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PROPOSALS

For ENRICHING the
PRINCIPALITY of *WALES*:

Humbly submitted to the
Consideration of his Countrymen;
By GIRALDUS CAMBRENSIS.

“Whoever can make two Ears of Corn, or two Blades of Grass to
“grow upon a Spot of Ground where only one grew before, will
“deserve better of Mankind, and do more essential Service to his
“Country than the whole Race of Politicians put together.”
GULLIVER'S Travels,

*Hoc opus, hoc studium Parvi properemus & Ampli,
Si Patriæ volumus, si nobis vivere cari.* HOR.



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TO THE
 NOBILITY, GENTRY, CLERGY, and
 YEOMANRY

OF THE
 PRINCIPALITY

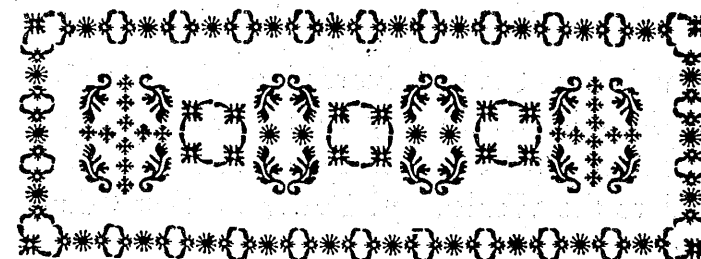
OF
 WALES;

This ESSAY, calculated for the Im-
 provement and Benefit of that PRINCIPA-
 LITY by AGRICULTURE and COM-
 MERCE, is humbly inscribed by

Their Well-Wisher and Servant,

London,
 March, 1755.

C. B



*Turn to the Arts, the useful pleasing Arts
Of Cultivation; and those Fields improve
Your erring Fathers have left too long despis'd.
Leave not to Ignorance and low-bred Hinds,
That noblest Science, which in antient Time
The Minds of Sages and of Kings employ'd,
Sollicitous to learn the Ways of God,
And read his Works in Agriculture's School.*

PUBLIC VIRTUE, a Poem. By Mr. Doddsley.

H A T the Wealth of every
Nation is proportionable to the
* Number and Industry of its
Inhabitants, is a Truth that will
admit of no Dispute. Whatever therefore
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* Sir William Temple, in his Observations upon the United Netherlands, has proved to a Degree of Demonstration, that the Ground of Trade cannot be deduced from Havens, or native Commodities, but from the Number, Industry and Parsimony of the Inhabitants. But if a Country, such as that of the United Netherlands, which has neither native Commodities, commodious Havens, a wholesome Air, nor good Water, has been rais'd to an incredible Pitch of Power and Greatness, by the Number and Diligence of its People, To what Height of Majesty and Grandeur might not the Inhabitants of Wales arrive, who can justly boast of the finest Havens, and all the desirable Native Commodities, were they to exert the same Degrees of Industry and Parsimony, that have rendered those once distressed States, rich, formidable and mighty?

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contributes towards increasing the Number of Individuals in any Country, and has a Tendency to quicken their Industry, must add to the Wealth and Power of that Country.

THE following Scheme is calculated to promote these Ends in the principality of *Wales*. If the Natives of that Country will divest themselves of Prejudice and consider it with Attention; it is hoped the Reasonableness and Propriety of these Proposals will appear and sufficiently recommend them to their Approbation. To see a better Plan will be the greatest Satisfaction to me: But to see, even this, adopted and happily executed will give me uncommon Pleasure.

THAT the Principality of *Wales* can justly boast of many of those Advantages, which are thought to contribute towards rendering the People of any Country numerous, no one will doubt, who considers that our Liberties and Properties are secured, that all Sects and Parties are tolerated in the free Exercise of Religion, according to their respective Opinions and Manner of Worship, that our Situation is preferable to that of most, if not all other Countries, that *Milford* is one of the finest Havens in the World, that we have a great Number

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Number of other very convenient Ports, and that we abound in those native Productions, which are justly reckoned the Staple Commodities of several Countries in which Trade and Commerce flourish.

IF we were nicely to inquire why the Natives withdraw themselves from a Country that can boast of these Advantages, and why this Country is so thinly inhabited, some of the chief Reasons would appear to be a Scarcity of most of the Necessaries of Life, and the Want of domestic Industry.

