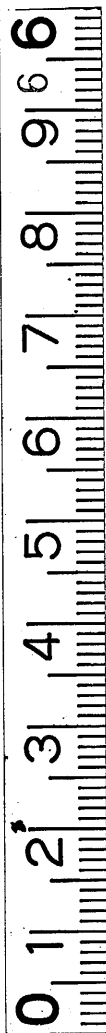


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A ^N
LETTER
TO A
MEMBER
OF THE
House of Commons

ON A
PROPOSAL for Regulating and
Advancing the WOOLLEN-
MANUFACTORY, &c.

Given to the Members at the Commons
Door, the 25th. of January, 1697.

L O N D O N,
Printed for Geo. Huddleston, at the Black-
a-moore's-Head, near Exeter-Change in
the Strand. 1698.

(3)

LETTER

MEMBER

OF THE

House of Commons,

ON A

*Proposal for Regulating and Advancing the
Woollen-Manufactory, &c.*

S I R,

I have read, and here give you
my Thoughts of the Pro-
posal you sent me, relating
to the *Woollen-Manufactory* : First
It convinces me, that without the

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Experience and Information of practical Heads, Men of the best Understanding, cannot form Laws and Methods, for improving our Trade and Navigation: If what this honest Clothier, for so I take him to be, hath offered, was improv'd by a Law, I think it would establish and advance the *Woollen-Manufactory* of *England*, more than all the Laws made these hundred Years. Thus far I am of the Proposer's Opinion, as it relates to the working Part; but I doubt he is short in his Method for preventing the Exports of Wooll.

His Expedients for balancing, as he calls the Exports of *Woollen-Manufactory* from *England* and *Ireland*, seem such as I should

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should think our Friends in *Weland* will think reasonable.

There is only two Things that want Explanation: *First*, Whether Six Pence a Pound should be charged on *Irish-Frize*, that would be equal to a Prohibition, the Commodity not being of Value to bear it?

The other Thing to be explain'd, is, Whether this Duty should be charg'd by our Parliament here, or by the Parliament of *Ireland*?

I believe all Nations in the World that have heard of our Constitution, think us the happiest People under Heaven; the way to keep us so, is to secure
cure

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sure our Brethren in *Ireland*,
the Right they have to the same
Constitution.

Now I think the Soul of our
Constitution is, that no *Eng-
lish* Man is bound by any Law
made, where he hath not a Re-
presentative.

Both Kingdoms hold Parlia-
ments; let us be careful of Par-
liaments: By our supporting
theirs, we secure our own; but
if either Kingdom makes Laws
for the other, we invade the
Rights of *English* Men, by de-
nying them their Representa-
tives where Laws are made to
oblige them.

I have

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I have often admir'd the Wif-
dom of the *Romans*, in making
the Privilege of a *Roman* Uni-
versal, through their whole Con-
quest. The poorest Mechanick,
though in a Kingdom governed
by their own Laws, not those
of *Rome*, yet a *Roman*, had the
Privilege of being try'd accord-
ing to the *Roman* Constitution;
why should not we that have a
better Foundation than Heathen
Rome, be as good Men, that is,
as Careful of the Rights and Li-
berties of our Nation?

Let us not then Consent to
have any thing imposed on *Eng-
lish* Men, where-ever they are, that
we would not indure our selves.
I am sure we should not submit
to a Law made in *Ireland*; and

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must not be by driving out the *English*, in my weak Judgment. It hath been always the Mistake of *England*, in not giving In-
 couragement for more of our Nation to plant there; perhaps a thousand Families might have grown to a Strength that would have prevented the frequent Rebellions, that have cost the Lives of hundred thousands of *English* Men. We must, for our own sakes, keep *Ireland* out of *Irish* and Foreign Hands; and that we cannot do, but by our own People. It would be unnatural to them, and dangerous to our selves, to establish them in Slavery; and it is so, where Men are governed by Laws they have no hand in making. The Infal-
 lible Author teacheth us better Doctrine, where he bids us, *So speak*

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*speak, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the Law of Liberty, that is our Right may no hand in-
 vade it. I am,*

S I R,

Your Obliged Servant,

F. B.

F I N I S.

(13)

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and so he, as that that shall

SIR

Your Obedient servant

W. W. W.