the Spanish Merchants to the House of Lords for Redress (if they did really seek Redress, and not Complaint only) gives the Lye to this ignorant Scribbler; for why did they desire to have that Trade preserved, if it was a Trade we lost by, and the Ballance of which run against us?

No certainly, neither the Lords nor the Merchants have desired the Preservation of a losing Trade: Let any Man read over the Representation of the former, and the Answers of the latter, and he must needs see, That the Thing desired by both is, that the Trade to Spain (which cannot be carried on without insuperable Difficulties, or with any Advantage to us under the late Treaty) may, by Alterations in the Treaty, be rendred practicable and beneficial to the Nation. What have I said that is contrary to this? I have said that it can neither be practicable nor beneficial under the Terms of the late Treaty. I say the same thing again, and I have the Lords and Merchants on my side. I have not said that the Spanish Trade was always detrimental, I only say that it is made so by the Treaty. I am very well contented to be called ignorant Creature, in a matter wherein I have the House of Lords and the whole Body of Spanish Merchants for my Vouchers.

I

I ought even to be pleased with his Reproaches, when he has named too worthy Gentlemen by their Names, and called the whole body of Spanish Merchants Fools, Knaves, Murderers, and Traitors. We are all, in his Opinion, a Party against the present Ministry, and yet I believe the Ministry has not more Friends amongst any other Set of Merchants; but 'tis impossible to desire Redress of any Grievance, and not be stigmatized with the Name of a Party.

But how mean, how vile a thing was it, how becoming so scandalous a Wretch as the *Mercator*, to taunt a Gentleman that was before the House of Lords with the want of one of his Eyes? Is it a Crime to have lost an Eye? I rather wish that both my Eyes should be put out, than that either of them should be preserved to write any one of the scandalous Papers with which he has peffer'd the Town for above a Year. No doubt he has been well paid, but I hope neither an Estate, nor the Preservation of Life, could hire me to do this. The one Eye of this Gentleman is very troublesome to the *Mercator*, I believe he wishes it was out, it has discovered too many Mistakes of his Masters. It is not the Fault of this Gentleman that he has but one Eye, but that that one Eye has discovered so many Faults in our late Treaties.

Now I am upon the Scandal of this Writer, I ought by no means to forget, that in abundance of his Papers with which he has bestow'd his Titles of illiterate foreign Scribler, ignorant Writer, a Person in the Interest of the

M 4

Dutch,

Dutch, and a multitude of other Epithets that I am not able to remember, upon a Gentleman who he supposes has been one of the Assistants of the *British Merchant*. The Gentleman he means has done Credit to our Nation, since in his Youth he fled from an inhuman Persecution, and has chosen ours for his native Country. Certainly we ought not to quarrel with him for his Choice; I would be glad to think so well of my Country, that it is to be chosen before any other. We have all the Reason in the World to be assured that he cannot be in the Interest of *France*, since he fled from the Persecution of that Kingdom; and since he has placed his Fortunes in *England*, we can have no reason to believe he is in the separate Interest of *Holland*. The Assistance he may be thought to have given the *British Merchant* is not the greatest Part of his Offence, he has on other Occasions made it clear to a Demonstration, that the Treaty of Commerce with *France* would be our Ruin. He is not an illiterate or ignorant Man for having written without Learning, but because he has written with so much Learning it is impossible he should be answered. Yet, for my own part, I think the present Ministry obliged to all the Gentlemen who have spoken or written against the *French* Treaty of Commerce; for had that Treaty been made effectual, it would have made such a Drug of our Product and Manufactures, that God knows who could have been able to have withstood the Rage and Fury of the poor miserable Creatures who must have been deprived of their Employments,

ments, and rendered destitute of Subsistence.

But to return to the *Spanish* Trade, the *Mercator* would feign charge it on the *Spanish* Merchants, that it was at their own desire that the Duties on our Goods were reduced to about 10 *per Cent.* certain. *This* (he says) *will be made appear in time and place to their Confusion.* He applauds the new Treaty for having reduced the Duties to a Certainty. Yes, they have reduced them to a Certainty; they have made them near 20 *per Cent.* almost as much again as they were before. They have rendered it impracticable to sell any of our Goods in that Country. In this the Merchants are unanimous, they will never be shown to have thought otherwise.

But one Thing is to be observed; 20 *per Cent.* Duties on our Woollen Manufactures disable our selling any in that Country, tho' they have few Woollen Manufactures of their own: Then what shall be said of our Treaty of Commerce with *France*, where they have advanced very far in this Manufacture? That Treaty, as I have shown, has left from 30 to 50 *per Cent.* on our Woollen Manufactures; and can we hope to sell any in that Country.

The Conclusion of the British Merchant, being a Summary of the whole, and a Letter from Lima in the South-Seas.

I Hope the *Mercator* is not so vain as to think I will hereafter bestow my time upon so ridiculous

ridiculous a Writer as himself. It was for the Trade of *Great Britain* I have been writing, and especially to represent to my Countrymen the ruinous Consequences of our Treaty of Commerce with *France*. As for the *Mercator*, he was never worth a single Answer on any other account.

All *England* was alarmed with that Treaty; our only Happiness was, that it could not be render'd effectual without the Parliament. A Law was necessary for that purpose, and one would hardly imagine a *British* Parliament could ever pass a Law which must have entailed so much Ruin upon the Nation.

Yet we narrowly escaped this Ruin in the time of the last Parliament; and some Men had the Assurance to threaten us with it from the present. Thanks be to God, one Session is past over, and no Man has dar'd to move for the Bill of Commerce.

The *Mercator* was the Person found out to set the World to rights in this matter. Before his first Appearance, we were taught by the *Gazette*, the only authorized State-Paper, that he was an Oracle. He has now pester'd the Town with his weekly Writings for above a Year; but I verily believe he has not made one single Convert to the *French* Treaty.

Nothing could have engaged me against this Man, but our Common Danger from this Precarious Treaty. I hope this Danger is now quite over: Yet to the utmost of my Power I shall always watch against the Enemies of my Country. And those Persons who advised this Treaty, and who have most industriously promoted

moted the rendring it effectual by a Law, are conscious to themselves I have offer'd some Arguments against it, which are never to be answer'd. Tho' I am drawing to a Conclusion, they may have a Hint of this before I have done; and therefore as I am at the close of the Work, I shall give some Account of the Whole.

The Design then of the *British Merchant* will be better understood, if it shall be considered as Answers to the following Questions.

Do we export more Goods and Merchandizes to *Portugal* than we import from that Nation? And what Benefit is it to us if we do? Do we export more Goods and Merchandizes to *Portugal* than we did before our Treaty and Commerce with that Nation? And is our Gain an Equivalent for what we have yielded *Portugal* by this Treaty?

Questions on summing up the Substance of the British Merchant.

Again, Did we formerly import more Goods and Merchandizes from *France* than we exported to that Nation? How great was the Excess? And what Mischief was it to this Kingdom? Do we export now more Goods and Merchandizes to *France* than we import from thence? And to what Cause are we to ascribe the Alteration? If our Treaty of Commerce had been made effectual, should we have carried on a losing Trade to *France*? And how great would have been our Loss? What Loss of Manufactures at home? And what will be the Loss upon the Ballance which now we gain from Foreign Nations?

Lastly,

The British Merchant.

Lastly, Did we export more Goods and Merchandizes to Spain in the Reign of King Charles II. than we imported from that Nation? or more than we export now? And what is the Reason of the Decrease of our Exportations to that Country?

There is hardly any part of the British Merchant that will not be found to be an Answer to one or other of these Questions, or some Argument to fortify the several Answers, or to clear them from the Objections of my Adversary.

The Advantages of the Portugal Trade.

It's clear then we export more Goods and Merchandizes to Portugal than we import from that Nation; the Payment of such vast Armies in that and other Places, with the Money due from that Country, and without any Remittances made thither, the vast Coinage of Portugal Gold in the Tower, and the great Quantities of the Coin of that Nation still current in our Countries, are Demonstrations of this Matter. All this Money must have been a Ballance due to us for the Excess of Goods exported to that Nation.

It is not possible to determine the exact quantity of our Gain by this Commerce; the Custom-house Accounts have been kept too carefully from our Perusal. But we are sure the Gain must have been very great, that was sufficient to pay such Armies, bring such Supplies to the Mint, and furnish some whole Counties with almost all their current Coin; and all these Sums paid to us for the Product of our Lands and the Manufactures of our People.

Nothing

Trade with Spain.

Nothing more needs be said to show, that we did not export before our Treaty such an Overballance of Manufactures, than this, that we never before had any Armies to pay in Portugal, yet we brought none of their Coin to our Mint, not such a thing as a Portugal Piece was seen in England; or if it was, it was almost as great a Curiosity as our Medals.

No Portugal Gold in England before the Treaty.

That this prodigious Overballance of Exportations is owing to our Treaty with that Nation, no Man living can have the least doubt that does but give himself the Trouble to read it. Before the Treaty, our Woollen Cloths, Cloth-Serges, and Cloth-Druggets were prohibited in Portugal, they had set up Fabricks there for making Cloth, and proceeded with very good Success, and we might justly apprehend they would have gone on to erect other Fabricks, till at last they had serv'd themselves with every Species of Woollen Manufacture. The Treaty takes off all Prohibitions, obliges Portugal to admit for ever all our Woollen Manufactures; their own Fabricks by this were presently ruined, and we exported 100,000 l. Value in the single Article of Cloths only, the very Year after the Treaty, as appears even by the Mercator's Scraps of Accounts from the Custom-house. It is visible we have gained by the Treaty so great an Exportation of Cloths to Portugal, and secured our selves against erecting any other Fabricks for the making other Woollen Manufactures. If our Exportations have increased every Year since the Discovery of their Gold Mines, we owe it to the Treaty that we have such large Returns from

Our great Billance with Portugal owing to the Treaty.

Our Exportations the Year after the Treaty.

It forc'd
her to buy
our Manu-
factures, and
gain'd us a
vast Bal-
lance.

from those Mines: It is natural for us to buy every thing we want at the Shop were we are obliged to buy any thing; the Treaty has forc'd *Portugal* to buy our Woollen Manufactures, and as for many Years they have wanted Corn in that Country, they have taken very large Quantities from us. Upon the whole matter, it ought to be ascrib'd to the Treaty that we have made such vast Exportations to that Country, and brought that People every Year in Debt to us in so great a Balance.

It sav'd our
sending great
Sums abroad
to maintain
our Armies,
it subsist'd
great Num-
bers of our
People, add-
ed to the
Rents of
England.

Our Gain by the Treaty, and so vast an Enlargement of our Exportations to *Portugal*, is, That we have sav'd vast Sums of Money, which otherwise may have gone out of the Nation to pay our Armies in *Portugal* and other Countries, and have also greatly added to the Treasure of the Kingdom; That the Ballance annually due from *Portugal* has subsist'd great Numbers of our People, who have been annually employ'd in making Manufactures to the Value of the Ballance. The Product of the Lands is a considerable part of every Manufacture; the Ballance thereof due from *Portugal* has paid great Sums for the Product of our Lands; and our Rents are nothing else but the Value paid for the Product of the Lands; and consequently all that Part of the *Portugal* Ballance which has been paid to the Product of the Lands, is so much added to the Rents of the Kingdom. Yet this is not the whole Profit the Landed Interest has received from this Ballance; the People that have been subsist'd by that great Over-balance of Manufactures,

might otherwise have come very great Numbers of them upon the Parish; it is a Gain to the Landed Interest to be sav'd from this Charge. Our Gain then by our *Portugal* Treaty, and our Excess of Exportations on that account, is a vast Increase of the Nation's Treasure, the Employment and Subsistence of great Numbers of manufacturing People, an Augmentation of our Rents, and the saving the Landed Interest from the Charge of maintaining such Numbers of Poor, as have subsist'd themselves by that Excess of Exportations.

This Gain was certainly worth our having, if we have not bought it at too great a Price; the next Thing therefore to be consider'd is the Price, and what we are to do for *Portugal* by this Treaty.