NOW whatever Country abounds in the Necessaries of Life, must also abound in the lower Class of People. For wherever the Necessaries of Life are cheapest, thither all Sorts of People, but more particularly the Industrious, will resort. And the more numerous the People of any Country, the more diligent and industrious. But the Necessaries of Life, if the Directions laid down in these Papers are followed, will be cheaper in *Wales* than in any other Part of his Majesty's Dominions.—An Inducement this, not only to keep our Countrymen at Home, but likewise to invite and bring over Others to settle amongst us. The Numbers, who annually

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annually withdraw * themselves from us, and spend the Remainder of their Days in *London, Bristol, Liverpool, Chester,* and other Parts of *England*, are incredibly great, and the annual Loss of their Labour amounts, upon a moderate Calculation, to 24,750 *l.* But these Natives, if they could advantageously, would gladly be employed in their own Country. In this Case they would marry, increase and multiply; and the Coming over of *English, Irish, &c.* would make, probably, no inconsiderable Addition to the Number of our Inhabitants. Our Improvements would then become the Subject of Admiration, would raise the World into a Fit of Wonder; and what was once said, upon a different Occasion, might with strict Propriety be applied to us—*See how the Britons flourish!*

As the Means of producing this desirable Abundance, I take the Liberty of laying before my Countrymen, *A Method for improving their Estates.*

— *Non modo est ars, sed etiam necessaria ac magna; ea est Scientia, quæ docet quæ sint in quoquo agro serunda ac faciunda, quæque terra maximos perpetuo reddat fructus.* Varr.

LAND

* — non ullus aratro
Dignus honos: squalent abductis arva Colonis. VIRG.

(7)

LAND, upon a Medium, is lett in Two of the most fertile Counties in *Wales*, at * three Shillings an Acre. If it appears that this was the Case, not above thirty Years since, in any of the Counties of *England*, where at present the Land, upon an Average, is lett at ten Shillings an Acre; it will not be unreasonable to suppose, as like Causes are productive of like Effects, that the same Improvements may be made in *Wales*, provided our Landlords and Farmers will pursue the Methods here recommended, which are used, with incredible Success, in many Parts of *England*.

WHAT is here asserted, with Regard to the Improvement of Lands in *England*, is Matter of Fact; against which there is no Disputing. But if any one of less Experience

* Besides the Fertility of these Counties, they afford all the Means of Improvement that have been applied in the *English* Counties, wherein these Improvements have been made.

* It may, probably, be objected to this Estimate, that we have Lands, near large Towns, which lett at 10, 12, 15, nay 20 *s.* an Acre; and consequently that Lands in General should be laid higher. Tho' the Premises are granted, yet such a Consequence is by no Means deducible from them. For the Quantity of Land lett at those high Rates is very inconsiderable; whereas the Number of Acres lett at 2 *s.* 6 *d.*, 2 *s.*, 1 *s.* 6 *d.*, 1 *s.*, 6 *d.* and under that are incredible: So that I am persuaded I should have been nigher the Truth, if I had laid the Lands of the whole Principality at Half a Crown an Acre.

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ence doubts the Truth of it, let him appeal to any of those Gentlemen, of our Country, who are competent Judges in these Matters, and he will be abundantly convinced.

THE principal Means, recommended in these Sheets, for improving Estates in *Wales*, and enriching the Inhabitants, are the following ones—*Claying and Marling*,—*Turnep-sowing*,—*Fattening of Cattle*,—*And the Sowing of Clover and Rye-grass Seeds*.

WHERE the Lands are too light or sandy to produce good Crops, it will be proper to give them a Coat of Clay, of the yellow or blue Kind, which is the best, tho' the brown or dark Sort will do. Upon the other Hand, where they are too heavy, cold or moist, they may be covered with a brown or white Marl. Forty or Fifty Loads an Acre are sufficient for some Sorts of Lands: For others 60 or 70 will be found necessary. But, upon a Medium, the Quantity may be laid at 60 * Cart Loads an Acre.

GREAT

* As this Method of improving is attended with a considerable Expence; it has been, and still continues to be a Rule with many Landlords to grant their Tenants a Lease of their respective Farms, for the Term of 21 Years. And to encourage them, some Landlords engage to pay for the Digging, Tilling and Spreading the Quantity of Clay or Marl necessary for a certain Number of Acres, annually, for the Space of ten or twelve Years. Where the Tenants are necessitous, 'tis certainly advisable to close with

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GREAT are the Improvements to be made, in all Sorts of Lands, by this single Article of Claying and Marling.

THERE are, however, three Sorts of Lands where these Methods will be found uncommonly successful, viz. *Old Heath-ground*, *Lands that have been impoverished, and quite worn out with continual Plowing, producing more Weeds than Corn*,—*And old Pasture-ground, whose Surface is rendered uneven by Ant-hills, or is covered over with beggarly Moss*.

BUT the Advantages arising from this Method are most remarkable in *Old Heath-ground*, or that which has laid Waste for a great Number of Years, and perhaps has never

with such a Proposal; by which, however, tho' it has a very specious Appearance, the Landlord is always the greatest Gainer. But yet, such are the Advantages arising from it to the Tenant, that I could wish the Land-owners in *Wales* would assist their Tenants in the same Manner. For under these Circumstances, Tenants who have been industrious and of approved Fidelity, by the Time their Leases have been expired, Those who have begun with 3 or 400 Pounds, have often been found to be worth so many Thousands, and sometimes 10, 12 or 15000 Pounds. That the Value of Estates should be raised, in the Proportion, abovementioned, (vid. P. 6.) when the Tenant, at the same Time, thus gets Estates, is almost incredible, especially if we consider that Hundreds of these Farms were uncultivated and overgrown with Fern, &c.

