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SOME ^M
QUERIES
AND
OBSERVATIONS
Upon the
REVOLUTION
In 1688, and its Consequences;
ALSO A
Short View of the Rise and Progress
OF THE
Dutch East India Company;
With Critical
REMARKS.
In a LETTER from *Paris* to the
Right Hon. Sir ROBERT WALPOLE.

By the LATE
CHARLES FORMAN, Esq;

*Si quid novisti rectius istis,
Candidus imperti; si non his utere mecum.*

*Now first printed; with a Preface shewing the Reasons
of its being published at this Juncture; and necessary to
be read by all who have any Regard for the Honour,
Interest or Trade of their Country.*

L O N D O N:
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(Price One Shilling.)

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THE
PREFACE.



As the following Piece has lain so long dormant, it seems necessary to say something, by Way of Preface, as well in regard to the Author's Reasons for suppressing the Publication of it, as in regard to one particular Article in which he bears too hard upon the *Dutch*.

As to the Motives which might prevail upon the Author not to publish it, the most obvious and most natural that we can assign is, the Death of King *Augustus II. of Poland*, which happened almost as soon as the Piece was sent over here to be printed. That Event

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opened

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opened a new Scene of Affairs in *Europe*, or, to speak more properly, rather afforded the House of *Bourbon* an Opportunity to put in Execution those Designs which she had been so long brooding over and preparing for: This, it is highly probable, was the only Reason that occasioned the Pamphlet's being thrown aside, Mr. *Forman* being sensible that *Great Britain* could not set Matters to rights with *Holland*, without evidently risking the Dissolution of the Grand Alliance, and consequently leaving *France* and *Spain* at full Liberty to go through with the Project they had formed for enriching themselves with the Spoils of the House of *Austria*. But this Tenderness in the Author, for the Common Cause of all the Members of the Grand Alliance, was totally lost upon a *M-n-st-r* who, it seems, was already fully resolved to do nothing himself in the Affair, nor to take the Advice, which was proffered him more than once, for obliging the *Hollanders*, in
Spite

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Spite of their Teeth, to come into the Measures which *England* ought to have pursued, in Order to prevent the Emperor's falling a Sacrifice to the Ambition of the House of *Bourbon*. Wherefore, since our *vigilant M-n-st-r* made no Use of that Conjuncture, which might have been improved to the great Advantage of his Country as well as to his own Glory and Reputation, we don't see any Reason for stinging any longer a Piece which contains so much useful Instruction for the People of *Great Britain*, and gives so true a Picture of our *good Allies* the *Dutch*, whose Friendship and Assistance we may always depend upon, when their own Interest and Preservation lies at Stake.

By the particular Article in which 'tis said the Author bears too hard upon the *Dutch*, is meant the *Woollen Manufacturies*. Mr. *Forman* was very sensible of it himself; and he knew but too well how fast our *Woollen Trade*

Trade was declining by Means of the Exportation of our *Wool* to Foreigners, especially the *French*: But what could he do in such a Case? To accuse *France* of giving the deepest Wound to our *Woollen Manufacturies*, or even making the least Mention of her in this Respect, would have quickly procured him a Lodging in the *Bastile*, especially as he had no Friends to protect him in that Kingdom, but on the contrary was the Object of the Hatred of the *Jacobites* there and of the Resentments of the M---y here, for Reasons best known to themselves which we wave enquiring into: All he could do then, was to throw the whole Blame upon *Holland*, well knowing that Men of Sense and Knowledge in Trade would perceive he meant *France* likewise, and that if *Britain* should take Measures for putting a Stop to the Exportation of *Wool*, the *French* would be entirely cut out of the *Woollen Manufacturies* as well as the *Dutch*. Whatever low

