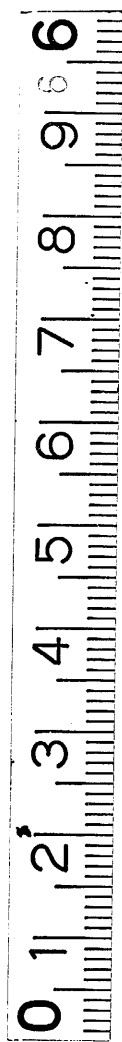


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AN ⁿ
ESSAY
UPON
TRADE,
AND
Publick Credit ;

SH E W I N G

The Advantages of the *East-India* Prohibition, Bankrupts Affidavits, &c.

Dedicated to Mr. T. S. an eminent Citizen, and an universal Merchant ; and submitted to the Consideration of all fair Traders, Manufacturers, Artificers, &c. both in City and Country.

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A N
E S S A Y
U P O N
T R A D E,
A N D
Publick Credit, &c.

S I R,



A M induc'd to let this launch forth into the World under the Umbrage of your Protection and Patronage; 1st, As you are an Universal Merchant, and therefore a Gentleman that understands Trade; and 2dly, As you are famous for inculcating Moderation, and consequently

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(if in Earnest) you must detest that ungenerous Treatment (to give it no harsher a Term) which two *Linnen-Drapers*, not far from *Guild-Hall*, Mr. *Smith* at the *Feathers* in *Cheapside*, Mr. *Kent* at the *Salutation* in *Newgate-street*, Mr. *Smith* at the *Mitre* in *Fleetstreet*, and many more eminent Citizens lately met with from the late Advocates for the *Worthy Merchants*, and for no other Reason, but because the said Citizens voted according to their Consciences for *one*, or more of the old Members.

It is presum'd, you are not ignorant how industrious the Party of Modern Whigs are to persuade the World, that they are the only Patriots and Conservators of Trade and Credit, and that none but themselves are qualify'd to be Directors in the grand Affair of Peace and War; nor can you but know what Enemies these Gentlemen are to the 8th and 9th Articles, and how they demur, whether War is not more eligible than Peace? And whether no Trade be't far better than a free and open Trade with *France*? And as they are now violently averse to the *French* Trade, so once upon a Time they made the Cheapness of *Indian* Manufactures (with respect to their prime Cost) a Pretence for several popular Complaints and Remonstrances against the said Trade, and at last they obtain'd a Prohibition, by which our *East-India* Company are oblig'd to export, or sell for Exportation all wrought *Silks*, *Bengals*, *Herba Taffaties*, and
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all painted, stain'd, and strip'd *Callicoes* of the Product of *China* and *India*; and this now is the present State and Condition of our ancient Establish'd *East-India* Trade.

But with Deference to the said Gentlemen, were not both these Trades (*viz.* the *French* and *India*) now so pretendedly pernicious, carry'd on till 1688, without Prohibitions? And yet, when was Credit and fair Trading more flourishing than at that very Time? And had not the Kingdom then abundantly more substantial Wealth to boast of, than now it can pretend to? Unless our *worthy* Merchants can demonstrate, that Paper's more valuable than Specie; and that the Nation's the richer for being mortgag'd to Perpetuity; and that the Landed Interest thrives best for Wool's yielding but half Price; and in fine, that honest undesigning Creditors are enrich'd, to be paid with Affidavits, whilst crafty Assignees and Commissioners sink pretended Insolvents Estates, or that Multitudes of Bankrupts indicate a florid Trade, and innumerable Debts cancell'd and discharg'd by downright Dint of Swearing, denote *Halcyon* Days, and prosperous Times to the fair Trader.

But to return to the Matter in Hand, the *East-India* Trade; and for Argument Sake supposing it to be that pernicious Trade, as the Party pretend, it then would, and must infallibly have reduc'd the Kingdom to a most feeble, and languid State and Condition, long
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before 1688; but as the Nation had two such pernicious Trades (if such they be) preying upon her Vitals at one and the self-same Time, she must have been doubly ruin'd, and in a far worse Condition than a Bankrupt, who can make his Affidavit supply all (and more than all) Deficiencies; for her Case would very aptly have represented a most deplorable Insolvent, that is ruin'd by real Losses and providential Accidents, and has too much Probity to give any undue Preference (*or underhand secundum Con's*) and therefore, because special Poor, and simply Honest, is not adjudg'd worthy to come in for the Benefits of the Act; but, after all, had this been *Britain's* Case; nay, if it had not been the direct contrary, she could no more have rais'd and furnish'd six or seven Millions *per Annum* (as she lately did) than 'tis possible to sail over Land, or navigate to *East India*, without doubling the Cape, or stretching to the Southward of *America*.