All that we are to do for *Portugal*, is, that their Wines are always to be admitted here, and to pay no more than two Thirds of the Customs which are to be paid by those of *France*: Nay, we have not absolutely bound our selves to this; if we will break the Treaty, and part with the Gain we receive by it, if we will be contented to leave our Woollen Cloths, and all our other Woollen Manufactures at the mercy of the King of *Portugal*, as they were before, to be tax'd or prohibited at discretion, we may admit the *French* Wines, paying the very same, or even less Duties, if we think fit. Now the Question is, what we lose by not shewing equal Favour to the Wines of *France*? To which I answer;

In the first place, The Treaty of Commerce with *France* cannot be rendered effectual, unless

less the Wines of that Country shall be as much favoured as those of *Portugal*. Whether the want of the Treaty is any Loss to us, will be seen in the Answers which are given to the Questions that relate to *France*.

But Secondly, at the Time of making the *Portugal* Treaty, the Disproportion of the Customs was a great deal more to the disadvantage of *France*; more Favour was shewn to the Wines of *Portugal*, than we are obliged to by this Treaty; so that we did not undertake to do any thing more for *Portugal* by the Treaty than we actually did without it. *Portugal* has granted to us a Favour which we had not before, viz. the Admission of our Woollen Cloths; the Favour we have granted *Portugal*, viz. to pay no more than two Thirds of the *French* Customs, is a Favour she possess'd before, which we thought it our Interest she should possess. One would think we could never have made a cheaper Purchase.

Wines of France give no Employment to our People.

Thirdly, If he had disabled our selves to drink *French* Wines by this Treaty, what Loss is it to the Nation? What we drank we consumed, the Consumption of our own People paid the Price of them, the Price was paid to *France*, our own Nation gained nothing, no Increase of her Treasure, no Employment for our People, no Value for the Product of our Lands; *France* indeed gained all these Things, but *England* gained nothing by the Consumption of *French* Wines, and therefore we have at the worst only parted with that that was worth nothing.

Fourthly,

Fourthly, It has been objected against keeping the Treaty with *Portugal*, that it is a Violation of our Constitution, by having fixed the Proportion of Duties between foreign Nations, which could only be done by the Legislative Power. But this not true; the Legislative Power may alter the Duties as it pleases; the Legislative Power may favour the Goods of *France*, as much as those of the Nations the most favoured. All the Consequence is, that *Portugal* may then prohibit our Woollen Cloths as she did before, she may prohibit all our Woollen Manufactures, as she might have done before. The Legislative Power can at any time restore us to this blessed Condition.

If France is favour'd as Portugal, our Manufactures may be again prohibited.

Lastly, Great Pains has been taken to find out some Breach of the Treaty on the Part of *Portugal*, in order to justify a Breach on our Part. If the thing were true, the Revenge would be extraordinary; the King of *Portugal* has not observed the whole meaning of his Treaty, he has not let in so many of our Woollen Manufactures into his Country as he ought to have done, and therefore in revenge we should put it in his Power to prohibit our Woollen Cloths, and all the rest of our Woollen Manufactures. But the King of *Portugal* has exactly performed his Treaty; the Payments of our Armies, the Coinage in the Mint, the Quantities of *Portugal* Coin still current in the Country, are so many Demonstrations, that we have exported vast Quantities of Woollen Manufactures, and other Goods and Merchandizes to that Kingdom; and all this is owing

The Equivalent to Portugal is a Gain to England.

owing to his Observation of his Treaty. It remains then, that we are great Gainers by the Portugal Treaty; and that the Equivalent that Prince has accepted for it, is no Loss to us; or rather it will appear in the Answers to the Questions concerning France, that the very Equivalent we have granted to Portugal, is also a Gain to this Kingdom.

I am now come to another Question; Did we formerly import more Goods and Merchandizes from France, than we exported to that Nation? We are able to give a certain Answer to this Question, here we have some Custom-house Accounts to assist us, tho' many have been with great Care withheld from us.

The OLD SCHEME was a Custom-house Account, delivered in almost 40 Years ago by the chief Officers of the Customs, and therefore more likely to be a true Account of the Exports and Imports of that Time, than any that shall be produced now to serve a present Turn. Besides, that both the Mercator and myself have given just Reasons to suspect that some Changes have been made in the Entries of that Time. To this ought to be added, that I have justified not only the whole, but almost every Article of the Old Scheme. I have fortified the Scheme, and clear'd it from all Objections that have been made to it.

By the Old Scheme then thus established, our Imports from France exceeded our Exports to that Kingdom in the Sum of 900000 l. and upwards, for the Year 1668-9.

The Account of our Exports and Imports between England and France, from Michaelmas

mas 1685 to Michaelmas 1686, delivered into the last Parliament by the present Commissioners of the Customs, proves the Excess of Imports to have been almost as great in that Year. There has been no Attempt to deny the Parcels, and as for their Valuations, they have been in many Instances so much to the disadvantage of my Argument, that if ever there should be occasion to clear the few Mistakes, it will appear that our Excess of Imports was greater than I have made it. But I had rather have the Valuation against me, than be thought to over-rate one Farthing.

These are all the Accounts of Exports and Imports between both Nations. Indeed, the two succeeding Years from 1685, were called for by that Parliament, and got ready: but since they were not produced, it must be taken for granted these Accounts were not sufficient to confront the former; and that no other Accounts could be produced from the Custom-house, to lessen the Excess of our Imports.

The first thing then to be observed is, That it stands proved by undeniable Vouchers, by Custom-house Accounts, that our Imports from France heretofore exceeded our Exports in about 900000 l. per Annum.

But Secondly, This was not all; I have justly supposed that a great Allowance ought to be made for clandestine Importations, for Goods run to save Customs, and never entred at the Custom-house, that the Value of these was paid by England to France, and that this added very greatly to the Loss of England by that Trade.

The

The Authorities of *Puffendorf, De Witt, Fortry,* and other Writers, render this very credible.

The Loss by French Linen and Silk.

But I think I have also demonstrated in only two Articles of *French* Linen and wrought Silk, that our Importations of those Commodities were annually greater than they appear to be by the Custom-house Accounts in the Sum of 500,000 *l.* which therefore ought to be added to the annual Excess of our Imports from that Nation.

Ballance lost to France 1500000 *l.*

Besides, Gentlemen know that they drink *French* Wines upon all the Coasts of *England* at less Cost than the Customs; so that they may be sure these Wines are never enter'd at the Custom-house. The Customs indeed were a great deal less in 1685; yet so much even then was saved by clandestine Importations of Wine, and all other *French* Commodities, that there is just Reason to believe that the Excess of our Imports from that Nation was not 900,000 *l.* as appears even by the Custom-house Accounts, but 1,500,000 *l.* by the just and necessary Additions to be made to those Accounts.

I have answered then the two first Questions that relate to *France*; to the first, that our Imports from *France* exceed our Exports to that Nation; to the second, that this Excess was 1,500,000 *l. per Annum.*

The next is, What was the Mischief to this Kingdom? The first Mischief is, That so much of the Nation's Treasure was exhausted. Gentlemen will do well to consider whether our Gain was so great from other Nations, that

that it was a Trifle to us to part with such a Sum as 1,500,000 *l.* that we could afford to pay such an annual Tribute to that Kingdom.

But Secondly, The Thing was worse than if so much Money had been paid as an annual Tribute to that Nation; for it was paid for the Overballance of Wine, Brandy, Linen, Silk, Paper, and other Manufactures of that People for the Consumption of this Kingdom, the like of which might either have been manufactured by our own People from the Product of our own Lands, or imported from other Countries in exchange for the Product and Manufactures of our own.

Whichsoever was the Case, it is plain our manufacturing People and our Land-Owners were deprived of this whole 1,500,000 *l. per Annum*; whether the like Quantity of Goods had been procured in *England*, and manufactured by our People, or procured from other Nations in exchange for our own Manufactures, the whole Price of the Consumption of so great a Value of Goods had been paid to the Land-Owners and Manufacturers of our own Nation. The Introduction of these Goods from *France* to be consumed instead of our own, deprived our People of their Employment, deprived our Land-Owners of the Value of their Product; it deprived both of 1,500,000 *l. per Annum.* I believe Gentlemen would not now be easily induced to part with their Share in so great a Value of Manufactures; and certainly the poor Manufacturers could not bear so great a Share of the Loss as must belong to them. But I need say no more to shew the Mischief of such an Excess

Excess of Imports from *France*, than that it exhausted annually 1,500,000*l.* of our Treasure, and deprived our Land-Owners and manufacturing People of the whole Value.

More Goods exported to France now than imported from thence.

The next Question is, Do we export now a greater Value of Goods than we import from that Nation? I make no question but we do. The Course of Exchange between the two Nations has for a long time been so much to the Disadvantage of *France*, as renders it very probable that *France* has greater Debts to pay to *England*, than *England* has to *France*. And this Excess of Debts could not otherwise be due to us, but for an Excess of Exports to that Nation. But I need not labour this Argument with the *Mercator*; his Extracts from the Custom-house in so many of his Papers are given to persuade us, that we export more Goods to *France* than are imported from that Kingdom.

The Reasons of it.

To what Cause then is it to be ascribed so strange an Alteration? Certainly to the high Duties which the Legislative Power has laid on the Goods and Merchandizes of that Country. Can any great Quantities of *French* Wines, Brandy, Linen, Silk and Paper be sold here, with the present higher Duties than are laid on the like Commodities of other Nations?

The Goods France wants they will take.

There are some few Things that *France* wants, and must take from us, whether in Peace or War, and which during the last War they received from neutral Countries. While then they are obliged to take some Goods from *England*, and can import few hither but under the Disadvantage of our high Duties, it is not much

much to be wondered at, that we have not a profitable Trade to *France*, that she cannot import upon us a greater Value of Goods than she takes of ours, and that the present Excess, whatsoever it is, is on the side of this Kingdom.

But this Advantage would soon end, if the Treaty of Commerce should be made effectual. We import even now under the present Duties such Quantities of *French* Goods as render it credible, that if they should be taken off, and that if, according to the eighth Article, *France* should be as much favoured as the most favoured Nations, our Importations from other Countries would be given over, and the greatest part of them would be supply'd from *France*. And tho' the Duties on the Goods of other Nations are even now considerably higher than those heretofore on *France*, when our Importations were so large from that Country; yet under these higher Duties, whether it is that our Luxury or our Riches are increased, we import now such Quantities from other Countries, that if the greatest part of those Imports should be left off to make room for those of *France*, our Imports from that Nation would be much greater than in the Time of the Scheme, or in 1685, or any time before the *French* Goods and Merchandizes were prohibited.

The next Thing then is, to enquire what is likely to be the Extent of our Exports to balance so great an Importation.

In the first place, foreign Goods were exported to *France*; especially *East-India* and other Manufactures were heretofore a great part of

India Goods, &c. great part of our Exports to France formerly denied us now.

The French Commissaries Reasons for it.