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Figure the Republick of the *United Provinces* may make at present in the *Woollen Trade*, we owe no Thanks for it to the Management of some of our great Politicians; for, if we may judge by a certain Step taken here above Forty Years ago, it seems a Design was then formed to throw that Branch of Trade, and consequently all the Rest of our Commerce in Time, into the Hands of the *Dutch*. Nothing could have prevented this Design from taking Effect, but *France's* applying herself again so vigorously to the *Woollen Manufacturies*, (after the Peace of *Utrecht*) which had considerably decayed in that Kingdom during King *William's* and Queen *Anne's* Wars, but which were then a great Resource to her, and enabled her to make Head so long as she did against the greatest Part of *Europe*; and as Labour is cheaper in *France* than it is either in *England* or *Holland*, the *French* have vastly outstript the *Dutch* in the *Woollen Trade*, and now bid fair for leaving

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leaving Us so far behind them in a Year or two more, that it will be impossible, without the Interposition of Providence in our Favour, ever to recover it again out of their Hands. Thus our hopeful *English* and *Dutch* Projectors, who intended the Destruction of the *French*, and the Aggrandisement of *Holland*, perhaps in Return for the great Service the latter did Us in helping to bring about the *Revolution*, have been the Dupes of their own Schemes; for with the same Hand that they laid a Foundation for throwing the *Woollen* Trade into the Hands of the *Dutch*, they likewise laid that very Foundation by which *France* has risen again to that exorbitant Pitch of Power and Riches which now makes her the Terror of *Europe*. Surely, never was any Nation so bubbled by nominal Friends and declared Enemies as *England* has been!

SOME



SOME
QUERIES, &c.

PARIS, Jan. 17. 1733.

S I R,



HAVE given you one incontestable Proof of the Sincerity of my Proceedings, in suppressing my *Remarks* on the *Free Briton* of the First and Fifteenth of *July* 1731, and I now give you another in not publishing my Second Letter to the Merchants of *Great Britain*, in the Form in which I suppose you have seen it. As that Piece was drawn up before I had any Thoughts of dropping the Difference I have had with you, not only several Paragraphs in it, but even the whole Composition might furnish Pretences for continuing your Resentments, and seem to interfere with the Rule

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I laid down to myself of writing like a Friend to you for the Future: For these Reasons I have given it a new Turn, and now address it to yourself, as the *Briton* who seems to have it most in his Power either to enrich or impoverish our Country for ever.

As I have no Design to offend you in the following Sheets I fear no such Effect from them; but should I happen to be mistaken, I shall rather lament the Fate of *Great Britain* than pity my own. As I have likewise no Intention to bring a Writ of Enquiry against the Proceedings of Our *Higb* and *Mighty Allies*, I shall be silent where I can be so without Breach of Duty to the Publick; and if I continue a Subject which some People thought I had already exhausted, I hope every honest *Briton* will approve my Conduct.

It would be too voluminous a Work, and even a very unnecessary one, to enumerate all the Attempts made upon our Trade since the Year 1688. These are Things which you cannot but be thoroughly acquainted with, since no Man of Common Sense in the Kingdom is ignorant of them. I therefore humbly hope you will please to dedicate some small Portion of your Time to the Preservation of *What* feeds the Poor, enriches the Industrious, and principally supports the State itself. This, Sir, is the Duty of a Minister; every *Briton* has a Right to put him in Mind of it; and upon this Account I shall presume to make you the Patron of my Labours for the future, as long as you continue in Power.

THE great Mr. *Addison*, the Friend and, in his Time, the Ornament of *Britain*, was one of our

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our principal Secretaries of State, and as much inclined to favour the *Dutch*, as any honest *Englishman* possibly could or can be; wherefore I believe his Opinion, as to the Importance of our Trade, will be unexceptionable to all Parties. In the 69th *Spectator* he gives us a noble and sublime Idea of the Pitch to which we might push our Commerce by a due Share of Honesty in some Men and Industry in others. He also opens a large Field in which to exercise our Acknowledgments, and render

* Justice to the Merit of those enterprising Gentlemen whom, as he most elegantly expresses it, he is delighted to see thriving in their own private Fortunes, at the same time that they are increasing the Publick Stock, and raising Estates for their own Families by (a) bringing into their Country whatever is wanting, and carrying out of it whatever is superfluous. " For these Reasons, says that immortal Man, there are not more useful Members in a Commonwealth than Merchants. They knit Mankind toge-

* A General Excise can never be the Way to do it.