And again, supposing or granting, that *Britain* might find her Account in prohibiting the cheap and useful Manufactures of *China* and *India*, provided all *Europe* would agree to do the same Thing, (*and observe this Agreement religiously*) yet, as *Britain* is a trading Nation (and has an ancient *East-India* Company Establish'd by Royal Authority) she acts most apparently against her own Interest, to be singular in this Matter; and

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and this is now self-evident from Time and Experience; for since the Prohibition, the *Dutch* are in a manner the only Chapmen at our *East-India* Companies Candle, for the prohibited Goods; and consequently these are now sold, and exported at a Price far below any *European* Manufactures of the like Quality, Goodness, and Usefulness; by which *Holland* gets, and *Britain* loses, in the following Particulars.

First. We may be said to lose, and the *Dutch* to get by the said Goods, so much as the Price they now sell for, and are exported at, is less than what they were wont to sell for when not prohibited.

Secondly. These cheap prohibited Goods enable the *Dutch* entirely to supplant several of our own Manufactures, (*viz.* those of *Normich*, *Spittle-Fields*, &c.) in all Foreign Markets.

Thirdly. As our substantial Manufactures, (*viz.* *Broad-Cloths*, *Mow-Hairs*, *Camblets*, &c.) are proper for Outsides, so the prohibited Manufactures of *China* and *India* are suitable for Linings, and very fit to be made up, and to go along with our own Product; and therefore when we permitted these Linings to be remanufactur'd at Home, it caus'd a great Demand here from Abroad, (*viz.* from *Germany*, *Denmark*, &c.) for Beds, and all forts of Household Furniture; by which Multitudes of our own People were then employ'd,

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ploy'd, (as Upholsterers, Embroiderers, Fringe-Makers, Weavers, Spinsters, Carvers, Gilders, Painters, Dyers Callenders, Tape-Makers, Frame-Makers, Joiners, Founders, Smiths, &c.) but by the Prohibition, this Branch of Trade is also lost, and given away to the Dutch, though most profitable and advantageous.

As for Example, supposing before the Prohibition, a Bed made up here, and sold for Germany, with a Cloth or Mow-Hair Outside, and a China Peylong or Paunch Lining; * whatsoever this Outside sold for Abroad was all clear Profit to the Nation, the Materials, Labour, &c. being our own, or all within ourselves; and again, whatsoever this Inside or Lining then sold for (deducting only the first Cost) was also so much gain'd and added to the Publick Stock; for Freight, Custom, and other contingent Charges, which enhanc'd the then Price, was likewise within ourselves; and lastly, a very great Profit did then moreover accrue to the Kingdom, from the many Hands, Trades, Artificers, &c. as above, that were and must be employ'd in working and making up every such Outside, and Lining into a Bed.

* N. B. Peylongs and Paunches are the same Length and Breadth, (viz. 10 Yards long, Yard wide) the prime Cost of the first six, and the last about four Shillings per Piece, and when dy'd and callender'd they commonly sold here for about 35 s. and 23 s. per Piece.

Fourthly,

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Fourthly. The prohibited *India Goods* formerly paid a very high Duty or Custom to the Government, not only when worn and consum'd at Home (according to Law) but also when remanufactur'd here by our own People (as above) for Exportation; for no Drawback was then allow'd upon *India Goods* that were thus remanufactur'd into Beds, &c. Whereas this Duty is now not only lost to the Government, but the Publick is even put to a considerable Expence to get shut of it. But whether a *Junto* of sage Cits made a better Bargain, when they gave a crafty Projector a thousand Pounds, and two valuable Leaden Pipes, to deprive the Citizens as well as the poor Prisoners of the wholesome Conduit Water?

Fifthly. The prohibited Manufactures of *China* and *India* often find their Way back from *Holland*, by clandestine Reimportations, by which the fair Trader is greatly damnify'd; nor is it an inconsiderable Loss to *Britain*, to pay the *Dutch Cent. per Cent.* Profit for the same Goods she sells to them, and to sink the Custom into the Bargain; and moreover, *Holland* (by reason of the Prohibition) furnishes us with several of its dear Manufactures, viz. *Dutch Checks, Podiffways, &c.* to supply the Stead of cheap *Indian Allejars, China Grograms, &c.* nor can any Doubt be made by those that are conversant in this Trade, but that *Dutch Podiffways*

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diffways are also for the most part smuggled in upon us, and thereby save the Custom of 14 Shillings per Pound Weight.