Woollen Goods subjected to the Tariff of 1699, and admitted only to three Ports.

of our Exports to that Nation; the Prohibitions to be taken off by the Ninth Article of our late Treaty are only to be taken off from the *BONA MERCESQUE MAGNÆ BRITANNIÆ*. We have often urged, that *France* will certainly interpret the *Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain* to be only those of our own Growth; so that our foreign Goods, notwithstanding the late Treaty, would be excluded. Does it appear now that we were in the wrong? OUR COMMISSARIES have laboured this Matter very much, and with all the Reason the thing would bear; they have urged, that the Goods and Merchandizes of *Britain* are all that belong to the Subjects of *Great Britain*. But the *FRENCH COMMISSARIES* would not be convinc'd: What! part with their Sumptuary Laws? give leave to import *East-India* Manufactures, which is not permitted to their own Subjects? endanger their own Manufactures? An excellent Instruction this for *Great Britain*! We, it seems, are to ruin our Silk, our Linen, our Paper Manufactures; but *France* will not endanger her Manufactures: And I think 'tis clear that not one of them will be endangered by this Treaty. For,

Secondly, From the Goods allowed to be imported under the Tariff of 1664, which is bad enough of all Conscience, yet there is an exception to Woollen Manufactures, a great Part of which are by a subsequent Declaration left to the Tariff of 1699; to pay the heavy Duties of that Tariff; to be admitted but at three Ports; and to be subjected to Visitation; that

that is, never to be sold in *France*. What is to become of the rest, the Lord in Heaven knows; for *France* has not yet explained. Our Commissaries urged very well here, that we, even as to our excepted Species of Goods, by the very Terms of the eighth Article, ought to be favoured as much as the Nation the most favoured. The *French* Commissaries would not yield to this; they granted that the *Woollen Manufactures of Holland* were not subject to be visited: But this Favour they would not yield to us. They would not yield so much Favour to *England*, tho' it is well known that *England*, and not *Holland*, had the Honour of saving *France*. What is this but their *UTMOST SCORN* of the *English* Nation? But they are determined not to endanger their Manufactures!

The English worse used than the Dutch.

We are to export *NO FISH* to *France* but in Barrels; we have set up the *French* for Fishermen by giving them *CAPE BRETON*; and that no *English* Fish may interfere with them in their Markets, the Treaty is so burdensome to us in this Article, that Fish can be no Part of our Exports to that Country.

Fish cannot be exported to France,

Our foreign Manufactures, Woollen Goods, and Fish, are none of the Merchandizes we shall send to *France* by this Treaty; there is no Hopes of our exporting to *France* a fourth Part of the value of the Goods we exported formerly to ballance our Importations from that Country; for we shall have few Goods to send to *France* but such as are useful for perfecting their Manufactures.

Nor our foreign Manufactures or Woollen Goods.

If our Importations upon the foot of this Treaty shall be as great as ever, and our Exportations shall be so much reduced, then we shall lose much more than we did formerly by that Trade, we shall not come off with the Loss of 1,500,000 *l. per Annum*. But thanks be to God, the Persons that advised it had it not in their Power to render it effectual; that Work was reserv'd for the Legislative Power: And this Affair is now so well understood, that they durst not offer it to the present Parliament.

I have already shewn how much our Manufacturers and our Land-Owners must suffer by the Payment of so great a Ballance to the *French* Nation for the Consumption of this Kingdom. But is this Loss in any likelihood of being repaired by other Countries? Shall we enlarge our Exportations to other Nations? Shall we recover the Ballance? Shall we be able to regain the Treasure that is exhausted? Shall our People be employed in Manufactures for foreign Countries, in proportion to the Numbers that will be deprived of their Employment by the Introduction of *French* Manufactures to be consumed instead of our own? Will the Product of our Lands, which shall lose the Markets of our own, find a Vent in foreign Countries?

Nothing of all this: First, as to the increasing the Ballance we receive at this time from other Nations, it is a Contradiction to Reason to expect any Increase of a Ballance from other Nations, upon our paying a greater Ballance than we do to *France*; to expect that we

we shall export more of our Manufactures to *France*, by the Consumption of a greater Quantity of the *French* Manufactures, instead of those of our own and other Countries.

It is certain our Ballance from other Countries has increased since our Consumption of *French* Manufactures has been lessened. Our Ballance from *Portugal* has increased, as appears before; that from *Italy* and *Germany* is also increased in the general Opinion of all People; and we have the Testimony of the Inspector General that the Ballance from *Holland* is prodigiously increased. For my own part, I am of Opinion that our Ballance from the rest of the World has increased to as great a Value as that which we paid to *France* is lessened. I believe I may venture to affirm that we receive 1,500,000 *l. per Annum* more than we did before upon the Ballance of our Trade to other Nations, since we have left off paying 1,500,000 *l. per Annum* more than we did before upon the Ballance of our Trade to *France*.

That I may not be thought extravagant in this Account, I shall repeat here what I have mentioned heretofore, which is the Account of our Imports and Exports between us and the whole World in two Periods of Time; one when we had an open Trade with *France*, and made so vast a Consumption of the Goods and Merchandizes of that Nation; the other when the Goods of *France* stood prohibited here, or charged with such Duties as amounted to a Prohibition.

Our Loss on the general Ballance of Trade in 1662, and 1668.

The former was in the Years 1662 and 1668, and is to be found in the Inspector-General's first Report, Page 46.

	l.	s.	d.
For the Year 1662 the Imports from all the World were	40160	19	08 0
The Exports to all the World were	20228	12	04 0
The Imports exceed the Exports	19932	07	14 0
For the Year 1668 the Imports from all the World were	41961	39	17 0
The Exports to all the World were	20632	74	19 0
The Imports exceed the Exports	21328	64	18 0

In these two Years we had a full Trade with France, and IN THE FORMER A MUCH BETTER TARIFF THAN THAT OF 1664; neither was France grown up so much in Woollen Manufactures; she had not then prohibited any of our Goods, neither Foreign nor of our own Growth; yet in the former Year we lost near two Millions, and in the latter above, by our Trade with the whole World.

Our Gain by our general Ballance of Trade in 1699, and 1703.

The Period of time when the Importation of French Goods was either prohibited or charged with the present high Duties, was in the Years 1699 and 1703; the Imports of both are in the said Inspector-General's second Report, P. 43 and 71, and the Exports I have by me in an Account from whence the Inspector-General seems to have had his Intelligence.

For

	l.	s.	d.
For the Year 1699 the Exports to all the World were	67881	66	17 6 ¹ / ₄
The Imports from all the World were	56405	06	06 9 ¹ / ₄
The Exports exceed the Imports	11476	60	10 9
For the Year 1703 the Exports to all the World were	66441	03	00 0
The Imports were	45265	79	11 1 ¹ / ₂
The Exports exceed the Imports	21175	23	8 10 ¹ / ₂

'Tis manifest by the Medium of the former two Years, we lost by the Ballance of our Trade 2,063,036 l. 6 s. above two Millions per Annum, when we consum'd so great a Value of the Goods and Merchandizes of France; and that by the Medium of the last two Years, when we consum'd little of the Goods of France, and more of those of other Nations, we gained by our Trade to the whole World the Sum of 1,632,591 l. 19 s. 9 d. ³/₄ above 1,600,000 l. per Annum.

This renders it very credible that by our losing 1,500,000 l. per Annum we lost the gaining as great a Ballance from other Nations, and that whenever we shall suffer ourselves to pay again by the French Treaty such another Ballance to France, we should probably lose the gaining as great a Ballance from the Countries I have mentioned; so that France by this means would be the Cause of our losing at least 3 Millions per Annum.

By opening the French Trade we must lose 3 Millions per Ann.

N 3

It

It is impossible to part with this Subject without observing,

First, That the rendring the Treaty effectual would be the Cause of our losing three Millions per Annum, one half of which would be so much Treasure exhausted from the Nation, the other half would be the Loss of so great a Ballance, as we gain now by the Excess of our Imports to other Countries.

Which would fall on the Land Owners and Manufacturers.

Secondly, As this whole three Millions is either paid by ourselves for the Manufactures we did consume at home, or by Foreign Nations for the Excess of the Manufactures we now export, it is manifest the whole Loss must fall upon the Manufacturers and Land-Owners, since the whole Sum is now paid for the Goods our own People manufactured from the Product of our Lands. It is impossible to conceive the Defolation this must bring upon the Nation.

The Reasons of it.

But I ought here to be a little more particular in explaining the Loss that will accrue both to our Manufacturers and our Land-Owners by our consuming so great a Quantity of French Manufactures, and by other Nations consuming so much a less Quantity of ours.

It is obvious to every one, that the whole that is paid to our Land-Owners and Manufacturers is paid by the Consumption of our own, or foreign Nations.

If we consume French Brandy, for which we pay the whole Price to France, 'tis plain this

this pays nothing to our own People. The same thing may be said of French Wine, Linnen, Wrought Silk, Paper, and other Manufactures of that Nation.

But if we use our own Malt-Spirits instead of Brandy, the whole Price is paid to our Land Owners for the Corn, and to our Distillers, and other Labourers for the Manufacture.

The Price of our own Woollen Manufacture is paid to the Land-Owner, and the Clothier: if this is exchanged for the Wines of Portugal, the raw Silks of Turkey, the wrought Silks or Paper of Italy, or Linnen of Germany, for our own Use and Consumption, 'tis manifest the whole Price of these things is paid to the Land-Owners and Manufacturers of our own Country; 'tis paid to them by the Consumption of our own People.

But if Foreign Nations purchase our Woollen or other Manufactures for their Consumption, and pay the Price in Money, 'tis manifest that Foreigners pay this Price to our Land-Owners and Manufacturers.

And therefore if Foreigners that pay 1,500,000 l. per Annum in Gold or Silver for our Manufactures upon the Ballance of their Trade with us, should cease to buy so great a Quantity of Manufactures, or to pay us so great a Sum, 'tis certain this whole Ballance must be lost to our Manufacturers and Land-Owners; and as great a Sum must be lost to them, if it should be paid to France for the Manufactures of that Country to be consum'd here instead of our own. The French Trade then, by pouring in upon us an Excess of Manufactures to

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the value of a Million and a half *per Annum*, and by depriving us of the Power of selling the like Excess of Manufactures to Foreign Nations, deprives our Manufacturers and Land-Owners of three Millions *per Annum*.

I have given myself the Title of *British Merchant*; but my Reader perceives that the only Rule I have taken to measure the Value of any particular Trade, is the Increase or Decrease of the Nation's Treasure, the Employment and Subsistence of our People, the Rents of the Kingdom, or the Value of the Product of the Lands: As for the Merchant, in his private Capacity, I have ever thought he was only to be regarded in the second Place, and as he was subservient to those Ends.

It is possible the Merchant may grow rich by exhausting the Treasure of his Country; he may get his 100,000 *l.* by exporting a Million of Gold or Silver to purchase Manufactures for our Consumption; but the Gain is not from abroad; 'tis no Gain to the Nation, 'tis only shuffled from the Hands of his Countrymen into his own; but as the Million was exported from the Nation, so much of her Treasure is exhausted.

It is possible too the Merchant may find full Employment for himself by such a pernicious Trade; but 'tis visible that Multitudes of Manufacturers must be driven from their Employment and Subsistence.

Lastly, It is possible the Merchant may purchase a great Tract of Lands, and the sooner by reducing the Value of the Product, and bringing down the Estate to his Purchase; for the

the Value of the Product must be reduc'd by bringing in that of other Countries to interfere with it: but I never could believe that the Gain of the Merchant, and the Gain too not from abroad but from our own People, could compensate for any of these Losses.

But I must speak it to the Honour of our Merchants, they have not asked any such thing of the Legislative Power as a Reduction of the Duties on the Goods and Merchandizes of *France*; nay, many of them have argued against it, as ruinous to the Nation, tho' certainly it must be beneficial to themselves. It must be the Interest of the Merchant in his private Capacity, to introduce his Goods under as easy Duties as possible; but still the Questions occur, Do they increase or lessen the Nation's Treasure? The Employment or Subsistence of the People? The Rents or Value of the Product? The Value of a Trade cannot be measured by any other Rules.

The Honour and Generosity of the English Merchants to their Country

But I forgot the *Spanish* Trade; my Questions concerning that are, Did we export more Goods and Merchandizes to *Spain* in the Reign of King *Charles II.* than we imported now? And what is the Cause of the Decrease of our Exportations to that Country?

These Questions are easily answered: 'Tis so notorious, that our Supplies of Gold and Silver were formerly wholly owing to our Trade with that Nation, that I shall vouchsafe no other Answer to the first. To the second, the *Spanish* Merchants unanimously answered at the Bar of the House of Lords, that we have dispatch'd no Goods in *Spain* of late, nor can

Our Gold and Silver owing formerly to our Trade with Spain.

dispatch any by the late Treaty: And to the third, the Merchants that reside in Spain, both Spaniards and others, roundly tell us there can be no Encouragement for us to send any of our Goods to that Country now, tho' King Philip has given Orders for the dispatching our Goods upon the Terms of his Predecessor. They assign two Reasons for this, one is the extreme Poverty of the People, the other that all the Riches of the Spanish Indies are intercepted by the French.