(a) This is directly contrary to what some Men have not only practised themselves, but encouraged too much in others, since Mr. *Addison's* Time. Our Merchants, indeed, bring Money into their Country, but, it is said, there is another Set of Men amongst us who have as great an Address in sending it out again to foreign Countries without any Returns for it, which defeats the Industry of the Merchant. These are the *Vampires* of the Publick, and Riflers of the Kingdom: They lessen the Publick Stock of *what* Merchants have continual Occasion for to carry on Trade with, and, at the same Time, are, by doing so, the principal Cause that the Superfluities of the Nation, which are all perishable Commodities, are left to decay and rot at Home, very often, for want of Means and Encouragement to support them. The *Dutch* Manufactures thrive the better for this Practice amongst us.

“ ther in a mutual Intercourse of good Offices,
 “ distribute the Gifts of Nature, *find Work for*
 “ *the Poor*, and Wealth to the Rich, and Mag-
 “ nificence to the Great. Our *English* Merchant
 “ converts the *Tin* of his Country into *Gold*, and
 “ exchanges his *Wool* for *Rubies*. The (b) *Ma-*
 “ *hometans* are cloathed in our *British* Manufac-
 “ *tures*, and the Inhabitants of the Frozen Zone
 “ warmed with the Fleeces of our Sheep.—Trade,
 “ without enlarging the *British* Territories has
 “ given us a kind of additional Empire: It has
 “ multiplied the Number of the Rich, made
 “ our landed Estates infinitely more valuable,
 “ than they were formerly, and added to them
 “ an Accession of Estates as valuable as the
 “ Lands themselves.”

W H E T H E R Trade has formerly done all these great Things, or whether Mr. *Addison* only meant, by what he has said to reason the People into a Sense of their own Interest, which, I must confess, is one of the most difficult Tasks a Man can possibly undertake in a Country where there is such a Swarm of prostitute Scribblers to debauch them from it, we are, nevertheless obliged to him for the beautiful Picture he has drawn of our Commerce; and still more indebted to his Memory for having so pathetically shewed us what Trade is capable of doing when honestly encouraged and vigorously protected by our Ministers. If it brings Riches and Power

(b) The *Mahometans* and the *Inhabitants* of the *Frozen Zone*, as Mr. *Addison* expresses himself, made more use of our *Woollen* Manufactures when he writ than they do now. The *Leyden* Broad Cloths find their Way all over the *Russian*, *Ottoman*, *Persian*, *Indian* and *Chinese* Empires in too great Quantities, for our Clothiers, at present.

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and Abundance along with it under a wise, an honest, a judicious Administration, we may reasonably imagine that Poverty and Contempt and Scarcity must inevitably close the Scene of a foolish, a knavish, an ignorant one; especially if it happens to be of any considerable Duration. In short, Sir, if the Intention of this illustrious Patriot was to set before us *what* we may become by a flourishing Trade, Reason and Common Sense dictate to us *what* we have to expect from a declining one, since we can lose nothing of it that others will not get, and our Neighbours infallibly grow powerful as we become weak; or speaking more to the Point, we must from the Nature of our Circumstances, unavoidably dwindle into Poverty as they encrease in Riches at our Expence. Can we then suffer our Trade to be ravished from us without giving up all the Comforts of Life? Can we supinely see ourselves tricked out of it without proclaiming our Weakness and Indolence, if nothing worse, to this Age, and transmitting the infamous Monuments of them to Posterity, in the unfortunate Circumstances we shall intail upon our Progeny? To let our Neighbours lop off its Branches, is it not the same Thing as to let them chop off our Limbs? The Man, who, in any respect or by what Means soever, betrays it to Foreigners, is he not a Robber of the Publick, and an Enemy to his Country as well as a Traytor to his Prince? Really, Sir, I shall always look upon such a Man in this Light, whenever he appears upon the Stage of *Great Britain*; but Mr. *Osborne's* Correspondent in the *London Journal* of the 12th of *December* 1730 seems of another Opinion, and endeavours to establish a Principle, if *Britons* are infatuated and *corrupted* enough to follow it, that we ought
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not to take Umbrage at any Practices, how detrimental and dangerous soever to the *British* Commerce, if they are the Practices of Allies, " whose Friendship, he falsely asserts in the second Paragraph of his Letter, has always been " so useful to support and preserve our Religion " and Liberties, " &c.