Sixthly. Besides what *Britain* loses, and the *Dutch* get by such clandestine Importations, &c. as above, 'tis no small Sum that the prohibited Goods are the Cause of being annually expended in *Holland*, by our Mariners and others, whose Occasions call them thither; for 'tis well known, that nothing is more convenient, and more coveted, than several Species of *Indian* Manufactures for Handkerchiefs, &c. nor are any *European* Manufactures so fitly adapted for the Use and Wear of Sea-faring Men (in several Cases) as *Indian Allejars, Chellows, Chirconnes, &c.*

And after all, can there be a stronger Argument in Favour of our *East-India* Trade, than what its Adversaries object against it, *viz.* the Cheapness of its Manufactures? For 1st, This proves, that what we formerly wore and consum'd at Home, of the said Manufactures, cost the Nation but a Trifle, (*comparatively to what they do now.*) And 2dly, Their Cheapness renders them capable of bearing and paying a very high Duty or Custom (*and such as would be tantamount to a Prohibition, were it laid upon any other Goods.*) And 3dly, Their Cheapness makes 'em capable of great Improvements, by which many of our own People formerly were employ'd and got their Bread, as *Upholsterers, Embroi-*

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Embroiderers, Dyers, &c. as is before observ'd. And *Fourthly,* The Cheapness of our prohibited *Indian* Goods, as to their first Cost, proves, that what we formerly exported (tho' in Bale or Bulk) yielded a great Profit to the Nation; and therefore, if it be consider'd, how capable they are (by reason of their Cheapness) of being many Ways improv'd and remanufactur'd here, and consequently the various Profits and Advantages that the Publick might make of 'em upon that Account; *Q.* Whether they are not preferable to some domestick Manufactures of a modern Extraction? But be this as it will, 'tis evident that the *Dutch* (who are allow'd to be very good Judges of their own Interest in all Matters of Trade) are so far from following our Example, that they now give their own People all imaginable Liberty and Encouragement to retail and improve our prohibited *East-India* Goods in *Holland* (and for the very Reason that we prohibit 'em, that is to say, their Cheapness) and who can blame the *Dutch*, or charge them with ill Conduct in this Matter? for hereby they are enabled, not only to under-work, and under-sell us in many valuable Articles abroad, but also to extend and enlarge their Commerce, even within our own Island; but however, tho' we now put our *East-India* Company under an invincible Necessity of selling their prohibited Goods, far below the Price of

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any *European* Manufactures of the like Quality and Usefulness: And moreover, tho' we do thereby enrich *Holland* at our own Cost, Loss, and Expence, yet let it not be said that the Prohibition was calculated to serve a foreign Interest; but since our pretended Conservators of Trade and Credit value themselves upon their Infallibility, and still make a Merit of their past Conduct in this very Case, and never yet were so ingenuous as to own themselves guilty of the least Error, let them have the sole Praise; for is it not evident, that the Government loses a very great Duty or Custom, which the prohibited Goods paid when permitted to be worn at Home, and remanufactur'd here by our own People for Exportation? And don't those who now take a Trip from hence to *Holland*, commonly invest what Money they can in the said Goods? (at least so far as will pass at the Custom-House for their own Use and Wear) and are not dear *Dutch* Manufactures even smuggled in upon us, to supply the Stead of the cheap Manufactures of *China* and *India*? And moreover, don't the latter (*viz.* the prohibited Goods) with a non obstante to the Prohibition, frequently find their Way back from *Holland* by clandestine Reimportations? And in short, these, and such like, are the natural Effects, and valuable Advantages of the *East-India* Prohibition. So that in fine, we ought to thank the Party, if the Kingdom

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Kingdom is enrich'd by giving the *Dutch* Cent. per Cent. Profit for the very same Commodity it sells to them? And more especially if it be consider'd, that we are thereby not only supplanted in our Foreign Trade, but that the Custom is sunk into the Bargain. But let that be as it will; Q. Whether *Britain* mayn't be said to act contrary to the grand Law of Self-Preservation, thus to flight and give away the cheap Manufactures of *India*, and to wear and consume in their Stead the dear Manufactures of *Holland*? However, tho' the Prohibition has its malevolent Effects, yet does it not blow with a fair and prosperous Gale, and full freighted with Profit for *Holland*? But as *Britain's* Advisers in this Case, are still most ardently in Love with their old Scheme; and since they now insist, that nothing can restore her to her former florid State of Health, but modellizing the *French* Trade by their *India* Plan, I shall here briefly hint a few Modern Facts (fresh and recent in the Minds and Hearts of all honest *Britains*) more compleatly to exemplify and illustrate the Loyalty, Justice, and Fidelity of the Party; for, to their immortal Glory, and never-dying Fame, they pretended to promote the Honour of their Sovereign, the Wealth of the Nation, and the Tranquillity and Happiness of their Fellow-Subjects, by Ways and Means never before thought or heard of.

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And 1st. These Gentlemen by a bright and glaring Example, taught Mankind how to express Loyalty in Miniature, viz. by setting up Dictator Sir Gil—t, and Directors Sir Will—m, Mr. Nat—l, &c. to be Rulers and Directors of the Kingdom.

2^{dly}. The ruling Elders of the Party (*by dint of a superiour Understanding*) found out how to add *Lustre* to the Throne, and Wealth to the Nation at one and the same Time, and by one and the same Act, viz. by replenishing the Kingdom (at a vast Expence to the Publick) with a numerous prolifick Tribe of indolent ultramarine Beggars; and by the by, did not this redundant Act of Supererogation most wonderfully *elevate* and *surprize*? For were not our Native Poor then starving for Want of Bread? And were not also the Wives and Dependents of our own Mariners (for Want of their dearly earn'd Pay) become an insupportable Burthen to the Parishes of St. Katharine's, Shadwell, Southmark, &c.