St. Maloes and Port Louis.

St. Maloes, from a poor beggarly privateering Town at the End of the first War, is now in so short a time become the richest City of its extent in the whole World, by her Trade to the Spanish Indies. Port Louis has its Share, and we have not heard of such rich Subjects in all Europe, as the French Traders to the Spanish Indies. Almost every News-Paper from France gives us an account of some prodigious Cargo from those Provinces, so that even England it self begins at last to be alarmed.

But to make the People entirely easy in this matter, the Gazette, of Saturday July 24. 1714, comes out with a flaming Paragraph in the Article of Madrid, that very strict Orders have been sent from time to time to the Vice-Roys and Governours in the West-Indies, to put a stop to all clandestine Commerce which Foreigners, particularly the French, may endeavour to carry on in those Kingdoms: And a world of rigorous Cedula's to this Purpose. And then after a long Account of French Ships that had ventured thither, notwithstanding these Discouragements,

ments, and were seized and confiscated in almost every Sea-Coast Town in those Provinces, the said Paragraph gives us hopes that when the Assiento Contract made with Great-Britain shall be put in execution, the Powers therein granted will be a farther means of sufficiently preventing this clandestine Trade.

Several things in this Paragraph deserve our Observation.

And first, that French Ships do really go to the Spanish Indies. We are sure of this; for we have it by the Authority of the Gazette.

But then they are seized and confiscated when they come there. This is a little cruel to the Subjects of his Grandfather. But I believe the Spaniards at Cadiz have never heard of this Cruelty: for they assure us that French Ships are fitted out from Cadiz from those Countries, with entire Cargoes of the French; and that they will not suffer Spaniards to be concerned with them. But all this while we hear of no Spanish Ships returning from the Indies, but great numbers of French Ships that come from thence; so that 'tis a mercy that all are not seized and confiscated.

But the pleasantest thing of all is, that the Assiento Company are to cure this Evil; so that now I have great hopes they will return home with very rich Cargoes. We are sure they will if they can make Prizes of the French Ships.

Surely such a Banter was never imposed upon a Nation as this, by the Article from Madrid. I wonder the Gazette could be imposed on by such a Piece of Intelligence.

But

But I am amazed better care was not taken of *Abel Roper*, who in his *Post-Boy* of the same date with the *Gazette*, in his Article from *Paris*, has brought three Ships from those Provinces to *Port Louis*, with twelve Millions of Livres in Ingots of Gold and Silver.

The *Post-Man* of *July* the 17th and 22d, has brought seven Millions of Pieces of Eight to *St. Maloes*, and three Millions of Florins to *Port Louis*. But 'tis endless to trace the News-writers; 'tis the News of almost every Week.

But in answer to this *Gazette*, I must present a Letter from *Lima*, which cannot fail of giving great Comfort to the *South-Sea Company*, and with that I shall take leave of my Readers.

S I R, Cadiz, June 24. 1714.
“ Here being lately arrived an *Aviso*
“ from the *West-Indies*, I send you a
“ Letter, which Don *D—G—* gave me, setting forth the deplorable State those Kingdoms are reduced to by the *French* trading thither, viz.

Sir, “ The great abundance of all sorts of Goods which the *French* have brought from time to time into these *Indies*, have occasioned such a Confusion in Trade, as is almost incredible, and will require a large Space of time for their Consumption; over and above what has been already introduced, there are in several Ports in these Kingdoms eight Ships, which have not yet broke bulk, and which for want of Plate cannot possibly
“ be

“ be dispatched: and besides, there are other
“ three, that after their Cargoes were sold,
“ failed for the *East-Indies*, and are returned
“ hither laden with Silks in abundance from
“ *Canton* and *Bengal*, all which remain without finding any Buyers at any rate, these Kingdoms being glutted with those sorts of Goods: and finally there is to fort of Merchandize, of what Quality soever, that is not quite down to the lowest Value; and if the King permits the Continuation of their Trade any longer, I assure you under my Hand, there will not remain in all these *Indies* any one Man that shall be worth a tolerable Estate; for they are already almost all broken and lost, from the lowest to the highest; and even the Ecclesiasticks suffer exceedingly, for there is not a Piece of Eight to be seen, the *French* being Arbiters of all the Gold and Silver, and they have now quite drained these Kingdoms.

“ These Oppressions we miserable *Spaniards* now labour under, both here and in all other Provinces, being deprived of our native Right, which in some measure I cannot but confess too many of us have deserved, for having so tamely admitted the *French*, without foreseeing the Consequences which must result from the pernicious Introduction of that Nation into these Parts; but the worst of it is, that it also reaches those, who have no way cooperated to these infamous Leagues.

“ We

“ We have notice of the arrival of the Gal-
 leons of *Porto Bello* ; but the miserable State
 “ of these Parts, thro’ the false Measures here
 “ tolerated, must inevitably prove the ruin
 “ of their Voyage ; for from hence not one
 “ of this Commerce can go down to trade
 “ with them as usual : So that if our Court
 “ does not alter the Course of these Affairs,
 “ it will be casting away the Rope with the
 “ Bucket ; for they must be thoroughly con-
 “ vinced in the first place, that if these Seas
 “ are not cleared of the *French*, there can
 “ never be any Commerce for the *Spaniards*
 “ to these *Indies*, nor even in four Years af-
 “ ter they are expelled from hence. In
 “ short, all is reduced here to a confused
 “ Chaos, all Credit is lost, Reputation sunk,
 “ Traders at their last shifts : But God is
 “ above all, to whose Protection I commit
 “ you.

Lima, the 7th of Decemb. 1714.



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*The REPORT of the Commissaries
 appointed by Her Majesty to treat with
 the French Commissaries pursuant to
 the IXth Article of the Treaty of
 Commerce with France made at U-
 trecht, Anno 1713.*

To the Queen’s Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please Your Majesty,

WE humbly beg leave to lay before
 Your Majesty the several Steps that
 have been taken with the *French*
 Commissaries towards perfecting the Treaty of
 Commerce made at *Utrecht*, the Difficulties
 we have met with, how far they have been
 removed, and in what State the Negotiation is
 at present.

The *French* Commissaries, Messieurs *Anisson*
 and *Fenellon*, being come over to join the Envoy
 Monsieur *d’Iberville*, who was to be at the
 head of their Commission, and we having in
 obedience to your Majesty’s Instructions, con-
 sulted with the Board of Trade as to the most
 proper Method of entering on this Affair ; the
 first Meeting was held on the 27th of *February*
 in

in order to examine the full Powers on each side.

Those produced by the *French* Commissaries, *Numb. 1.* were found to be very defective in two Points. First, Monsieur *d'Ibberville's* Name was not inserted, he demanding to assist at our Meetings in virtue of his Credentials to your Majesty and his private Instructions. Secondly, There was no Authority given the *French* Commissaries to join in the Explanation of such Passages in the Treaty, from whence any Doubts had or might arise, and on which we were directed to insist as preliminary to the whole; since it would have been very improper to proceed in regulating any other Points before the true meaning of these already settled were agreed to.

The *French* Commissaries on their side objected against a Clause in our full Powers, (*Numb. 2.*) relating to the four Species, which by an Exception in the 9th Article of the Treaty, had been left to the Discussion of Commissaries, alledging, That those Points were since fully settled by the latter Instrument, sign'd at *Utrecht* on the 9th of *May*, N. S. and that they were instructed not to touch upon them any more.

After some Debates, and a Promise from the *French* Commissaries to procure other full Powers in the Form we desir'd, it was mutually agreed, for avoiding delay to go on in the mean time, and to treat in Writing.

In pursuance whereof we gave them in some Propositions (*Numb. 3.*) at a Conference on the 10th of *March*, whereby they were desir'd to join with us in a Declaration. First,

First, That tho' the 8th and 9th Articles, which were conditional, did not take effect, the rest of the Treaty was positive, and to remain in full force.

Secondly, That the Terms, [Goods and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*] in the 9th Article, comprehended all Sorts of Merchandizes whatsoever, which belong'd to your Majesty's Subjects. And,

Thirdly, That the Rule of Equality with the Nation the most favour'd, establish'd in the 8th Article, should extend to the four excepted Species as well as any other sort of Merchandizes.

Tho' the *French* Commissaries seem'd to object against all these Propositions, yet their greatest Difficulty appear'd to be about the Second, and we had reason to hope they would have made very little scruple on the other two, being inform'd by Extracts of several Letters from Mr. *Pryor*, (*Numb. 4.*) that the first had been already agreed to by Monsieur *Torcy*; and the third we thought was clear, from the words of the very Instrument they alledg'd.

But on the 12th of *March* they acquainted us by a Memorial (*Numb. 5.*) that not being empower'd to negotiate on two of the Points in question, they could not give a positive Answer, but had sent our Propositions to the Court

Court of *France*, and would wait for Instructions on the whole.

We could not but observe that this was a dilatory way of acting, and in some sort contradictory to what they themselves had resolv'd, viz. That tho' their Powers were not full enough to sign, yet we should mutually go on to debate and prepare Matters till others shou'd arrive in due form.

On the 19th of *March* the *French* Commissaries sent us a Copy (*Numb. 6.*) of their new full Powers, with such Alteration as we had desir'd ; and on the first of *April* they gave us in an Answer to our Propositions (*Numb. 7.*) in which they declar'd, That the first was unnecessary, and contrary to the Stipulation of the Treaties at *Utrecht* ; that the Terms of *Goods and Merchandizes* in the Second were only to be understood of those that were of the Growth of Great Britain : and instead of answering the third, they took occasion to repeat their former Assertion, That the Point of the four excepted Species was fully and finally concluded by the Convention of the 9th of *May*.

As this Answer was very unexpected, it was usher'd in by Monsieur *d' Ibberville* with some sort of an Excuse, who when he produced the original full Powers counter-sign'd by Monsieur *Torcy*, declar'd, That was all he had in charge, but that his Collegues Messieurs *Annisson* and *Fenellon* had receiv'd Directions on the other Points from Monsieur *Desmaretz*, to whose Management all Affairs of Commerce had been intrusted by the King
his

his Master, a Distinction often made use of in this Negotiation.

This produced a long Debate, in which we endeavour'd to prove the Reasonableness and Clearness of our Propositions, and the weak Pretences on which their Reply was grounded, but without coming to any other result than a bare stating of the Questions.

A Report hereof having been made to the Lords of your Majesty's Council and the Board of Trade ; and it having been observ'd that the Method of treating by Memorial only, gave occasion to greater Delays, and the starting of new Difficulties, it was resolv'd to try whether the negotiating by word of mouth would not be a more expeditious way, and bring us sooner to a right understanding of one anothers Intentions.

The Reply ready drawn up by your Majesty's Commissaries was therefore laid aside, and a Conference was held on the 26th of *April*, where the several Points in question were discuss'd at large ; and more particularly a Letter from Mr. *Pryor* of the 2d of *April*, O. S. (*Numb. 8.*) was produced, wherein he gives fresh Assurances that Monsieur *Torcy* and *Desmaretz* had very fully and satisfactorily explain'd themselves on the first and last Points of our Propositions. But yet we could not bring the *French* Commissaries to a positive Resolution, and matters were only prepar'd for another meeting on the 28th, at which the Lord *Bolingbroke* was pleas'd to be present.

In this Conference the first Proposition for ascertaining the Validity of the Treaty of Commerce,

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merce, tho' the 8th and 9th Articles thereof should be made effectual, being stated in other Terms (*Numb. 9.*) was agreed to by the *French* Commissaries.