W H A T E V E R palliated Gloss this Scribler's Friends or *Directors* may put upon so insolent an Expression, I think the Meaning of it stands thus in *plain English* and the *Letter Writer's* own Sense of the Matter: The *Dutch* saved us from *Popery* and *Slavery*; *They are our Deliverers, our Supporters and Protectors; we owe our Religion and Liberties to their Friendship and Assistance.* Now, Sir, if this is really Fact I am for meeting Mr. *Osborne's* Friend half Way in Favour of the *Dutch*. Men who support and preserve us have certainly, in the Nature of Things, a Sort of Chiefry over what we enjoy; and the *Dutch* may justly claim a Share in that Trade they protect and defend, by continuing their Friendship to us, *and vouchsafing us the Honour and Advantage of their Alliance.* This I take to be no unnatural or forced Construction of the Words I have just quoted from the Letter in the *London Journal*, nor even of the whole Letter itself, considering the *worthy* Hand it came from.

B U T whether you may think fit to chastise the Author of an Expression which so openly attacks the Honour of *Great Britain*, and seems to throw a Cloud of Dependance over the Lustre of her *Imperial Crown*; whether you have * Pillories, or Rasp Houses, or Prisons for Life for

* See the last Paragraph of the *London Journal*, 12 December 1730.

for Fellows who endeavour to wound their Country in so villainous a Manner, is what I humbly submit to the Wisdom of your Ministerial Reflections: Perhaps you may shew the merciful Part to so notorious an Offender; if you do, I hope other People, who have never deserv'd your Resentments, will not feel the Weight of them for discharging their Duty to the Publick. But, whatever Conduct you may please to pursue in this Case, as the above mentioned Expression seems to carry a mortal Sting with it, and to threaten my Countrymen with all the Evils *crowding after Subjection to Foreign Councils and Schemes*, I cannot avoid shewing them the Falshood and Injustice of it.

T H I S *vile*, this *ensnaring* Stratagem has been so often topped upon *Britons*, in so many different Phrases and upon so many various Occasions, especially whenever the bleeding Condition of our Trade, and the Distress of our Artificers and Tradesmen have been offered to the Consideration of the *Legislature*, that it may be highly necessary to examine the Merit of this pretended *Support and Preservation*, in order to put a Stop for the future, to this nefarious and traitorous Way of reasoning and pleading for the Measures of our Rivals in Commerce, tho' they are our Allies in Treaties. Such an Examination may be further necessary to enable us to judge how far, or how occasionally we ought to be passive upon Account of the *Revolution*, and to let us see whether that *Revolution* has really laid us under such Obligations to the *Dutch*, as ought to prevail upon us to submit to Proceedings which, as they evidently tend to impoverish us, cannot possibly fail to defeat to all Intents and Purposes, the Effects
Britons

Britons proposed to themselves from that happy Event: An Event, the Benefit of which, we are obliged, in Conscience, to transmit to our Posterity, *if we can*, as some Equivalent for the Expences we have been at to bring it about, and that immense Debt which the Support of it has intailed upon the Nation.