3^{dly}. The *Kit-Cat* and *Junto* taught us how to gratify a *faithful* Ally, and to enrich a *Loyal* Ge—l for Life, &c. by a Method most compendious, viz. by employing Foreigners to make Arms, Tents, and other Utensils of War, and remitting *against Law* the Publick Cash and Taxes * to *Holland*,

* Q. Whether these Taxes were not far less burthensom to the Subject, than either Ship or Chimney Money?

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in order to make Prompt-Payment for the same; and here, in the Dialect of a Modern Whig, give me Leave to say; what tho' this illegal Act oblig'd our own Artificers (viz. the *Gunsmiths*, &c.) to quit their Native Kingdom, and fly to a Commonwealth for Employment? yet did not the *Palatine* Importation abundantly over-balance this Loss? And again, what though our own People were ruin'd, by being compell'd to give long Credit to the Government, whilst the Nation's Money was thus sent Abroad? yet did not the immense Good done to the common Old Cause, by thus employing the *Dutch*, &c. sufficiently atone for the petty Inconveniencies sustain'd at the same Time by our own Tradesmen and Artificers at Home? And in short, who but such Infidels as High-Flyers (that make Reason a Guide in Matters obvious to Sense) do deny, that we Whigs han't an indefeasable Hereditary Right (deriv'd to us from our *Oliverian* Progenitors) to dispense with all Laws whenever we think fit (and more especially a Law of our own making;) and in fine, tho' the Law ought to bind, and be observ'd by, such Malignants as *Non-Jurors*, yet, who but an inveterate Enemy to Re—on—Pri—s, does pretend to say, that Modern Whig-Managers and Directors are oblig'd to observe any Law, Rule, or Precept?

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ably. The Kingdom is not a little indebted to the pregnant Genius of the Party of Self-call'd *Worthy Merchants* (viz. to Sir *Gilbert Heath*, Mr. *Nathaniel Gold*, Mr. *John Ward*, &c.) for teaching and instructing the trading World, by a bright and glaring Example, how to promote Trade and Credit *the shortest Way*, viz. by giving an ample Dispensation to crafty Knaves to bamboozle at Pleasure, the honest, industrious, and undesigning Part of Mankind, with partial, equivocating, and unconscionable Affidavits; as for Instance, (once upon a Time) Sir *Gilbert*, Mr. *Nathaniel*, &c. were so industrious as to cause no less than two private Acts or Laws to pass (*ex post facto*) in order to chastise the Bankrupt *Brerewood* for Forswearing himself; and no doubt, but they had most *powerful* Motives, and very *ponderous* Reasons, for being thus indefatigable in a private Case; for (to the Surprise and Admiration of all By-Standers) after they had detected and made an Example of this single Bankrupt, for his deliberate Perjury, and intended Fraud, they became so wonderfully illuminated, and such profound Ken-Specks, as to pretend to see from a new Light within, that giving and granting all other Bankrupts a plenary Indulgence to swear at large, (or to box the Compass with equivocating Affidavits) and therewith to pay and discharge immense Debts,

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Debts, would prove, *in futuro*, a Remedy most effectual, and an Antidote infallible against the deliberate Frauds and Perjuries of crafty, designing, and unconscionable Traders; and accordingly, in an instant, prolifick Sir *Gilbert*, and pregnant Mr. *Nathaniel* (by the Art and Dexterity of a *Mint* Man-Midwife, and a Knight of *Alsatia*) brought forth and exhibited to the Kingdom a most *promising* Bantling, and gave it the following *Cognomen*, viz. *An Act to prevent such Frauds, as are frequently committed by Bankrupts.*

Note, *Brerewood's* Fraud and Perjury, and the Petition and Complaint of *Pitkin's* Creditors thereupon, to the then House of Commons, gave Birth to this publick Act; and though by its Title and Preamble, it pretends to prevent the frequent Frauds of Bankrupts, yet must not the said Creditors have had abundantly more Cause to petition and complain, supposing this modern Bankrupts Act had been then subsisting? For as it grants them the Privilege effectually to cancel and discharge all just contracted Debts with their *own* Affidavits, let any fair Trader and undesigning Creditor now judge, whether crafty Knaves mayn't, and don't re-act *Brerewood's* Fraud and Perjury, not only with Impunity, *but even by Authority of Law?* Nor can Sir *Gilbert* and the rest plead Ignorance as an Excuse in this Case;