In the 3d Proposition, the *French* Commissaries, as in former Occasions, alledged, That Monsieur *Mesnager* had assured their Court, and them in particular, that the *French* Ambassadors at *Utrecht* always understood the Point of the four excepted Species to have been entirely settled by the latter Instrument of the 9th of *May*, and not to be liable to any further Consideration. We objected, That this could never have been the Design of their Ministers at *Utrecht*, nor the Intention of their Court, notwithstanding the Extract (*Numb. 10.*) they produced of a formal Instruction from their Council of Trade to this purpose. For it was observed this latter Instrument was not properly a Convention, but a Declaration or Specification of what Merchandizes were to be consider'd and settled by the Commissaries, and what Duties were to be paid on them provisionally till the said Settlement was made, as was indisputable from the words of the Preamble to the very Instrument it self, wherein is set forth,
“ That certain Merchandizes being excepted
“ in general words from the Rule of the Tariff
“ made the 18th Day of *September* in the
“ Year 1664, in order to be afterwards re-
“ ferr'd to the Discussion of Commissaries, to
“ prevent therefore all mistakes and ambiguity
“ which might perhaps arise from such general
“ Terms, and to make it more evidently ap-
“ pear what particular sorts of Goods are to
“ come

“ come under the Consideration of the afore-
“ said Commissaries ; We the under-written
“ Ambassadors, &c.” And it was affirm'd that the four Articles, as they stand in *French* in the said Declaration, were so far from being a latter Convention, as were pretended, that they had been propos'd by the *French* Court several months before the Treaty of Commerce it self was concluded. Lastly, They were re-
“ ferr'd to the plain words of their own Com-
“ mission, whereby they are fully and equally
“ authorized to treat of the Points contain'd in
“ both the separate Instruments by the following
“ words: *Il a esté convenue que des Commissaires de*
“ *l'une & de l'autre part s'assembleroient à Londres*
“ *pour examiner & regler les points dont on n'auroit*
“ *pu convenir par le dit Traité, & dont on a fait*
“ *une mention particuliere dans les Actes qui ont été*
“ *Signez separement.*

This third Proposition was then stated in a manner (*Numb. 11.*) conformable to what is above-mention'd ; and from thence two Inferences were made :

First, That the Discussion of the said four Species was referr'd to the Commissaries on both sides, as well by virtue of the Specification sign'd on the 9th of *May*, as by the Treaty it self of the 11th of *April*. And,

Secondly, That the Treaty being compleated by the passing of an Act in *Great Britain*, the general Rule establish'd in the 8th Article should have its effect, as well on the four ex-
“ cepted

cepted Species, as all others, in relation to the Freedoms and Privileges which are or might hereafter be enjoy'd in *France* by the Nation the most favour'd.

The meeting was then adjourn'd to the 29th, and continued on the 1st of *May*, when the Lord *Bolingbroke* again assisted.

In these two Conferences the first Proposition was again read over and confirm'd by the *French* Commissaries. As to the first Inference drawn from the third Proposition, they own'd the words of the Instrument of the 9th of *May*, as well as of the Treaty it self, were formally in our favour, but said their Orders were not full enough to come up to such a Declaration without farther Directions from *France*. And to the second Inference they made a new Objection, viz. That by the Terms of the latter Instrument, Woollen Cloth, &c. were to be subject to a Visitation in *France*, to which they told us the Cloths from *Holland*, where only one or two sorts were made, were not oblig'd: They therefore alledged that the Instrument being conclusive, these Terms were a formal Exception to the 8th Article, which establishes an Equality with all Nations. We insisted as before that this Instrument was not conclusive, and added that the 8th Article of the Treaty was a general Rule without any exception whatsoever; That the 9th Article was a particular Rule of farther Advantages stipulated for the *British* Nation, to which alone some Exceptions were demanded to be made, without any relation to the general Rule establish'd

blish'd by the 8th; and therefore there was not the least ground for this new Pretension. The *French* Commissaries seeming then to find that the Position from whence they drew their Consequence could not be maintain'd, excus'd themselves from coming to a final Resolution for want of Orders, and gave us some hopes they might be procur'd.

The second Proposition for explaining the Terms, *Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain*, as of the greatest Consequence, had been often mention'd and debated in the Conferences; as well as in several occasional Discourses: From whence it appear'd, that the View of the *French* was not to restrain the *British* Merchants from trading with all Goods of foreign Growth or Fabrick, a Privilege which they were obliged to own had never been disputed with the *Hollanders*, or any other Nation, in Cases where it was allow'd to their own Subjects; but to exclude the Manufactures of *East-India*, and particularly those sorts, the Importation and Usage whereof had been entirely prohibited to the *French*, as well as others, by several Edicts since 1664.

The first Colour on which they endeavour'd to found this Pretension was the Signification of the Terms themselves, which they would have confin'd to *the Merchandizes only of the Growth and Manufacture of Great Britain*; whereas your Majesty's Commissaries insisted that they ought to be understood in the fullest Sense, and to comprehend *all sorts of Merchandizes whatsoever belonging to the Subjects of Great Britain*? and that this had been the constant Acceptation

The British Merchant.

Acceptation of those Terms for above an hundred Yearstogether, we offer'd and were ready to prove, from Treaties with several Princes, and particularly from the *French King's* own Treaties, Edict and Declaration: but the *French* Commissaries finding their Explanation in so limited a Sense was not to be maintain'd, declin'd the Dispute, and would not come to particular Proofs.

Their next recourse was to the first Clause of the fifth Article in the Treaty of Commerce, by which the freedom of Trade is restrain'd to those sorts of Merchandizes, *the Trade and Importation whereof are not prohibited by the Laws of either Kingdom.* These Words they said did not stand in the first Project given in at *Utrecht*, but were inserted in the second by the *French* Plenipotentiaries, in pursuance of particular Directions from their Council of Trade, to provide against the Importation of such *East-India* Manufactures as had been forbidden by their sumptuary Laws. For a Proof hereof, they read to us an Extract of these Directions, and the Answer from their Plenipotentiaries who thought they had sufficiently provided against any such Pretension, by procuring this Restriction to be allow'd. We on the contrary had been assur'd, that this very Clause was added by the *British* Plenipotentiaries, for the better Security of such Prohibitions as had been made in *England* before the Year 1664, and because such a Clause was found in other Treaties of this Nature: Nor does it appear that the least mention of *East-India* Goods was ever made by the *French* Plenipotentiaries in any of

The Report of the Commissaries.

of the Conferences at *Utrecht.* Whatever therefore might have been their private View, we told them the Words as they stood could not come up to the particular Restriction which was now pretended; for by the last Sentence of that very Article such Cases are expressly excepted from this Rule concerning which it is otherwise determin'd in the Articles of the present Treaty; which had been done in this Point, by a Clause in the ninth Article, whereby all *Prohibitions, Tariffs, Edicts, Declarations, or Decrees, made in France since the Tariff of the year 1664, and contrary thereunto, in respect to the Effects and Merchandizes of Great Britain* are repealed, without any other reserve than that of the four Species expressly named. We alledg'd that the *British* Subjects in the year 1664, and many years since, had a right to and did import all sorts of Foreign Goods into *France*, those of the *East-Indies* not excepted, as was plainly set forth by the *French King* himself in his Decree of 1701. And by the Word *Prohibitions* it was manifest that all Decrees relating to the Goods themselves were to be repeal'd, as well as those which related only to the Duties on the said Goods; to which the *French* Commissaries were now offering to restrain it.

From the whole we observ'd to them, that either their Argument prov'd nothing at all, or else prov'd too much; for in the first Clause of the fifth Article, whereon their Reasons were grounded, the Exception was made of such Goods whose *Trade and Importation*, not whose *Usage and Consumption*, had been forbidden;

which last Circumstance alone was peculiar to the *East-India* Manufactures; since most of the Manufactures of *Great Britain* had been as fully prohibited, *as to the Trade and Importation*, by the Decree of the 6th of *September 1701*, as those from the *East-Indies*, and therefore would be equally comprehended in the said Restriction, which the *French* themselves could never offer to pretend.

The *French* Commissaries had nothing material to oppose to these plain Deductions, but run round in a Circle to dispute from the Terms, *Goods and Merchandizes*, to the Clause of the 5th Article, and so back again; urging at last how unreasonable it was for us to demand what they had thought fit to deny to their own Subjects, and how impossible it was for them to repeal their sumptuary Laws without *the entire Ruin of their own Manufactures*: Reflections, which if ever, ought to have been made during the Treaty at *Utrecht*, but could be of no force after the Conclusion. Thus tho' they did not refute our Arguments, they positively declared they could never depart from their Pretensions.

They then offered that your Majesty's Subjects should be allow'd to import all sorts of Goods whatsoever which any Foreign Nation, the most favoured, might bring in, and this in virtue of the 8th Article, and the general Rule of Equality there establish'd, since they found any Explanation of the 9th would carry them too far either one way or other.

This Rule would put your Majesty's Subjects on the same footing with the *Dutch*, and conse-

consequently with the *French* themselves, except those of their *East-India* Company, which tho' first erected in 1664, posterior to the Tariff of the said Year, yet the Commissaries pretend should reserve their Privilege of importing alone several *East-India* Manufactures (the usage whereof is not forbid) and this exclusive of all others, Subjects as well as Strangers, but Drugs, Spices, Dying Woods, &c. should be left to a free Trade. On this occasion we must take notice, *That during this very Negotiation the Importation of all raw Silk from the East-Indies has been intirely prohibited by a Decree of the 13th of March 1713, which seems a new Incroachment on the Treaty, and not to be accounted for by the Clause of the 5th Article*: For did it bear the Sense pretended, it could only regard the Laws in force at the time of the Treaty, and not those which might be made hereafter.

We then insisted, that since by the Words of the Treaty your Majesty's Subjects had a Title to import *East-India* Manufactures as well as those from other Countries, which we were still of opinion could not on any just grounds be controverted, it would be impossible to get over this difficulty, unless they resolv'd either to allow the Proposition as it stood, or to make an offer of some other Particulars equally advantageous to *Great Britain*.

The several Propositions having been thus far debated and clear'd, and the *French* Commissaries not being able to come to any final Resolution without new Orders, they agreed to dispatch a Courier to their Court on the 4th of
O 2 May,

May, with a full Account of all that had pass'd.

On the 22d of *May* there was notice by Letters from Mr. *Pryor*, that Instructions had been sent back to the *French* Commissaries on the Points in question; but hearing nothing from them in a Day or two, we press'd them for a Conference, which was held on the 28th. They then gave in their answer to the second Proposition concerning the *Effects and Merchandizes of Great Britain*, (Numb. 12.) and these Terms, they at last were willing to suppose did signify *Effects and Merchandizes belonging to the Subjects of Great Britain*: But at the same time again insisted on the Clause of the 5th Article as a formal Exception of such Goods, the Importation or Commerce whereof were forbid by the Laws of either Kingdom; and from this Explanation, they said they were order'd not to depart. On this occasion they repeated the Arguments they had so often used before, and which we humbly think had been as often fully confuted.

In the debate, mention being made of the Decree in 1701. by which the Trade and Importation of most *English* Manufactures had been forbidden, as much as those from *East-India* were by others, we took the opportunity to know of them, whether they understood this Decree to be actually repeal'd by the Treaty of Peace, which naturally should have open'd the Trade of both Nations, at least as to general Prohibitions. The Answer they made us at first, was, to the best of our apprehension, in the affirmative; and at their request

request we immediately drew up a Declaration to that Effect for them to sign, (Numb. 13.) which they declin'd for the present, but carried home with them, and in the Evening sent us the Paper, (Numb. 14.) whereby instead of answering the Question, they only set forth, that when the Treaty of Commerce shall have been perfected in all its Articles, this Decree as well as all others of the same nature, would be repeal'd: A point whereof we have never entertain'd the least doubt. We therefore desired another Conference on the 31st. In the first place the *French* Commissaries again repeated their Declaration, that by the first Clause of the 5th Article they insisted on their Exception of *East-India* Manufactures from the general Rule of Importation, as a point of Right, and had Orders not to recede from it, or make any other Offers on that Occasion.