THERE is no *Briton*, either at Home or Abroad, more sensible than I am of the Hand of God in the *Revolution*, and the Effects it has produced; nor is any Man readier to acknowledge and publish aloud to the World the Share which *Holland* had in it? But, Sir, is not this enough? Must we give up the Honour, the Interest, the Liberty of our Country, because another Nation found their own Account in coming to our Aid? If I help my Door-Neighbour to save his House when it has taken Fire, have I a Right to seize upon his Goods, or even any Part of them, for doing so; especially when he pays me well for the Assistance I give him, and it evidently appears that I save my own House in helping him to preserve his? This, without depreciating either the Merit or the Friendship of our high and mighty Allies, is the most that any Man can urge in Favour of the Assistance which the *Dutch* gave us against the Measures of King *James II.* and his evil Ministers and Counsellors; at least, when he coolly considers that King *William* was a *Dutchman*, and that we made him a Present of three great Kingdoms, which his Countrymen might very probably have in View for him, when they furnish'd him with Troops and a Fleet to make *England* a Visit.

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WHEREFORE, as I hope there are still in *Britain* a Thousand *British Britons* for one *Dutch* one, I shall venture to give you my Sentiments of this Affair with a Freedom and Resolution becoming the Duty I owe to the Publick; and as I now have the Honour to plead the Cause of our Trade in the Reign of so just and so gracious a King as now governs us, and to plead it too against a Man who has so highly dishonour'd his Majesty and the present Administration, by what he has advanced, I shall not be afraid to assert again, as I have done several times before, and shall continue to do as often as there may be Occasion for it, that it is Villainy in the highest Degree to impose upon and deceive the People, by false Representations of Facts wherein their Honour as well as their Interest, is so nearly concerned; nay, I will add that it is something more than Villainy, if such a Thing can be, to endeavour to inflave *Britons* to an Idea of being obliged to *Those* who have the greatest Obligations under the Sun to *Them*: By such crafty, wicked Proceedings the Publick is robbed and plundered in several Respects. It is robbed of its Honour by Insinuations, I may rather call them impudent Assertions, that it owes its Preservation to *Holland*, and, consequently, it is robbed of its just Pretensions to claim the Merit of Assistance and Protection formerly granted to those Neighbours, whom *Mr. Osborne's Journal* has now vamped up into our *Preservers* and *Protectors*: Here the Scale is knavishly turned against us. Instead of Creditors, as *Englishmen* have always looked upon themselves to be, we are, by this Piece of Villany, brought in Debtors in the Account of Obligations; as this cannot but be attended

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tended with Consequences fatal to our Trade, is it not a Robbery of a most destructive Nature? Are we not also hector'd and plundered, though not dragooned as yet, out of our Arguments against Encroachments upon our Commerce? Are we not publickly threatened for even communicating them to our Country, as the surest Way to convey them to the Knowledge of our Sovereign, tho' we communicate them in the most modest Manner and couch them in the most submissive Terms? Are not these Threats to be frequently met with in printed News Papers, in *Hebdomadal Journals*, whose Authors saucily assume the Character, *that most honourable Character!* of Advocates for the present Administration? Sir, the Earth knows that your Conduct can receive no additional Lustre from the wretched Sophistry and fulsome Panegyrick of such prostitute, paltry Scriblers, and your Contempt of them would go much farther than all their fallacious Arguments, and lying Assertions, to stop the Mouths of your Enemies: Such Fellows may disgrace, but never can advance the Cause they undertake to defend. But to pursue this friendly Hint no farther, I shall propose a few Queries to those Apostates to their Country, who drive on so furiously to ruin the Natives of *Great Britain*, and to aggrandize those of the Republick of *Holland*.

I. WHETHER, if King *James II.* had gone into the *Emperor's* Measures, and made an Alliance with him against *France*, there had been any *Revolution* at all?

II. WHETHER then the Religion and Liberties of *Britain* would not have been left to take
Care

Care of themselves, for any Assistance the *Hollanders* either would or could have had a Pretence to give us?

III. WHETHER the *Dutch* had not a greater View to their own Interest than to our Preservation, in the Assistance they gave the Prince of *Orange*, their Countryman and Stadtholder and afterwards our glorious King *William III*?