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Case; for a timely Representation was made to the following Effect, *viz.* That this new Act of theirs would unavoidably prove a notorious Inlet to Frauds, &c. under the specious Notion and Title of preventing 'em: And moreover, this Representation was also seconded with a Petition (importing the same Thing) from a Multitude of eminent Citizens of all Persuasions or Denominations; but behold the Act pass'd to the Astonishment of the Petitioners, because in Violation of solemn Assurances to the contrary. But however, though Sovereigns are limited, far be it from me to limit or prescribe Bounds to the Actions of modern Whig Directors; nor will I say in this, or in any other Case, that they acted like clandestine Agents, and under-hand Factors to a foreign State; nor do I affirm, that 'tis obvious to the trading World (from the Arctick to the Antarctick) that they have nothing less at Heart, than the publick Good, and the Interest and Happiness of the honest, industrious, and undesigning Part of Mankind; but, by the by, it must be granted that Sir *Gilbert*, and other Self-call'd *Worthy Merchants* were guilty of a *little* double Dealing, to foist this their luxuriant Production into the World, with a *Caput* so exotic, and Affront so ironical; for, did they not hereby impose upon the whole Kingdom, and moreover delude and beguile their implicit

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licit Friends, and credulous Electors? And in short, thus, thus did Sir *Gilbert* and the Party, promote and propagate Trade and publick Credit at Home, according to a modern immoderate Shortest Way; and thus, thus, ye ~~the~~ Whigs, and my good Doctor,

*Our Isle enjoy'd, thro' your successful Care,
The Poms of Peace amidst the Woes of War.*

And therefore, that their ample *Benefactions* to the Crown and Kingdom may never be buried in Oblivion, and so much *Merit* want its due *Praise*; Oh! that this and rest of their modern Exploits were impartially engraven in solid monumental Marble, or ever enduring *Corinthian* Brass; for, how *gloriously* instructive, and *worthy* of Imitation, is, and ever would be their bright and glaring Examples, as to *Justice, Loyalty, Veracity, and Humanity?*

The *Ipswich* Bailiff's infernal Plot against five eminent Gentlemen and Justices of the Peace in the said Town, was so prolifick of Subornation, that *que nunc prescribere longum est*; and 'twould far surpass the Bounds of my intended Brevity, to describe the base Party Contrivances against the Reverend Mr. *Roberts*, and Mr. *Hussay* of *Okehampton*, or to give an Epitome only of the infamous *Queenhithe* Plot (supported and carry'd

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ry'd on by Forgery, Perjury, and a Party-Purse, *John Skey* Treasurer) against the Reverend Mr. *James* of *Wilney cum Upwell*, and several other Gentlemen and Clergymen of the Isle of *Ely*; but, however, as those Facts were flagrantly Notorious, these short Hints may serve by way of Memorandum and Exemplification, and thereby do Modern Whigs more compleat Justice; for as they are Free-born Britans, 'tis illegal to condemn them (and consequently their Conduct) in hugger-mugger, or even in Publick upon the most authentick Testimony of a single Evidence, (*viz.* the *East-India* Trade.) And tho' late Experience shews, that no such Thing as Justice can, or is to be expected from them, unless within the Party-Pale, yet far be it from me to take Pattern by their partial and nefarious Examples; nor have I the least Need (was I inclinable) to recur to Subornation in this Case, (a Thing the Party makes no Bones of, to support or promote the good Old Cause) having already exhibited a vast Surplus of uncontested Proofs, and have still a numerous and veteran Body of Reserve in *petto*; out of which I shall make a Detachment or two, and then conclude.