Neglectis urenda filix innascitur agris.

HOR.

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never been ploughed at all, nor of any other Use but as Sheep's Walk or Warren. This Ground, of all others, will produce the greatest Crops, and answer the Charge of Claying and Marling best.

THE Method to be taken with this Sort of Ground is, To plough it up in Winter, by Reason of the Moisture of that Season, and that the Flag or Surface may have Time to rot, during the Time of Claying or Marling, before it be sown either with Turneps at Midsummer, or with Wheat or Rye at Michaelmas. It should be ploughed and well harrowed four Times before it is sown with Turneps, and clayed or marled after the first or third Ploughing, just as it shall be most convenient for the Farmer. Either Method may be chosen. But if the Land be clayed after the first Ploughing, the Clay and Mould will incorporate the better, by Means of the frequent Ploughings that are to succeed, and be more likely to produce a good Crop.

IF Turneps should be sown about * Midsummer, upon Lands thus managed, they may generally without † Tath or Dung: But if

* The properest Times for sowing all Sorts of Grain are as follows; Rye in September; Wheat in October; Oats and Pease in March; Barley in the Beginning of April.

† Is the Dung and Urine of Sheep, &c.

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if Wheat or Rye about Michaelmas; then it will be proper either to fold Sheep one Night on every Part of the Ground, or to carry on 10, 12, or 15 Cart-loads of Dung. This with about 60 Loads of Clay or Marl, drawn by four or five able Horses, will seldom or never fail to produce extraordinary Crops. And the Land, which before, perhaps, has not been worth Six-pence an Acre, by this Method, will be made worth ten or twelve Shillings.

WHEN Turneps are the first Crop of this new-made Land, they are to be fed off by Sheep or Bullocks, or Both, whose Treading more intimately mixes the Clay with the natural Soil, and separates its Particles in such a Manner, as to give a more easy Entrance for the tender Fibres of the Corn to extract its Virtue. Besides this, and which is of great Consequence, the Tath or Dung and Urine of Bullocks, but especially of Sheep, abounds with a saline and saponaceous Quality of experienced Service, and well known to contribute much towards Vegetation. So that Barley-crop, which should always succeed the Turneps, upon Land thus ordered, may be sown with the greatest Assurance of Success. Ten or Twelve *

B 2

Combs

* A Comb is equal to 4 Bushels, or what goes in Wales by the Name of Têl.

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Combs an Acre have been produced by this Manner of improving Land, of no more Value, in an un-improved State, than what was mentioned above.—An Increase highly sufficient to answer the Owner's or the Farmer's Charge; an Increase that redounds to the Reputation, as well as Profit, of all the Husbandmen who practise this Method; and a very great Encouragement to others to try the same.

THE Ground should be ploughed three Times for Barley; *i. e.* twice ploughed and harrowed, to make it clean and light; and then the Barley sown and turned in with the Plough. Three or four Days afterwards, the same Ground should be sown with Clover, about ten Pounds an Acre; or, which suits this Sort of Land of which I am speaking best, being for the most Part of a light Nature, about seven or eight Pounds of Clover-seed with a Peck of black and white None-such, or what is commonly called Rye-grass. Either of these helps to thicken the Sett, makes the Clover, which alone is not, a safe and rich Pasture for Cattle, and comes on somewhat earlier in the Spring than Clover alone. If the Ground be of a stiff and deep Soil, Clover alone is sufficient, because the Roots strike deep and delight in a Soil of that

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that Sort. Two good Crops of Clover may be had in one Season; or if it is fed, it affords great Plenty of Grass, far exceeding the best old Pasture-land. Wheat should generally be sown after Clover, and it will commonly produce Crops of equal Goodness to those upon Ground thoroughly Summer-tilled. The Clover-land should be covered with Dung, and *that* turned in with the Plough, the Wheat sown above and harrowed twice over. If Rye-grass be mixed with the Clover, the Land should be ploughed twice, before the Wheat is sown, in order to kill the Rye-grass Roots, otherwise they are apt to grow up with the Wheat and injure the Crop. After Wheat, Turneps should succeed again, and so on in a continual Round.

THIS is the best and most approved Method of Farming,----a Method which seldom fails of producing good Crops, and never balks the Expectation of the Farmer. There are, indeed, other Methods in Practice, such as taking a Crop of Pease or Oats after Barley: But this cannot be done without impoverishing the Land, and giving an Opportunity for many Weeds to spring up, and making it very foul.