As to the first part of the 3d Proposition, whether the four excepted Species were liable to the Discussion of the Commissaries, they declar'd they had not yet received any positive Answer; that Affair being still in deliberation before their Council.

And to the second Part, they gave us a positive Denial, declaring, That the 8th Article of the Treaty (to use their own Expressions) had its effect on all the Articles of the Treaty, except the four Species which were excepted by the 9th Article, and the Convention of the 9th of *May*: and this was the more surprizing, since it was directly contrary to the Assurances given by Monsieur *Torcy* and Monsieur *Desmaretz* himself to Mr. *Pryor*.

or, as may be seen from the fore-mentioned Extract of his Letter of the Second of April, O. S.

However these they said were the last Resolutions they could give us, except they should receive other Orders from France, which cannot probably come time enough to be of any use during this Sessions of Parliament.

As to the Decree of 1701, we endeavoured to shew them the mistake in their Answer, and to bring them back to what they seem'd to have once allow'd; but they still and finally insisted, That not only this Decree, but all others of the like nature made since, even in the time of War, did and should subsist till an Act of Parliament should be pass'd for reducing the several Duties on their Goods to an Equality with those paid by other Nations. We cannot omit taking notice how plainly such a Declaration contradicts what had been often advanced by them in the course of this Negotiation; for when we alledged that the British Manufactures were by the Decree of 1701 as liable to the restraining Clause of the 5th Article, and the Exception form'd from thence, as those of the East-Indies, their Answer was ready, That this Decree was repeal'd, and therefore those Manufactures could not be comprehended; and yet if it was only to be repeal'd by virtue of the 9th Article, it was as plain that the word Prohibitions must reach to the Goods themselves as well as the Duties payable on them, which the French were on the former occasion never willing to allow. We then told them the Rule of Equality they mention'd depended only

ly on the 8th and 9th Articles, and would never have been granted on the side of Great Britain, but in exchange for the Tariff of 1664. That those two Articles were indeed conditional, but that they themselves had agreed the rest of the Treaty was in the mean time to subsist in full force. Whereas this last Declaration seem'd to overthrow the common Liberty of Trade establish'd in the 1st and 5th Articles, since the few Species excepted from the general Prohibition of 1701, were either of little value in themselves, or loaden with such heavy Duties, as render'd the Importation of them impracticable.

For the better explaining this Point, we must beg leave humbly to acquaint your Majesty, that tho' since the Peace of Utrecht some sort of Trade has been carry'd on from Great Britain to France, in such Commodities as were either for their Convenience, or absolute Necessities, yet this, as the French Commissaries affirm, has only been by Connivance, nor has the Decree it self been yet repeal'd by any publick Declaration, except in one Clause relating to the Tonnage of 70 Sous.

This Decree, which was particularly level'd against the British Trade, and is very injurious to the Merchants and Shipping of the Nation, was publish'd in a time of full Peace; but as we apprehended, it was not then thought necessary to make any particular Provision against it in Great Britain, on the Prospect of an approaching Rupture, which was to bring along with it a General Prohibition of all Trade and Correspondence. But this Prohibition is

on the side of *Great Britain*, now ceas'd of course with the War, and the extraordinary Duties remaining on several *French* Merchandizes, particularly Wines, do not seem to be a sufficient Bar to their Consumption, nor a Counter-balance to the Prejudice the Trade must suffer by the said Decree, if the *French* should think fit hereafter to revive the Execution of it, which, as we are inform'd, is still kept up in some material Points; for this Decree forbids the Importation of all sorts of Manufactures, made simply, or mix'd with Wool, Silk, Hair, Thread, or Cotton; All sorts of Hats, Leather tann'd or dress'd, Gloves, Ironmonger's Ware, Watches and Clocks, Wines, and other Liquors, Tin and Lead from *England, Scotland, Ireland*, or other Countries thereon depending, whether they are brought strait from the said Nations, or pass thro' other Countries on pain of confiscating the Goods and the Vessels on which they are ship'd, whether *English* or *French*, or of any other Nation; and a Fine of 3000 Livres for the Merchant that shall receive them: All sorts of Haberdashery Ware, Druggs and Spices coming from *England, Scotland, or Ireland*, or in *British* Vessels, are likewise Prohibited on the abovesaid Penalties. All Merchants and Shopkeepers are also forbidden to trade, expose to sale or deal with any of the said Merchandizes, on pain of 3000 Livres for the first Fault, and Interdiction of Commerce for ever, in case of a Relapse.

It is therefore most humbly submitted to your Majesty, what Measures may be most proper

proper to be taken on an Affair of this Importance, and whether it may not be convenient to pass some provisional Act in *Great Britain* for the entire prohibiting the Importation and Trade of all *French Wines, Oyls, Silks, Linens, Papers, Haberdashery Wares, and Manufactures of the like nature, on the same or like Rules and Penalties with those contain'd in the Decree of 1701.* And should it be thought necessary to go this length, whether for the better preventing of Frauds, which otherwise would not fail to be used, a further Clause should not be added for confiscating all Ships and Vessels of what Nation soever, which having on board any of the aforesaid prohibited Goods, shall enter into any Haven of *Great Britain*; and this to remain in force till the said Edict of 1701 shall have been solemnly revok'd in all its Clauses, or the late Treaty of Commerce at *Utrecht*, and every Article thereof, shall have been brought to Perfection.

We thought it our duty to be very particular in relating the several Circumstances of our Negotiation, and the precarious State wherein the *French* would keep our Trade, that your Majesty may from thence be able to judge how far their Conduct has been agreeable to the repeated Assurances of their sincere Intentions to compleat what had been left undecided at *Utrecht*, and bring the whole Work to a good Conclusion, or how far they may have endeavoured by Colours very far fetch'd, tho' very positively maintain'd, to delay and elude the Effect of the Treaty is self, as it was there settled: which in several Points may have already appear'd to some of them

too much to the Advantage of your Majesty's Subjects.

Crown-Court,
June 9, 1714.

*All which is most
humbly submitted, &c.*

This Report plainly shews how just our Objections were to the Treaty of Commerce with France: and what makes them appear still the more so, is, That the Propositions made by the Queen's Commissaries to those of France: which was done by Order of the Ministry, with the Advice of the Board of Trade, seem to be taken out of our Writings. * By the Answer of the French Commissaries to them, it is evident, that those gross Impositions in the Treaty, which our Ministers so easily accepted, and which our Merchants so wisely complain'd of, were put upon them designedly: for the French Commissaries insisted upon them, with all the Chicanery in the World, to the very last, and could never be brought to depart from them.

This candid Report is owing chiefly to my Lord *Whitworth*; but in the last Part of it I must beg leave to differ with it, where speaking of the Treaty, it says, *Which in several Points may have already appear'd to some of them too much to the Advantage of your Majesty's Subjects*; for I cannot conceive, tho' the French had agreed to all the Propositions in this Report, that the Treaty would in any degree have

* See Preamble to the three Propositions, Numb. 3.

have been to the Advantage of her Majesty's Subjects, or the Nation, but very much the contrary, as must be evident to any body who reads these Volumes.

Number I.

*A Copy of the full Power first given in
by the French Commissaries.*

LOUIS par la Grace de Dieu Roy de France & de Navarre, à tous ceux qui ces presentes Lettres verront, Salut. Comme par l'Article 9. du Traité de Commerce & de Navigation, conclu à Utrecht le 11 Avril 1713, entre Nos Ambassadeurs Extraordinaires & Plenipotentiaires, d'une part, & ceux de notre tres chere & amée Soeur la Reyne de la Grande Bretagne, d'autre, il a été convenu & accordé que des Commissaires de part & d'autre s'assembleroient à Londres pour examiner & regler les Difficultez qui regardent le Commerce de l'un ou de l'autre Nation, & les points dont on n'auroit pu convenir par le dit Traité, & dont on a fait une Mention particuliere dans les Actes qui ont été signez separement; qu'il est necessaire aussi pour le bien commun des deux Nations que les dites Commissaires asportent tous leurs soins à rechercher & à examiner tres exactement les differentes Natures de Commerce de part & d'autre à trouver & à convenir reciproquement des Moyens justes & utiles pour lever

lever les emphechements à cet esgard & pour moderer mutuellement les droits sur quelques Marchandises. Que dans cette veue notre dite Soeur la Reyne de la G. Bretagne auroit nomme ses Commissaires pour travailler conjointement avec eux qui nous choisirons pour le mesme sujet. Voulant de Notre part contribuer, autant quil est en nous à l'avancement & à la perfection d'un Ouvrage aussi necessaire à la Liberté du Commerce, Nous confiant entierement en la Capacité, Experience, Zeel & Fidelité pour notre service, de nos chers & bien amez les Sieurs Annisson & Fenellon, Deputez au Conseil de Commerce pour ces Causes & autres Considerations à ce nous mouvans, avons commis, ordonné & depute, & par ces presentes signées de notre main commettons, ordonnons & deputons les dites Sieurs Annisson & Fenellon, & leur avons donné & donnons plein pouvoir & mandement special de se rendre en la Ville de Londres d'y negotier, traiter & conclure en qualitée de nos Commissaires avec ceux de notre dite Soeur la Reyne de la Grande Bretagne, pareillement munis de pouvoir suffisans tous & chacun des points dont l'Examen & la Discussion ont été remis par le dite Article 9 aux dites Commissaires de part & d'autre, Arrester à cet esgard & Signez tels Articles & Conventions que les dites Sieurs Annisson & Fenellon aviseront bon estre, voulant qu'en cas d'absence de l'un d'eux par Maladie ou par quelque autre cause legitime l'autre ait le mesme pouvoir de negotier, traiter, conclure &

& signer tels Articles & Conventions qui conviendront au bien du Commerce & à l'utilité reciproque de nos Sujets & de ceux de nostre dit Soeur la Reyne de la Grande Bretagne, en sorte que nos dites Commissaires agissent pour l'effet cy dessus avec une entiere autorité, encore que les cas requist un mandement plus special, promettant en Foy & Parole de Roy, d'avoir agreable, tenir ferme & stable, à toujours accomplir & executement ponctuellement tous ce que les dites Sieurs Annisson & Fenellon, ou l'un d'eux dans le dit cas d'absence ou de Maladie auront stipulé, promis & signé en vertu du present pouvoir, sans jamais y contre venir n'y permettre qu'il y soit contrevenu pour quelque cause, ou sous quelque pretexte que se puisse estre, comme aussi d'en faire expedier nos Lettres de Ratification, en bonne forme pour estre echangées dans le temps dont il fera convenu. Car tel est notre Plaisir, en Temoin de quoy nous avons faite mettre notre Scel à ces Presentes. Donné à Versailles le 10 Fevrier l'An de Grace 1714 & de notre Regne le Soixante onzieme, signé, *Louis*, & sur le Replis par le Roy, *Colbert*, avec Paraphe, & Scellées du Grand Sceau de Cire jaune.

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Number II.

A Copy of the full Power from Queen Anne to the Commissaries appointed to treat with those of France, pursuant to the 9th Article of the Treaty of Navigation and Commerce at Utrecht, Anno 1713.