You very well know, that the Party pretend to be implacable Haters of Tyranny; and tho' Liberty, Oh! the Danger of Eng-
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lish Liberty and Property is all their Cry, yet 'tis evident from undeniable Fact, that they grandly delight to be Agents in, but not Objects of, Tyranny; for *to do as they would be done unto*, is with these pretended Saints a meer Jest, and a ridiculous Banter; they declare indeed, that such Malignants as High-Fliers, &c. ought to observe, and to be strictly bound by Laws and Oaths, but as to the Party, their Actions denote, that they think themselves as free as Eagles in the Air, and not to be confin'd, control'd, or limited, by any Law or Rule; for what is more notorious, than that Deluge of Barbarity, Tyranny, and Injustice, which lately overflow'd this Island, through the blind, intemperate, and flaming Zeal of this mottley, hypocritical Tribe of *red-holing* Pretenders to Conscience, Liberty, Property, Justice, and Moderation? for Volumes would not suffice to recount, the innumerable Hardships, the Injuries, and the intolerable, and never before heard-of Oppressions, which this inhumane, heterogeneous Clan of Republicans, when recruiting Elders, impos'd upon the Poor, but industrious and valuable Natives of *Britain* (as well Seafaring as Land-Men.) And who knows not, that the Party (in Defiance to *Magna-Charta*) held recruiting Courts in *Guild-Hall*, and elsewhere in private and secret Apartments,
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and even with Doors close shut, lock'd, and bolted, and where 'twas the daily Practice of the partial Cabals of kidnapping Judges, to arraign, try, judge, and condemn Mankind? and this they did not only in hugger-mugger, but also upon the bare *Sayso's* of Evidence notoriously interested, and infamously Mercenary; and moreover, in these clandestine Tribunals, Party-Moderation was supreme Judge and Umpire in all Cases, and over all Persons; so that whoever was here conven'd, let the Cause or Pretence be never so scandalously base, and illegal, *a Hearing, a Hearing*, was the Word; and if not of the Faction, neither Law, Justice, nor so much as common Humanity was then to be found or expected; and therefore, poor Men here seldom fail'd of transmarine Condemnation, for such Varlets as informing Constables, not being put to their Oaths, 'twas customary with them (for the sake of 20 Shillings *Premiums*) to advance black Accusations, and tho' never so apparently false, foul, and unjust, yet at that Time of Day, our sham Pretenders to Conscience, did so far encourage and abett this Pack of mercenary Cannibals, that whoever then attempted to discountenance their infamous Actions, was sure to be Brow-beat, and borne down by Numbers; but how many Lives have such Mercenaries to account for? who then, like inhu-
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humane Barbarians (and purely for a little filthy Lucre) made a Jest and Banter of the Cries, Tears, and sorrowful Moans, and dismal Complaints of the Poor, the injur'd, and the oppress'd; and thus was *Magna-Charta* observ'd, and Liberty and Property preserv'd; and thus did the Party of Self-call'd *Patriots*, treat their Loyal and Orthodox Fellow-Subjects; as if, in short, none were free-born, or had the least Claim or Title to Liberty or Property, but the factious Clan of pretended Saints.

And now, let any honest old Whig judge, whether the Party of Moderns are not condemn'd even by their *Oliverian* Progenitors? For in the very Days of *Noll*, *John Lilburn's* Judges caus'd the Doors of their Court in *Guild-Hall, London*, to be set wide open, upon his urging 'twas repugnant to *Magna Charta*, to arraign the meanest Subject of *England* (or to put him in Danger of Life, Liberty, or Estate) in any Place, but in an open Court; and moreover, 'twas a Maxim even of *Heathen Romans*, *That Justice ought to be administer'd in the Face of the Sun*, and accordingly they held all Courts for that Purpose publickly, and in Places open and uncover'd, intimating thereby, that all Judges should act with that Impartiality, as not to be sham'd or afraid of what they did, were the whole World to be Observators; and after all, was it not an infallible Indication of dark, foul, and infernal Work,
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when the noisy and factious Advocates * for Liberty and Property, and incessant Declaimers against Tyranny, were so extremely bashful as thus to sneak into Obscurity, in order to rob and deprive (under Pretext of Law) their orthodox Fellow-Subjects, of that which they themselves set so inestimable a Value upon? And now with what Front can the Party exclaim against the *Spanish* Inquisition? when they themselves held Courts for *Justice* as privately, and shew'd therein no manner of Regard to the Forms of Law, nor even to the fundamental Rules of Equity; for how far from just and legal Evidence were the bare *Sayso's* of mercenary Varlets and Miscreants? who, moreover, lay under manifest Temptations to prevaricate, in order to obtain a Premium of 20 Shillings per Man; and what Modern Whig would hang a Puppy he has the least Value for, upon such defective Proof, or Evidence so notoriously interested and partial? But by the by, 'twould have made a Dog split his Halter, to see (at that Time of Day) how some

* N. B. A pale, but red-hot Party-Man was so extremely Modest as to call King Charles the First a Tyrant, tho' his recruiting Accomplices (for he himself was a sedulous Attendant on those Courts) would not endure, that their dark Proceedings should be so much as talk'd of in Coffee-Houses; but with this modest Gentleman's Leave, who was most tyrannical, the said King, or themselves?

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that snuff the Wind, and pretend to be Churchmen, permitted themselves to be made Party Tools and Scavengers, or officious Agents in dirty Work; but I shall spare them here, because they very aptly resembled the Cat's Foot in the Monkey's Paw, and 'tis possible, that the eloquent Son of *Syrach* might be deluded by the white-livor'd Party-Man so far as to prejudge; and 'tis more than probable, that his High and Mightiness had *latent* Reasons (tho' flowing from an occult Cause) for what he then said and acted, and which now he will neither own nor justify; and now judge you from the Facts above, whether Modern Whigs don't excell even the rebellious *Oliverians* of 1641, in Faction, Tyranny, Barbarity, and Perfidiousness? And consequently, whether they are not the most unfit and improper Persons to be believ'd, and trusted in any Case; but more especially in a Matter of such Moment as the 8th and 9th Articles? And have we not lately had almost innumerable Proofs of their false, supercilious, and even wilfully erroneous Managements? And moreover, had we not even ocular Demonstration of the feeble and languid State and Condition to which Trade and Credit was thereby reduc'd? And what but utmost Misery, Destruction, and Depopulation must have been the Consequence of their grand Delight (*viz.* a ruinous Land-War) if Providence

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vidence had not wonderfully interpos'd? And in short, can any Doubt be made, were the Party again elevated, but they would tyrannize in all Cases, and over all Persons, with redoubled Fury and Violence?