I HAVE been speaking of the Advan-
tages

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tages of Claying or Marling old Heath-ground, such as has been almost ufelefs, and has never, or however not for a long Time, been ploughed. Instead of Brakes, Furz, or Ling, you may have the first Year a Crop of Turneps worth 30 or 40 Shillings an Acre; the next Barley worth 50 Shillings or three Pounds; then Clover, or Clover and Rye-grafs worth two Guineas an Acre; and a Crop of Wheat worth four or five Pounds. Very great Advantages indeed! And altho' Claying or Marling be a confiderable Expence, amounting to 25 or 30 Shillings an Acre; yet that Charge is answered and repaid, even in the first Crop; but more abundantly afterwards, fuch Ground producing good Crops for twenty Years fucceffively, the Virtue of Clay being known to laft fo long. Such are the Benefits of Claying old Heath-ground, which has not, for Time immemorial, been ploughed.

VERY fimilar, tho' not quite equal, are the Advantages of Claying Lands that have been impoverished, and quite worn out with continual Plowing, producing more Weeds than Corn.

ITS Effects are very conspicuous the first Year. The Crop is incredibly better; and the

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the Growth of Weeds, fo common and detrimental to poor Land, is checked. This Sort of Land may be clayed immediately after Harveft, that the Clay may be expofed to the Winter's Froft, which will make it fufficiently tender and mellow, and difpofe it to mix better with the natural Soil.—Or it may be clayed after the Barley-crop is fown. The Land, defigned for Turneps at that Time, being ploughed twice or thrice, after the Clay is laid on, requires but one Earth, and then the Turnep-feed is immediately fown. If thefe Turneps are houghed once or twice over, the Weeds are fo checked as never to appear in like manner after. So that fowing Turneps for the first Crop after Claying is certainly the moft prudent Method: For then the Barley that follows will be clean, and the Land in right order to receive Clover and Rye-grafs Seeds, with which it fhould be laid down for a Year or two; and then it will rife fit for Wheat. For it is an indisputable Maxim, that if Land be laid down foul, it will be found fo, when it comes again to be ploughed.

To plough up old Pasture-ground, when its Surface is rendered uneven by Ant-hills, or is covered with a beggarly Mofs, is a moft excellent Method. It fhould be fown with

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with white Pease or Oats in the latter End of February, or the Beginning of March. If these take, and prove a good Crop, a Stop is thereby put to the Growth of all pernicious Weeds, the Land is mellowed, and becomes fit for Wheat the Michaelmas following. As soon as the Crop is off, whether Pease or Oats, the Land should be broke up, that the Grain, which is scattered in the Time of Harvest, may have Time to spring before the Wheat is sown, else they grow together, and are injurious to each other.

AFTER Wheat, Turneps, then Barley: And if the Ground be designed for Pasture, continually afterwards, Hay or natural Grass-seeds are proper to be sown; something more in Proportion than was mentioned above. But because these are often mixed with Seeds of a different Kind, neither good in their Nature nor easily distinguished, it may be as well to sow Clover-feed together with black and white None-such and white Suckling, which make a most delicious Feed, and ever remain better than what the old Land produced before.

THESE four Crops of Pease or Oats, Wheat, Turneps and Barley are all produced

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duced without Tath or Dung, the Ground greatly improved, the Surface of it made level and beautiful, and the succeeding Pasture more in Quantity, and better in Quality. This Method consequently recommends itself to the Inhabitants of that Principality for whose Sake these Observations were made.

THE Leaves, indeed, even in Counties where Farming is well understood, generally prohibit the Breaking up of this Sort of Ground, under the Penalty of Five Pounds an Acre. But I think without Reason: For there are many Thousands of Acres capable of Improvement by this Method, of being rendered more beautiful to the Eye, and much more beneficial both to the Landlords and the Tenants.

THE Land by this Means would let for more; and it would be a more equal Way of managing it; because it would give each Part of the Ground, which has continually been under the Plow, Time to rest and recover its Strength and generating Quality.

It must, however, be remarked in Relation to old Pasture-land, that if it be not sufficiently dry, it will never quit the Cost to break it up. There are large Parcels of this

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Sort in most Counties, where Clay, or Brick-earth lies so exceedingly near the Surface, that there is scarce Mould enough to be raised for the Nourishment of Corn. Besides its Roots are so soaked in Wet, because it cannot sink through Clay, that it, in a great Measure, perishes. This Sort of Ground, for these Reasons, produces the least Grass, and is the latest of any in the Spring before it is fit feed.