IV. WHETHER they did not naturally expect to enlarge their Dominions and Trade, by having a *Foreigner*, especially a *Dutchman*, on the *British* Throne; as well as to secure themselves against *France*, by dethroning so considerable an Ally to it as King *James II.*

V. AND whether they have not been paid to the utmost Farthing, according as they made up the Accompt themselves, all the Expences they were at in helping us to settle the Crowns of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* upon a Native of *Holland*?

To these Queries I may add three more, *viz.*

I. WHETHER the personal Prejudices which, it is not improbable, the *Dutch* had to King *James II.* upon Account of his great Skill in Naval Affairs, were not one great Motive to their Part in the *Revolution*?

II. WHETHER that unhappy Prince's surprising Knowledge in the Trade of *England*, and his indefatigable Application to enlarge it in all its numerous Branches, were not another Motive,

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not only to engage them but even to spur them on to the *Revolution*?

III. AND whether the innumerable other Advantages which they might possibly propose to themselves, by helping to (c) entail *Pretendership* upon *Britain*, an unavoidable Consequence of the *Revolution*, and the Difficulties which they foresaw this *Pretendership* must perpetually expose us to, might not have weighed as much with them, as any Thing I have yet mentioned; and encouraged them to push forward a *Work* which, by their Dexterity in improving Opportunities, they knew how to render of the utmost Importance to their Country?

SIR, whatever Reception these Queries may meet with from a certain Sort of People, they may possibly deserve Attention, and perhaps a ferocious one too, from *such* as have still preserved an *uncontaminated* Integrity, and an *unalienated* Af-

(c) The politick and understanding Part of the *Dutch* look upon *Pretendership* to *Britain*, to be worth some Hundreds of Thousands of Pounds Sterling yearly to them in Trade; because they imagine, but it is to be hoped, and even expected, that our Ministry will shew them how much they are mistaken in their Notions, that, as long as there is a *Pretender* to the *British* Throne, *Britain*, through Fear of having him imposed upon her, will be obliged to wink at several Things which she would never submit to, nor suffer to pass unaccounted for, were there no such Clog in the Way. It is no Wonder, then, that the Generality of the *Hollanders*, who are Men that think to Purpose, were highly pleased at the Birth of the *Chevalier's* eldest Son, and shewed no less Satisfaction at the coming of the *Second*; because, as several of them did not scruple to say, *Pretendership* was then likely to subsist the longer and outlive the *Chevalier*: A Thing which *Britain* would not be so much afraid of in the House of *Savoy* or *France*, or *Spain*, as where it is at present, since all *Europe* would then arm against it.

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fection to their Country, amongst which Number of honest Men I wish you may always be found; and when either Mr. *Osborne's* Friend, or any of the *Clan of Hacknies*, thinks fit to answer them, I shall know what to say further upon this Head.

IN the mean time, if we consider the Humour and Disposition of King *James II*; how inflexibly he was fixed in his Friendship to *Louis XIV*. I believe it will appear no Absurdity in Politicks to suppose, that had there been no *Revolution*, there had hardly, in all human Appearance, been any such Thing this Day in the World as the high and mighty Republick of the *United Provinces*: At least, this Republick, if then permitted to subsist, would not have been now in any Manner of Condition, either to engross our *Herring Fishery*, or to rival us in our *Woollen Manufactory*, or to jostle and elbow us out of other Branches of our Trade, or to continue to detain from us our Share of the *Spices*, or to *bridle all the Nations of Europe with a domineering Rein in India*, as Mr. *Janiçon* himself confesses they do. No, Sir, none of these high and mighty Feats could they have been able to perform, nor would they have been suffered to attempt, had King *James* kept Possession of the Throne; because that Prince would not have met with those Lets and Obstacles, from Abroad, which the *Revolution* threw in the Way of some of his Successors. Have we then any Obligation to the *Dutch* upon Account of that *Revolution*, from which they have reaped, at least, equal Advantages with us? Must we suffer these Things eternally upon Account of that *Revolution* which has feathered the Nest of *Holland* so well?