And now, though Modern Whigs call themselves *Worthy Merchants*, and *Patriots*, for the unbounded Liberty they take with Crown'd Heads; yet from their profound subterraneous *Nostrum*, (*viz.* the *Palatine Importation*) and from their unnatural Care of our Native Poor, and from their Inhumanity to the Relations and Dependents of our own Mariners, and from their late Conduct, with Respect to Domestick Trade, and Publick Credit, &c. let the impartial World judge, whether their Actions don't denote and declare 'em inveterate Enemies to every Thing which tends to promote the Good and Happiness of Mankind? And consequently, whether the Party Directors don't deserve as ill as may be of the Publick, and particularly of all honest, industrious, and undesigning Tradesmen, Manufacturers, Artificers, &c. And in fine, let now their vain-glorious Agent, (*viz.* an exotick *English-Irish-Man*) instead of traducing his Superiors, vindicate his Patrons from the Charge above, and prove (if he can) that they are not a Pack of arrogant Pretenders to such Epithets as they never yet merited, nor in Justice ever had the minutest Claim, Right, Title, or Pretence to.

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But to conclude, from the Facts above hinted, judge you, Whether *Britain* has not paid thro' the Nose, for her late Experience of Party-management? And moreover, let all fair Traders, and also all honest, loyal, and undesigning *Britans* of all Degrees and Persuasions judge, 1st, Whether those very Gentlemen, who make the loudest Declamations against Tyranny and Arbitrary Power, are not most licentiously Arbitrary, and the most insupportable Tyrants, when arm'd with Power, and cloath'd with Authority? And 2^{dly}, Whether the Party's noisy and incessant Out-Cries for Liberty, has not a Meaning latent and occult (*viz.* a Liberty to enslave and tyrannize over all Mankind, that are not of the Faction?) And 3^{dly}, Whether the Self-call'd *Conservators of Trade and Credit* did not act most abstrusely, incongruously, and very absurdly, when they gave the Power to Bankrupts (under Pretence of preventing their frequent Frauds) effectually to cancel and discharge all their just contracted Debts, with their own partial Affidavits? And 4^{thly}, Whether the Words and Mouths of modern Whigs are not as much Antipodes to Truth, as their Actions are to Justice? and consequently, Whether he's not sure to be in the Right, that disbelieves and runs counter to the Party? And 5^{thly}, Whether Bankrupts Affidavits, and the *East-India* Prohibition, are not in their Effects and Consequences extreme-

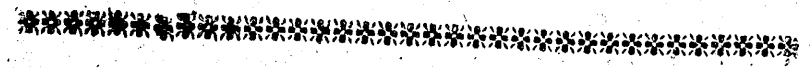
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ly pernicious, destructive, and ruinous to fair Trading? And in fine, whether *Britain*, by being singular in this Prohibition, does not most apparently give away several considerable Profits and Advantages she might make of her *East-India* Trade, to her most formidable Rival? And as this is her own Act, mayn't she be said to be a *Felo-de-se*? And consequently, were not her Advisers in this Case (once upon a Time) Descendents from the *Antedeluvian* Family of *Ch—m*, alias *S—d*? And after all, is't not possible she may repent (tho' perhaps too late) of her own Indolence, Supineness, and over Indulgence in this Matter? For in short, is not the modern Conduct of her old Friends a convincing Proof, that (when Time serves) they will be no less grateful to their kind Patron and Benefactor, than they were at *Amboyna*, *Bantam*, &c? but if the *Ethiopian* can change his Skin, 'tis granted, this ought not to have been suggested by, Sir,

Yours, &c.

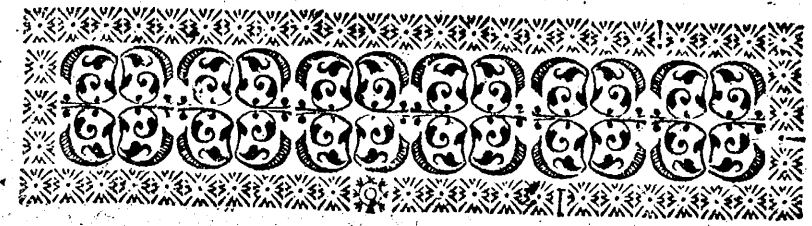
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ERRATUM.

PAGE 8. in the second Line of the Note, for Yard wide, read half a Yard wide.

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POSTSCRIPT.



IN my next I shall prove Self-Interest to be the only Reason, why Smugglers and unfair Traders are the most implacable Enemies to the 8th and 9th Articles; and also shew the just

Merits of a Modern Corporation with respect to a Salary, for obstructing clandestine Importations of *Lute-Strings*, &c. but in the interim, let me entreat your Thoughts of the following Queries, viz.