BEFORE I proceed to the other Particulars, it will be proper to take Notice of the * Wheel-plow, which, according to the Opinion of many very good Judges, is greatly preferable to all other Sorts. But, if I am not mistaken, the Foot-plow is equally serviceable, with Regard to Expedition and a neat Manner. Each of them, however, is drawn by two Horses a-breast, which is, by Experience, that safest Guide, found, in many Counties, to be a Strength sufficient to break up the heaviest Land; which may serve to shew the Inexpediency of Teams of Oxen; and the Necessity of laying that absurd Method aside. One Man, with two Horses,

* *Dicendum & quæ sint duris agrestibus arma;
Quæ sine nec potuere feri, nec surgere messes.
Vomis, & inflexi primum grave robur aratri,*

*Omnia quæ multo ante memor provisæ repones,
Si te digna manet divini gloria ruris.*

VIRG.

(19)

Horses, can plough twice the Ground, in the same Space of Time, that a Man, who must have a Boy to drive the Oxen, can with a Horse and two Yokes of Oxen. The Expence of keeping two Horses is considerably less than that of keeping four Oxen and an Horse. And the Horse substituted in the Room of the Oxen may be serviceable upon a Variety of other Occasions. To these Advantages may be added that of saving a Boy's Wages and his Board.

IN breaking up the Ground the first Time after it has been clayed or marled, too great a Depth should carefully be avoided. Between four and six is a sufficient Depth; but a greater than six Inches should never be taken.

LET us now consider the Culture of Ground for Turneps. A * loose, sandy Soil is the properest for them: But where it happens to be a dense, heavy One, the Parts may be separated, and the Soil rendered lighter, by the laying on of Sand, according to the Practice of many Farmers, who are situated on the Sea Shore. If the Land is light, it must have three Earths; but, if heavy, † four.

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* *Solutre & solutum res utraq; (speaking of Rapes and Turneps) desiderat, nec densa nascitur humo.* Colum. 199.

† *Subactum solum pluribus iterationibus aratri vel rustri,* &c. Id.

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The first Earth, in General, should be given in *March*; the second after Barley-sowing is over; the third a Fortnight after; and the Fourth a Fortnight after that. Turnep-feed in Ground that is remarkably dry may be sown in the Middle of *May*; tho' in some Places 'tis the general Rule to sow them from the 4th of *June* to the 27th. But those sown from the 14th to the 25th are thought to do the best.*

It requires a good deal of Practice to sow † Turnep-feed well. A skilful and experienced Person will sow a whole Acre with a Pint; whereas a Person, not used to this Business, will hardly make a Quart or three Pints do.

The Houghing of Turneps requires a particular Consideration. It is a Rule, in all Parts where the Method here recommended prevails, to have a Hoe, whose Helve or Shaft is three Foot and an Half or four Foot long, and whose Head is eleven Inches broad; and

* O. S.

† As Farmers Servants and Day-labourers have not been used to sow and hough Turneps; it will be proper for three or four Gentlemen, for the Benefit of their Tenants, to hire a Journeyman Gardener for nine or ten Weeks. And if he makes it his Business to direct one Farmer one Half Day, and Another another, the Mystery will be revealed to Half a County, by the Means of one Man, in one Season. Tho' I cannot help thinking but that I have been sufficiently clear and explicit upon this, as well as every other Particular, to supersede the Necessity of any such Assistance.

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and four, or not more than four Inches and an Half deep. And the Distance of the Turneps left for a Crop, One from another, every Way, should be fourteen or fifteen Inches. Turneps should be houghed twice; the first Time, a Month or five Weeks after they are sown; and the second Time, about a Fortnight afterwards. Tho' the Expence of thus Houghing them twice, is not less, in some Places, than five, six or seven Shillings an Acre; yet the Goodness and great Value of the Crops make very ample Amends for this great Expence. People who have attempted, in several Parts of this Kingdom, the Propagation of Turneps, have despised the Directions given them about Houghing, probably, on Account of the great Expence of it; and their Endeavours, consequently, have never been attended with Success. But if Turneps are suffered to grow up without Houghing, they are perfectly choaked by Weeds, and can never be of any Size. Whereas if they are houghed, in the Manner here directed, the following Consequences must flow from it. The Ground will be cleared of Weeds, greatly enriched and meliorated; and the Apple of one Turnep will be larger, more juicy, and in every Respect preferable to the Apples of twenty Turneps that are never houghed. If therefore

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fore any of the Persons, for whose Service these Papers are drawn up, should endeavour to cultivate the growth of Turneps, let them carefully observe the Directions here given about Houghing, otherwise their Expectations, how sanguine soever, will infallibly be disappointed. But if they follow this Advice, their Ground will be like a well-cultivated Garden, with Regard to Weeds and Richness of Soil. They will have fine Feed in the Depth of Winter, when there is no Grass, and when Hay is frequently very scarce. And this Food, I mean Turneps, is preferable to both: For it keeps the Bodies of Beasts cool, and fattens them incredibly, much faster than the finest Hay. It will, however, be very proper to give them a little Hay, every Night and Morning, when the Weather is very inclement and severe. If the Crops of Turneps is in low, moist Ground, it will be the best Way to pull them up, and feed the Bullocks with them in some dry Close, that is contiguous. But when the Turneps are in hilly, light Grounds, the best Way will be to detach and fence a Part of the Enclosure with Hurdles, and to turn the Stock that is making up for Market into that separated Part; and when they have fed upon the Turneps in this Spot, not too long, the same Method must be continued