ANNE by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all and Singular to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting. Whereas in the 9th Article of the Treaty of Navigation and Commerce made at Utrecht the $\frac{31}{11}$ Day of $\frac{March}{April}$ between Us and the most Serene and most Potent Prince Lewis XIV. the most Christian King; it is provided and agreed that Commissaries on both sides shall meet at London, to consider of and remove the Difficulties concerning certain Merchandizes, which are to be excepted out of the general Tariff of the Year 1664. as concerted on the part of France; and concerning other Heads relating to the said Treaty, all which could not then be adjusted; all which are mention'd in particular Instruments severally sign'd. And whereas the said Commissaries are likewise to endeavour (which seems to be very much for the Interest of both Nations) to have the Methods of Commerce on one part and of the other more thoroughly examin'd, and to find out and establish just and beneficial means on both sides for removing the Difficulties

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ties in this matter, and for regulating the Duties mutually; and that we might promote a Work so necessary to the Liberty and Freedom of Commerce on both sides; and also that both Nations may begin to enjoy, as soon as may be, the principal Benefit and Advantage of the Peace lately concluded; We have appointed Commissaries to be named on our part, without any delay. Know ye therefore, that We relying upon the Integrity and Prudence of our trusty and beloved Charles Whitworth, James Murray Esqs; Sir Joseph Martin Kt. and Frederick Herne Esq; have nam'd, made and appointed, and by these Presents do name, make and appoint them our Commissaries and Deputies, given them, or any two of them, full Power and Authority, with the Commissaries of our good Brother the most Christian King, sufficiently authoriz'd thereunto, of meeting, treating and concluding, concerning all and singular matters and things, which by the 9th Article of the aforesaid Treaty of Navigation and Commerce are referr'd to the Cognizance and Determination of Commissaries, to be appointed on both sides. We also will and require that if any doubt or difficulty shou'd happen to arise about the Explanation of any Articles of the above-mention'd Treaty, that our said Commissaries, or any two of them, do in the first place meet and confer with the Commissaries deputed on the part of the most Christian King aforesaid, to explain and define the true and genuine Sense of the Article or Articles, concerning which there may happen to be any doubt. Moreover we give to our said Commissaries,

missaries, or any two of them, full Power and Authority to make and sign in our Name any Instruments necessary to accomplish the above-mention'd Affair; promising upon our Royal Faith and Word, that all things whatsoever, which shall be agreed, concluded and sign'd by our Commissaries and Deputies aforesaid, or any two of them, concerning the Premises, shall be approv'd and ratify'd, and in the most ample manner and form establish'd and confirm'd by us. *In Witness* whereof we have sign'd these Presents with our Royal Hand, and commanded our Great Seal of *Great Britain* to be affix'd hereunto.

Given at our Castle at *Windsor* the 13th Decem. 1713, and the 12th year of our Reign.

A N N E R.

Number III.

Propositions of Explanation to be demanded as a Preliminary to the Treaty.

Altho' the Treaty of Navigation and Commerce concluded at *Utrecht* the ^{31 March} _{11 April}, between her *Britannick* Majesty and the most Christian King, is conceiv'd in the most clear Terms, and which leave no room to doubt of the natural Sense of the Expressions; *Yet as there have been some People who*
have

have endeavoured to put on certain Passages thereof a Construction quite different from the intention of the High Contractors, the Commissaries of her *Britannick* Majesty, whose Names are under-written, to prevent any Misinterpretation for the future, are of opinion, that it is absolutely necessary that the Commissaries of his most Christian Majesty shou'd join with them in a clear and precise Declaration concerning the following Points as a Preliminary, and before they enter upon the discussion of the other matters which are to be adjusted.

First, That the Treaty in general is positive and absolute, That the 8th and 9th Articles depend on mutual Conditions, and ought to take place whenever those Conditions come to be accomplish'd; but that in the mean time, and whatever may happen in these points, the other Articles remain still entire and in full force and vigour.

Secondly, That by the 9th Article all Prohibitions, Tariffs, Edicts, Declarations or Orders since the year 1664, made in *France* and contrary to the Tariff of the said year, as to what concerns the Effects and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, shall be annul'd: That these general Terms of *Effects and Merchandizes of Great Britain* relate not only to the Goods of the Growth and Manufacture of *Great Britain*, but also comprehend all other Species of Merchandizes without distinction, which belong to the Subjects of her *Britannick* Majesty, and which they might have carry'd
to.

to *France*, and sold there, or brought from thence, at any time since the said Tariff of the year 1664, and to such *British* Ships and Vessels wherein the same shall be imported; except the four Species, whereof the Discussion hath been referr'd to the Commissaries on both sides.

Thirdly, That as to these four Species, the Subjects of her *Britannick* Majesty shall and may at all times hereafter import into *France* the Merchandizes comprehended under the said excepted Species, and shall enjoy all Immunities and Exemptions of Customs, and other Privileges of Commerce, which the Nation the most favoured does enjoy or use at present, or may use or enjoy hereafter; and this in consequence of the 8th Article of the said Treaty.

Proposition offer'd to be inserted instead of the second Proposition.

That by virtue of the 9th Article, so soon as the condition therein stipulated by *France* shall be made good on the part of *Great Britain*, the Duties which the Subjects of her *Britannick* Majesty are to pay in *France* shall be regulated according to the Tenor of the general Tariff made in that Kingdom *Septemb.* 18th 1664. in the Provinces whereof mention is there made; and as to the other Provinces and the Countries conquered, yielded or reunited, the Duties shall not be payable otherwise

wise than according to the Rule at that time prescrib'd in the Provinces reputed Foreign. That all Prohibitions, Tariffs, Edicts, Declarations or Orders since the year 1664 made in *France*, and contrary to the Tariff of the said year, as to what concerns the Effects and Merchandizes of *Great Britain*; and namely the Order of the Council of State of *Septemb.* 6th 1701, shall be annul'd in all their Clauses, except as to the four Species whereof the Discussion hath been referr'd to the Commissaries on both sides. That under the General terms of *Effects and Merchandizes of Great Britain* are comprehended *the Goods and Merchandizes of the Growth, Fishery, Manufacture and Trade of the Subjects of her Britannick Majesty*, as also those of Prizes taken from their Enemies; and generally all sorts of Merchandizes which they might have carried to *France*, or brought from thence at any time since the said Tariff of the year 1664 was made.

London, 10^o March, 1714.

Number IV.

Extract of several Letters from Mr. Pryor, to the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Bolinbroke.

Fontainebleau, Sept. 22d 1713.

I Have several times discours'd with Monsieur *Torcy*, as your Lordship's Order enjoyn'd me, and have found he understood and granted the

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the 9th Article to be purely reciprocal, and to be taken in the Sense we have so often express'd and repeated it. The rest of the Treaty standing good, tho' the Article should not have the Success we desir'd; and from him I likewise took it for granted that this was the Opinion of Monsieur *Desmaretz*.

Paris, Oct. 17^o 1713.

I AM glad to tell your Lordship that Monsieur *Torcy* distinctly and plainly gave me his Opinion (as I have already told your Lordship he has formerly done) that the two Articles are purely conditional, and ought to be understood so, that the body of the Treaty subsists, however it may be agreed as to the Articles, that the Tariff of 1664 on our side, and the reciprocal advantages on theirs are accepted or rejected.

Versailles, Octob. 20th 1713.

TO Day Monsieur de *Torcy* told me that Monsieur *Desmaretz* had declar'd, and all the Ministers assented, that the 8th and 9th Articles were purely reciprocal, and that the whole Treaty in every other Article of it subsisted, which way soever it might be determin'd in Parliament (as to these two Articles) either to embrace or reject the mutual Advantages therein stipulated.

Paris,

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Paris, Jan. 18th 1714.

I Can now add that it is to be understood that all the other Articles of the Treaty of Commerce are to stand fix'd and good, tho' the 8th and 9th shou'd not be confirm'd by Parliament.

Versailles, Jan. 25, 1714.

I Have again pres'd Monsieur de *Torcy* and Monsieur *Desuaretz* upon the Contents of your Lordship's Letter to Monsieur *d'Ibberville*, and again receiv'd for answer from Monsieur *Torcy* that the whole Treaty of Commerce and every Article of it is suppos'd to be positive and binding, and that the 8th and 9th only are reciprocal.

Number V.

An Answer to the Preliminary Proposals.

In answer to the Memorial from the Commissaries of her Britannick Majesty, dated the 20^o March 1713, the Commissaries of his most Christian Majesty say,

THAT of the three Articles contain'd in the aforesaid Memorial, there are two on which the Commissaries of *France* cannot give a positive Answer, because, according to the Objections made by the *British* Commissaries,

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ries to the Power given by the King to his Commissaries, these last are not authoriz'd to negotiate on the two Points in question.

This being the State of Affairs, and the French Commissaries having writ to the King for more ample powers, to satisfy the Demand of the British Commissaries, they were of Opinion, it would be the same thing to send to the Court of France a Copy of the said Memorial from the Commissaries of her Britannick Majesty, that they might procure a positive Answer to the whole.

London $\frac{1}{2}$
March 1714.

D'Ibberville.
Annisson.
Fenellon.

Number VI.

A COPY of the French new full Powers.

LOUIS par la Grace de Dieu Roy de France & de Navarre, à tous ceux qui ces presentes Lettres verront, Salut. Comme par l'Article 9 du traité de Commerce & de Navigation conclu à Utrecht le 11 Avril 1713, entre nos Ambassadeurs Extraordinaires & Plenipotentiaires d'une part, & ceux de nostre tres chere & tres amée Soeur la Reyne de la Grande Bretagne d'autre, il a esté convenu & accordé que des Commissaires de l'une & de l'autre part s'assembleroient à Londres pour examiner & regler les difficultez qui regardent le Commerce de l'une & de l'autre Nation, & les points

The Report of the Commissaries.

points dont on n'auroit pu convenir par le dit traité, & dont on a fait une mention particuliere dans les Actes qui ont esté signez separement, qu'il est necessaire aussi pour le bien commun des deux Nations que les dites Commissaires asportent tous leurs soins à rechercher & à examiner exactement les differentes Natures de Commerce de part & d'autre, à trouver & à convenir reciproquement des moyens justes & utiles pour lever les empeschemens à cet égard, & pour moderer mutuellement les droits sur quelques Marchandises, en sorte que l'on procure le plus grand bien de l'une & de l'autre Nation, que dans cette veue nostre ditte Soeur la Reyne de la Grande Bretagne auroit nommé ses Commissaires pour travailler conjointement avec ceux que nous choisirions pour le mesme Sujet; voulant de nostre part contribuer autant qu'il est en nous à l'avancement & la perfection d'un Ouvrage aussi necessaire à la liberté & aux avantages reciproques du Commerce, nous confiant entierement en la Capacité, Experience, Zele & Fidelité de nostre chere & bien amé, le Sieur d'Ibberville nostre Envoyé Extraordinaire prez nostre ditte Soeur, dont il nous a donne des preuves dans les differens employes que nous luy avons confiez. Nous l'avons choisi à cet effect avec Nos chers & bien amez les Sieurs Annisson & Fenellon, deputez au Conseille de Commerce pour ces causes & autres bonnes considerations à ce nous mouvans, nous avons commis, ordonné & député, & par ces presentes signées de nostre main commettons, ordonnons & deputons les dites Sieurs

Sieurs d'Ibberville, Anniffon & Fenellon, & leur avons donné & donnons plein Pouvoir & Mandement special de s'assembler en la Ville de Londres d'y negotier, traiter & conclure en qualité de nos Commissaires avec ceux de nostre ditte Soeur la Reyne de la Grande Bretagne pareillement munis des pouvoirs suffisants, touchant chacun des poincts, dont l'Examen & la Discussion ont été remis par le dit Article 9. aux dites Commissaires de part & d'autre arrester à cet égard & signer tels Articles & Conventions que nos dits Commissaires aviseront bon estre; Voulons qu'en cas qu'il se trouve quelque doute ou difficulté sur l'Explication des Articles du dite traité, nos dits Commissaires s'aspliquent conjointement avec ceux de la Reyne de la Grande Bretagne à developper & fixer le sens veritable & naturel de l'Article ou des Articles que pourront avoir besoin d'estre éclaircis. Voulant aussi qu'en cas d'absence de l'un d'entre eux par Maladie ou autre Empechement legitime les deux autres ayant le mesme pouvoir, negotier, traiter, conclure & signer tels Articles & Conventions qui conviendront au bien du Commerce & à utilité reciproque des nos sujets & de ceux de nostre ditte Soeur la Reyne de la Grande Bretagne, en sorte que nos dites Commissaires agissent pour l'Effet c'y dessus avec une entiere Autorité, encore que le cas requit un Mandement plus special; promettant en Foy & Parole de Roy d'avoir agreable tenir, ferme & stable à toujours accomplir & executer ponctuellement tout ce que les dites Sieurs d'Ibberville, Anniffon & Fenellon, ou deux d'entre,

d'entre, eux dans les dits cas d'absence ou de Maladie auront promis & signé en vertu du present pouvoir, sans jamais y contrevenir n'y permettre qu'il y soit contrevenu pour quelque cause ou sous quelque pretexte que ce puisse estre, comme aussi d'enfaire expedier nos Lettres de Ratification en bonne ferme pour estre echangées dans le temps dont il sera convenu. Car tel est plaisir, en temoin dequoy nous avons fait mettre nostre Scel à cet presentes. Donné à Versailles le 10 Fevrier, l'An de Grace 1714 & de Nostre Regne le 71. Signé *Louis*, & sur le Replis par le Roy *Colbert*. Scellé du grand Sceau de Cire jaune.