1. Whether six or seven Millions Taxes per Annum, is not a most convincing Proof, that the Nation was debilitated by the pernicious French and East-India Trades?
2. Whether the Deficiency of the Civil List does not most plainly denote, that the Kingdom is enrich'd by the advantageous Project of *Palatine* Importations?
3. Whether it had not been *Britain's Interest* to have prolong'd a most ruinous Land-War, purely for the Conveniency of playing off industrious Natives, to make room for a Breed of prolifick, indolent, ultramarine

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rine Beggars? And in short, who is *not* convinc'd, that this must have been a most *advantageous* Swop?

4. Whether 'twas not an Argument of great Humanity, to provide plentifully for Foreign Vagrants, and to neglect the necessary Care of our own Poor, and also to starve and distress Thousands of indigent Families, by artfully with-holding from our brave, laborious, and valuable Mariners, their just and most dearly earn'd Pay?

5. Whether 'twas not highly equitable, just, and reasonable, to deny *British* Artificers Employment, and to compel our own Tradesmen to trust (or take Tallies at Par, when at 40 or 50 *per Cent.* Discount) in order to become ready Money Chaps to the *Dutch* (with the Publick Cash and Taxes) for Arms, Tents, and other Utensils of War?

6. Whether 'tis not a Work of Superelevation, and very meritorious in Modern Whigs, thus to violate the Laws at Pleasure, tho' Sovereigns mayn't, without contracting unpardonable Guilt?

7. Whether Sir *Gil—t*, Mr. *Nat—l*, &c. don't deserve as well as may be of all fair Traders and undesigning Creditors, for making the Knavery, Perjury, and intended Fraud of the Bankrupt *Brerewood* (and which they themselves corrected by particular *ex post facto* Laws) the Cover and Pretence for foisting into the World, and intruding upon the

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the Kingdom, their late luxuriant Production, *viz.* the Modern Bankrupt's Act? For,

8. Whether this Act (in granting Bankrupts the Privilege to cancel just Debts with collusive Affidavits) does not very *moderately* augment Frauds and Perjuries, and most *decently* prevent and discourage Publick Credit, and fair Trading? And therefore,

9. Whether 'tis not a vast *Reputation* to the Party, and a very great *Honour* and an *Advantage* to the Nation, that Bankrupts may now (*not only with Impunity, but even by Authority of Law*) re-act *Brerewood's* Perjury, and consequently cheat, defraud, bamboozle, and defy their honest, undesigning, injur'd, (and oftentimes) ruin'd Creditors?

10. Whether it does not *well* become good *Patriots*, and *Worthy Merchants*, to delight in War, Blood, and Plunder; and to love Prohibitions, high Customs, vast Taxes, Bankrupt's partial Affidavits, and chargeable Importations of Foreign Vagrants? And in short, don't Sir *Gil—t*, Mr. *Nat—l*, &c. merit immortal *Praise*, for stifling a Multitude of flagrant Frauds (*committed under the Umbrage of the Bankrupt's Act*) to make way for a second *ex post facto* Law against *Brerewood*?

11. Whether Liberty, Property, and *Magna-Charta* are not inviolably preserv'd, 1st, By arbitrary Impeachments; 2^{dly}, By manuring of strange Lands with the Blood and Carcases of Free-born *Britans*; 3^{dly}, By allowing of no-
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toriously interested and mercenary *Saysa* Evidence; 4^{thly}, By Kidnapping, Imprisonments, and higger-mugger transmarine Condemnations; 5^{thly}, By endless Confinements without legal Evidence or Tryal; 6^{thly}, By permitting the Publick to be defrauded, ravag'd, and plunder'd with Impunity; 7^{thly}, By exposing honest, laborious, and undesigning Tradesmen, as a Prey to the Avarice and Malice of every infamous Informer; And 8^{thly}, By supporting false, foul, and scandalous Accusations, with most base and infamous Subornations, as in the late Party Plots and Conspiracies above noted at *Ipswich, Okehampton, &c.*?

12. Whether 'tis not *contra bonos mores*, and highly Criminal, to blame Modern Whigs, let their Actions be never so illegal, oppressive, and unjust? But whether 'tis not meritorious in them to arraign Crown'd Heads, and to call Sovereigns Tyrants, (and particularly King *Charles* the First) and in short, does it not denote a hearty Inclination to Peace, Truth, and Justice, to encourage, abet, and protect the Perjur'd, the Ungrateful, and such as delight in War, Blood, and Rapine? And in fine, is it not an infallible Indication of true Loyalty and Fidelity, to extol and applaud a mottley Clan of audacious Intruders, for presuming to direct their Sovereign, and in a Matter which they themselves would not endure to be directed in, even by their Superiors, and much less by Equals, and far less by Inferiors?

F I N I S.