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tinued till the whole Close is fed off. If this Direction is not observed, a small Number of Bullocks will tread and destroy a large Tract of Turneps in a Day or Two, and will be perfectly cloyed with them; whereas if they are permitted to eat of but a small Portion, at a Time, every Spot even of the same Field, becomes a fresh Course, and will be a Sort of Whet to them. The Reason why Turneps are to be pulled up in a stiff, heavy Soil, and fat upon some Ground adjoining, is because low, moist Ground should be trampled as little as possible, to prevent too great a Cohesion of the Parts: But when the Soil is loose and sandy, it cannot be trod too much: For the more it is hardened and cemented, the better, the more excellent the Compost. And where the Soil is light, the Feeding the Turneps off will greatly enrich it.

BULLOCKS that are fed in a House will be fat much sooner than those that are fed abroad. Twenty Acres will fatten a Score in a House; and the Offal will be sufficient for a Score Sheep and as many Steers. Less than thirty Acres will not fatten the same Number in the open Field. Nay some Bullocks will require thirty-five or forty Acres. But then it will take up two Men's Time and a Horse to tend those in the House: And the original Expence of

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of a Bullock House, the constant one of keeping it in Repair, and the Carrying out the Dung are very considerable: so that I am inclined to determine in Favor of Feeding *sub Die*. But take which you will, the Gain, upon a Medium, will be five Pounds a Bullock.

As sending Bullocks away lean is a great Loss to the Inhabitants of any Country, I must beg Leave to dwell a little longer upon this Particular, which, when we shall have taken a View of the many and great Advantages arising from fattening them before they are sent away, will appear to deserve our Consideration more than may at first be imagined. Bullocks that are bought in lean in the Month of *September* or *October*, and fed upon Turneps till the Beginning of *April*, and then upon Clover and Rye-grass till the latter End of *May* or the Middle of *June*, will pay to a careful and judicious Person, from four to seven Pounds an Head for Keeping, Attendance and Interest of Money; the Land, which has been impoverished by a wrong Management and Want of Manure, will by this Means be greatly improved, and of Course produce much better Crops. And, indeed, it is clear, beyond all Dispute, that Farming without the Assistance of Grazing or a Dairy cannot

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cannot be a very advantageous Business. But yet the Generality of Farmers, who proceed in the Manner here directed, prompted to it by Custom and Example, without considering Causes and Effects, ascribe their great Success to the Growing of Corn alone, without tracing, tho' the more remote and less apparent, yet the greatest, not to say the only Cause of it.

THERE is but one Objection against pursuing this Method of fattening Bullocks in *Wales*, viz. The great Distance from the Metropolis. The Driving fat Bullocks such a Number of Miles, it is apprehended, would reduce them so much as to render them unsaleable. This Assertion is more plausible than true. But if it was really Fact, the Inconveniency might be * removed in the following Manner. When the Drove of Beasts is got within forty or fifty Miles of *London*; the Drover may be directed by his Employers to halt for ten Days or a Fortnight: By this Means their Beasts will be in better Order, when they come to *Smithfield*, than those
D whose

* And if there was a constant Supply of fat Bullocks, Markets would be created in *Wales*, as they have been in other Parts of the Kingdom, where People, even those of large Substance, lived the greatest Part of the Year upon Salt Meat, which lays a Foundation for the Scurvy, and other Chronical Diseases, that render Life very burdensome, not to say intolerable.

whose whole Journey is not above 130 or 140 Miles.

BUT to show farther the Expediency of fattening our Bullocks at Home, and to put the Matter in the strongest Light, I beg leave to mention a Fact, which happened about five Years ago, when a Parcel of lean *Welsh* Bullocks, which came from the Isle of *Anglesea*, were sold at *Barnet* near *London*, and after that sent a Hundred and twenty Miles from *London* to be fattened. By the Time they were brought to the *Grazier's*, they stood him in 6*l.* 10*s.* a Bullock. After they were fattened, they were sent to *Stevenage*, where they were sold, one with another, at twelve Pounds a Bullock. And the *Grazier* said that he never fed any Bullocks, whether *Scotch* or *English*, that answered so well. I have often heard Others, as good Judges in these Matters as any Men whatever, say that that they preferred the *Welsh* to all other Bullocks.