Collationné à l'Original, par moy souffigné Secretaire de Messieurs les Commissaires de sa Majesté tres Chrestienne pour le Commerce.

L E O N A R D.

Number VII.

The REPLY of the King's Commissaries to the three Articles of the Memorial delivered them by the Commissaries of Her Britannick Majesty the 2^d March 1714.

I.

THE King's Commissaries believing themselves only charg'd to consider and digest some Points of Commerce for the mutual Security and Advantage of both Nations, were of Opinion at first that it did not belong to them to give any Qualifications to a Treaty so authentic

thentick and so solemn as that concluded at *Utrecht* between the Ambassadors Plenipotentiaries of the King, and those of the Queen of *Great Britain*. The King's Council has been of the same Opinion, and look upon this Proposition as unnecessary, and contrary to the Stipulation of the Treaties.

II.

It seems also extraordinary that after having propos'd in some manner by the first Article of the Memorial to suspend the Execution of the 8th and 9th Articles of the Treaty of Commerce at *Utrecht*, they should demand the Explication of certain Terms contained in the 9th Article; but to shew on the part of the King's Commissaries that they are entrusted to treat sincerely and without ambiguity, in order to establish a Communication of Commerce mutually advantageous to both Nations, they declare that the general Terms, EFFECTS AND MERCHANDIZES OF GREAT BRITAIN, contained in the 9th Article, ought not to be understood, *but in regard to the Merchandizes of the growth of England*. Nevertheless, to convince the Queen's Commissaries, that on the part of *France* there is a very great desire to establish an intimate Commerce with the *English* Nation, the King's Commissaries offer to enter into Negotiation about the other Merchandizes which the *English* Merchants might furnish to those of the King, of like nature with those which his own Subjects receive from other Nations.

III.

As to the Merchandizes comprehended under the four Species, which the Queen's Commissaries pretend to have been referr'd to the Discussion of Commissaries from both Nations; the King's Commissaries declare, that they have Orders to answer, That the Convention of the 9th of *May* last, stipulated at *Utrecht* on the four Articles, is a thing concluded and to stand fix'd, and no ways subject to the consideration of the Commissaries: for otherwise it would have been unnecessary to have made the said Convention, because by one of the Clauses of the 9th Article of the Treaty of the 11th of *April*, the four Species in question were already referr'd to the Discussion of the Commissaries, and were there mention'd in a manner more advantageous to the *French* Merchants; from whence it may be reasonably said that the Queen's Plenipotentiaries very well understood that the Convention of the 9th of *May* was a thing finally concluded, because the *English* Merchants have greater Advantage by it than by the said Clause of the 9th Article.

Done at *London*,
1^½ *April* 1714.

D' Ibberville,
Annisson,
Fenellon.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Pryor to the Lord Bolingbroke.

Paris, April 13 1714.

My Lord,

I Have spoken to Monsieur de Torcy and Monsieur Desmaretz, in the most particular manner, upon the three Articles on which the opening the Commerce depends at present. The Answer which I have from both these Ministers, and more at large from the latter, who seems very debonaire and good-humour'd, is, That he has given as full Directions as he can to the French Commissaries in this behalf.

As to the first Point, it is allow'd and determin'd that the whole Treaty stands absolute and unconditional, tho' the 8th and 9th Articles should not pass. However Monsieur Desmaretz says, this will be but a most poor and maigne of commercing between two Nations, who are (according to our own Proposal) to live in strict Amity and Correspondence. But as this is properly our Affair, he adds, that he cannot think we understand Trade so little, as to lose a Bargain so very advantageous to our selves.

As to the second Question, those Goods and Merchandizes which have always been esteem'd and

and imported here as English are still to be esteem'd such. The Tariff of 1664 is to regulate all Species and Sorts therein mention'd. And

Thirdly, as to the Species excepted at Utrecht, we are to be treated in as favourable a manner as any other Nation, in particular (Monsieur Desmaretz nam'd) the Dutch.

If therefore there are any sorts of Cloth or Stuffs fabrick'd since 1664, as these things change in their way of being manufactur'd, and in their very Names, of which, he says, 'tis impossible for him to determine, the length of the War, and the Obstruction of the Trade having render'd it uncertain; he must herein be advis'd by the Commissaries who are upon the place; and what he can say to it is, that he thinks that these Goods, as to the Nature and Fabrick of them, will be reducible to the Tariff of 1664, or will be comprehended in the excepted Species.

Upon this I presume the Commissaries are going on, and will not doubt a good Success to their Endeavours; if any thing yet remains to be cleared here (which I find the Ministers think there does not) you will be pleas'd to send me your commands upon the Subject.

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Number IX.

The first Proposition stated anew by the Queen's Commissaries the 28th of April 1714, and agreed to by the French Commissaries.

IF the Law stipulated in the 9th Article of the Treaty of Commerce made at Utrecht the 11th of April 1713, be pass'd, it is agreed that the Treaty shall have its full force and effect.

And in case that such a Law be not pass'd, it is agreed that excepting the 8th and 9th Articles, which shall be reputed void till such time as the abovesaid Law do pass, it is agreed, we say, that the rest of the Treaty shall have its Effect.

The under-written Commissaries of his Majesty do agree to allow the two Propositions above-mention'd.

London this
28 April } 1714
9 May }

D' Iberville.
Annisson.
Fenellon.

Number

Number X.

Extract of Instructions sent to the French Commissaries about the four excepted Species.

IN case the Commissaries are willing that the Treaty should be purely and simply executed, it remains only that they follow the literal Sense thereof. If they have a mind to reject it, the King will agree that his Commissaries do act jointly with those of the Queen of England in making a new one. But if the English will let only part of the Treaty stand good, and reject the rest, they must explain themselves clearly and precisely upon this Retrenchment; and his Majesty will be willing that his Commissaries should examine what may in that case be proper to be proposed on the part of France, in order to preserve the mutual advantages of both Nations.

These are the King's intentions concerning the particular Convention of the 9th of May, 1713.

Without this Convention the Commissaries who are met at London had only (in that respect) to examine into, and resolve, the difficulties which might arise upon the four Species of Merchandizes indefinitely excepted out of the Tariff of 1664, by the 9th Article of the Treaty of the 11th of April 1713; and if that Convention had not been made at Utrecht, it would in all likelihood have been to be done by the Commissaries met at London: but this very

P 4 ry

ry Convention having by the acknowledgmen
of the two Powers, as well as by the Ministry
of their Plenipotentiaries, reduced the general
Species which were express'd in the 9th Article
of the foregoing Treaty to certain Terms and
particular qualities, it cannot be said with any
ground that there needs any farther deliberati-
on and discussion on the Articles contain'd there-
in. The King however is so inclin'd to do
every thing that may entertain and strengthen
the good Understanding between the two Na-
tions, that his Majesty is willing you shou'd
leave the Choice to the Commissaries of the
Queen of *England*, either to admit of or reject
this Convention. In case they reject it, you
are to act with them upon the 9th Article of
the Treaty of Commerce, and the four Spe-
cies of Merchandizes excepted out of the Tariff
of 1664, according to what is express'd in that
Article of the said Treaty.

If the *English* Commissaries, and even the
Ministers of the Queen, will pass a favourable
Judgment on these Dispositions, they will be
oblig'd to agree, that one cannot enter upon all
the Views of Commerce and Union with more
Readiness, Sincerity, and Plain-dealing; 'tis
only to be desired that they concur herewith on
their part, and which will be more particularly
known by the Manner of their acting, after
the Overtures which you are in a condition to
make them.

Number

Number XI.

*A Copy of the third Proposition, as it was
stated anew in the Conference of April 28,
1714.*

THE four Species excepted out of the Ta-
riff of 1664, by the 9th Article of the
Treaty of Commerce, are referred by the same
9th Article to the Discussion of the Commissa-
ries appointed by that Article, and the Decla-
ration of the 9th of *May* does no more than spe-
cify the particular Merchandizes excepted in
general Terms by the 9th Article of the Trea-
ty, and the Duties payable on the said Mer-
chandizes so specify'd, till such time as the
Commissaries on both sides shall have establish'd
another Rule.

So that on the Principles we advance two
Propositions.

First, that the Commissaries on both sides
ought to enter upon the Discussion of those
four Species so excepted, as well by virtue of
the Treaty it self of the 11th of *April*, as the
Declaration of the 9th of *May*.

Secondly, That the Treaty enjoying its
Effect, the 8th Article operates as well on the
four Species, as on the rest of the Treaty, in
relation to Duties, &c.

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Number

Number XII.

Copy of a Declaration from the French Commissaries for explaining the Terms, GOODS AND MERCHANDIZES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

IN answer to this Question, and to remove all difficulty as to the meaning of the Terms, Goods and Merchandizes of Great Britain, the King's Commissaries readily suppose that they mean all the Effects and Merchandizes belonging to the Subjects of Great Britain. But the same Commissaries must always object thereto the formal Exception made by the 5th Article of the Treaty of Utrecht, that is to say, that the two Nations can only trade in such Goods and Merchandize, the Importation and Trade whereof are not forbid by the Laws of either Kingdom; and they have Orders not to depart from this Exception made in the said 5th Article, because there is nothing in any Clause of the same Treaty that derogates from it. In London,

May 28 } 1714.
June 8 }

D' Ibberville.
Annisson.
Fenellon.

Number

Number XIII.

The Form of a Declaration drawn up at the Board for the French Commissaries to sign about the Repeal of the Decree of Sept. 6th, 1701.

SOME doubt being made in respect to the Decree of Sept. 6th 1701, that is to say, Whether that Decree, publish'd in time of Peace and forbidding the Importation and Trade of the most part of the Merchandizes of Great Britain, is repeal'd or not, since it has not been done by any particular Declaration:

We the under-written Commissaries of his most Christian Majesty do declare by these Presents, that the said Arrest of the 6th of Sept. 1701. has been repeal'd and made void in all its Clauses by the Treaty of Peace made at Utrecht ¹¹/₁₁ March (April) 1713. between the two Crowns, on which there is no Occasion for any particular Instrument.

Number XIV.

Another Form sent back, sign'd by the French Commissaries about the Decree of the 6th of Sept. 1701.

AS some doubt has been made by the Queen's Commissaries in regard to the Decree of the King's Council of the 6th of Sept. 1701, that

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The British Merchant.

that is to say, whether that Decree publish'd in time of Peace, and prohibiting the Importation and Trade of several Merchandizes of *Great Britain*, has been repeal'd? or whether it subsists independently of the Treaty of *Utrecht*?

We the under-written Commissaries of his most Christian Majesty do declare, that the Arrest of the 6th of *Sept.* 1701, is deem'd to be repeal'd and annul'd in all its Clauses by virtue of the Treaties of Peace and of Commerce made at *Utrecht* between the two Crowns, and that there is no need of any particular Instrument for that purpose; Provided nevertheless that the said Treaties above-mention'd be executed in all its parts by the *English* Nation.

In London this
28 May
8 June 1714.

D'Ibberville.
Annisson.
Fenellon.

F I N I S.



T H E
I N D E X.

The INDEX being very copious, and digested alphabetically, the Members of either House, Merchants, or others, may in an Instant, turn to any Point of Trade in it they want; so that it may be of constant Use, when our Trade, or any Branch of it, falls under the Consideration of the Legislature.

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