Now if the *Welsh* Farmers, instead of sending away their Bullocks lean, would fatten them in *Wales*, they could never fail of a more advantageous Market than all other People whatever. For they would be able to feed vastly cheaper in *Wales* than the *English*

lish *Graziers* possibly can; and they would buy the Bullocks, for which the *English* give Six Pounds ten Shillings, for five Pounds. So that if Bullocks fed in *Wales* were sold fifty Shillings a Bullock cheaper in *Smithfield* than those of the same Size fed in *England*, the *Welsh*-*Graziers* would still be greater Gainers than the *English*. But an *English* *Grazier*, who has 400 Acres of Ground in his Hands, gets, one Year with Another, 120*l.* by this one Branch of his Trade. A *Welsh* *Grazier* therefore, who occupies the same Number of Acres, might still be a much more considerable Gainer.

INSTEAD then of sending away our Bullocks lean, let us not only feed *them* at Home, but buy from *Scotland* and * *Ireland* for the same advantageous Purpose.

THOSE Counties in *Wales*, which are the remotest from *Scotland*, are but a Little, if any Thing, farther situated from it, than the *English* Counties, in which great Drovers of *Scotch* Cattle are annually brought, and afterwards fattened for the use of our great Metropolis. For the Future therefore it is hoped

Persons

* I am aware that the Importation of black Cattle is, at present, prohibited by an Act of Parliament. But if five or Six of our Representatives would move the House of Commons for a Repeal of it, I am of Opinion that a Proposal, so conducive to the Interest of the Nation, would not be opposed.

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Persons of Fortune will depute Men of Integrity and Experience to go into the North to buy in large Numbers of lean Bullocks—

Suppose, at first, we bring Home but 5000 every Autumn, and that we get no more than 3*l.* a Bullock by them; the whole Gain, besides the Improvement of several Thousands of Acres of Land, would be £. 15,000 0 0

The same N^o from *Ireland*, 15,000 0 0

10,000 Home-breds, at 4*l.* a } 40,000 0 0
Bullock, Gain

Butter ———— 20,000 0 0

Corn that might be exported }
upon a very moderate } 400,000 0 0
Calculation

£. 490,000 0 0

N. B. Sheep, Wool, Hogs, &c. are not taken into the Account. And the Advantages, arising from the three first Articles, are laid so low, that, if the Gentlemen and Farmers in *Wales* were unanimously to proceed upon this Plan, they might be laid, without Exaggeration, at three Times the Sum, or a Million and a Half.

If we fattened our Bullocks, Sheep and Hogs at Home, we should, in all Probability, reap greater Advantages than those already mentioned. As *Milford* is the safest Harbor in

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in his Majesty's Dominions, and might, upon the Plan here proposed, exhibit Provisions of every Sort cheaper than the Ports of *London*, *Southampton*, *Portsmouth*, *Plymouth*, or even *Cork*; why might we not hope, if an honest and impartial Representation of that Truth was laid before the Lords of the Admiralty, that our Ships of War would be ordered to take in their Provisions at *Milford*? It would be very practicable to furnish our Navy with Provisions of every Kind, at this Place, 15 *per Cent.* cheaper than in any of the Places where the King's Ships are now victualled. And if the *Bristol* and *Liverpool* Merchant-Ships could once be accommodated in this Harbor, with all, as they can, even now, with some Necessaries, upon easier Terms than they can at other Ports, the Demands at this Place, not only for the Necessaries, but even for the Conveniencies and Elegancies of Life, would be incredible. But it is beside my Purpose to point out the many Advantages that would arise to the Principality of *Wales*, all the West, and a great Part of the North of *England*, from a flourishing Trade at *Milford*, that being undertaken by a considerable Merchant in *London*, a Native of *Wales*, who intends very shortly to publish his Thoughts upon this important Subject. In the mean Time our Countrymen will do well to peruse Mr. Whitaker's

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Whitaker's Sentiments upon it. I have not the Honor to be acquainted with that Gentleman; but from a View of his Plan, he appears to be a Person of uncommon Sagacity and very enlarged Way of thinking. And I heartily hope every Gentleman, who has it in his Power, will facilitate his laudable Endeavors, as much as possible.

BUT, *Ne Sutor ultra Crepidam*— I will confine myself to that Subject which my Situation in life has given me Opportunities to * study both in Theory and Practice.

LET us now consider the Advantages arising from Sowing Clover and Rye-grass Seeds. They are indeed, so great, that Little or Nothing is to be done in Farming without them. By laying down a Piece of Ground, in the Manner above mentioned, with Clover or Rye-grass, or rather with a Mixture of both, in the Proportion of Eight Pounds of Clover and Half a Peck of Rye-grass to an Acre, the Farmer will always be sure of fine Crops. For as frequent Rest is, by this Means, given to the Land, it must of Course recover its lost Rankness and Fertility especially if we take into the Account the Circumstance of Feeding it off, by which

* *Studio minuente Laborem.* Or,

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it is surprisingly enriched. By this Means the Farmer, who may, perhaps, have no great Quantity of Meadow Ground, will have Plenty of fine Hay for his Horses: And in the Spring the Clover and Rye-grass will come up three Weeks or a Month before his natural Grass: So that as soon as his Turneps are fed off, his Bullocks that he is preparing for early Markets, will *live in Clover*, and not only delight the Eye of every Spectator, but make a great Addition to the Owner's Wealth. And all those, who observe these, Directions, will always be amply rewarded by the grateful Earth; which will every Year, produce them a Crop of Wheat or Barley, Oats or Rye, Turneps or Clover: So that if our Lands do not, without Intermision, furnish us with Crops of Grain, or which is equivalent, large Quantities of artificial Grass; it is owing to our Ignorance and Sloth, and because we do not properly cultivate * them.

THIS Method of sowing Turneps, Barley, Clover and Wheat successively, &c. is a Method so deservedly approv'd in some Counties; where tho' the Lands in general are now lett at 10 or 12 Shillings an Acre; yet

* *Non igitur fatigatione, quemadmodum Plurimi crediderunt, nec senio; sed nostra scilicet inertia minus benigna nobis arva respondent. Licet enim majorem fructum percipere si frequenti & tempestiva & modica stercoratione terra resoveatur.* Col.

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yet the Farmers are allowed to make upon a Medium, three Times the Rent, of their Corn, the Profits of their fat Bullocks, Sheep, Dairy of Cows and Hogs. A Judgment may be formed of the Number of Acres annually to be appropriated to Turneps, Barley, Clover and Wheat from this general Direction.

SUPPOSE a Farm, *E. G.* consists of 200 Acres of ploughed Ground, exclusive of old Pasture, it cannot be managed to greater Advantage than by having 50 Acres of Turneps, 50 Acres of Barley, 50 Acres of Clover, and 50 Acres of Wheat. It must, however, be supposed that the Farmer makes a sufficient Quantity of Muck to spread over the Clover-land; otherwise it will be as well to sow Part of it with Barley, Oats or White-pease. Let it likewise be supposed that this Farm, now under Consideration, is what is, in many Places, called, a Dairy-farm, where there are fifty or sixty Cows kept. Fifty Acres of Turneps are highly sufficient for their Winter-provision, and are productive of as much Profit to the Farmer as the Summer-pasture. By this Means the Cows will always be kept in good Order, without Hay, and will be found as profitable in the Winter as the Summer, if that cold Season

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be the Time chosen by the Farmer for their Coming in with Calf.

I have known many Farmers lett a Dairy of Cows, thus managed, for three Pounds a Year, and sometimes for three Pounds ten Shillings a Cow, which are very considerable Sums, and very often equal to the Rent of the whole Farm.

THERE are some Instances, indeed, where the Summer-pasture so greatly over-ports the ploughed Ground, that the Farmer is obliged to sow almost Half of it with Turneps, to enable him to fodder his Stock in Winter. In that Case the Method mentioned above is not altogether an eligible One. But in all other Cases it may be imitated as nearly as the Nature of the Farm, and the Convenience of the Tenant will admit.

HAVING mentioned a Dairy, I would beg leave to recommend the Barrel-churn, which is in the Form of a common Barrel, with Pieces of Wood called Dashers in the Inside, to give a Check to the Motion of the Cream. They have Irons fixed to each End, and the largest of them are turned by two Men, after the Manner of common Grinding Stones. Some of these Churns are of so large a Size

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as to churn four or five Stone of Butter at a Time.

THIS Method of keeping a Dairy of Cows, or fattening of Bullocks, or both, is so advantageous and necessary towards producing good Crops of Corn and Turneps, that one Branch cannot be carried on without the other.

BUT there is another material Article, which, as it greatly contributes towards enriching of Land, deserves to be attentively considered, I mean the Tath of Sheep.

WITH Respect to the growing of Corn or Turneps, the Benefit, arising from the Tath of a thousand Sheep, is generally laid at fifty Pounds a Year. But with Regard to these harmless Animals it is to be observed that there are frequently large Tracts of Land, which lye uncultivated for their Feed and Pasturage, and which are thought absolutely necessary to continue in that State, otherwise it is imagined that such a Number could not possibly be kept. But I am of Opinion, that if the Ground were ploughed and cultivated, in the Manner mentioned in this short Treatise, a much larger Number might be maintained; which would not only be a Benefit to the Farmer and Owner, with Respect to the Wool

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Wool and Lamb, but with Respect also to Growth of Corn and Turneps.

IF a Sheep-walk is the Property of one Owner, exclusive of Common-rights, I think there can be no Objection to a Proposal for inclosing it. Sometimes, indeed, it happens that Sheep-walks are upon Commons, to which many others have a Right; and in that Case they must remain as they are, unless the several Proprietors agree to the Expedient of inclosing. But where there is no Objection of this Sort, there are the strongest Reasons for adopting the Method I have been recommending.

F I N I S.

E R R A T U M.

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