SIR,

S I R, in *slavish Nations* a Man dare not even think, lest his Thoughts should, some time or other, burst forth into Words, and pull down the Vengeance of a guilty Minister upon his Head; but as I presume you never design to make any unlawful, arbitrary Use of your Power, and as *Britons* have *as yet* a Right to enjoy the Freedom of their Thoughts, I assure you that mine roul very much upon your Integrity and Courage: If either amount to but the Hundredth Part of what they have been represented to us by Mr. Osborne, and the modest Mr. Walsingham, you will not suffer the *Dutch* to injure our Trade upon Account of the *Revolution*, when it is so evident that it has been infinitely more advantageous to them than to us, *as Things have been managed since*. Instead of being our Supporters and Preservers, as the *London Journalist* most impudently stiles them by Way of Insult over his Fellow Citizens, they only seem to have taken Advantage of our Difficulties, to carve out Dominions, and Trade, and Riches for themselves; and even to get us to pay them, into the Bargain for doing so. In a Word, if the *Revolution* has hitherto preserved the Traces of our Liberties, and kept the established Religion of *England* still alive, I believe we have very little more to boast of from it, *except a Load of Debts, and Taxes without End*; but it has done more for the *Dutch*: It has not only preserved their Religion and Liberties in full Security and Splendour, but also enlarged their Trade, extended their Dominions, and raised them to that Power and Grandeur, *which they never could have arrived to but by a Diminution of ours*.

NEVER-

NEVERTHELESS, there are *Englisbmen* so audaciously inveterate to their Country, as to be perpetually sounding in our Ears, and even trumpeting to all the Globe, how much we are obliged to the *Dutch*, especially when they are to earn a *Bribe* or a *Pension*; and, *what* is still more surprizing, *Britain* continues to suffer it. But as I have now the Honour to take Notice to you of this pernicious Insolence, I don't doubt but you will also think fit to take Notice of it yourself, and please to consult the Honour of His Majesty in the Case. I hope you will consider how much it derogates from the Glory of the Nation, and how visibly it hurts her Interest: I likewise further hope, nay I am fully perswaded, that you will take these *Miscreants* to Task, and convince Foreifners that our Country is not altogether in *Dutch Leading-strings*.

H A D the Assistance which *Holland* gave us towards the *Revolution* been really, and *bona fide*, a pure, simple, disinterested Act of Friendship, as it is demonstrable it was not, did we not deserve it at their Hands? Must it be thrown in our Teeth upon all Occasions to justify their Measures? Must we sacrifice Branch after Branch of our Trade to satisfy them, untill it will not signify a Two Penny Piece to *Britons* in general, whatever it may do to some particular Families, whether there had been a *Revolution* or not? I solemnly declare to you, Sir, that I see no Manner of Difference between the Loss of our Trade and the Loss of our Liberties; the first will as infallibly produce the last as a Standing Army can possibly do. Are the *Dutch* treated after this Manner, either by us, or by any of their Countrymen

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trymen in Favour of Us? Do we perpetually upbraid them, or even upbraid them at all, with the Assistance we sent them in Queen *Elizabeth's* Reign? All the World knows, and no Body better than yourself, that without that Assistance *they had but a scurvy Chance for being now a People, except a very wretched and unhappy one*: But, nevertheless, did they ever compliment us with the least Article of Trade upon Account of that Relief. On the contrary, were they not rather sapping and undermining us out of *all* they could, even while we were fighting their Battles and exposing our Bodies to shield *Dutchmen* from the Rage and Fury of the *Spaniards*? Do they ever stile us *Allies whose Friendship has always been so useful to support and preserve their Religion and Liberties*? Not a Word of this did any Man ever hear from a *Dutchman*, tho' it is well known, too well to be contested, that we were the Original, the chief *Supporters* and *Preservers* of both.

BUT notwithstanding the Protection we gave them; notwithstanding we disdained to strip them of the Sovereignty they had assumed, when they offered their Country to us in their Distress; notwithstanding we scorned to take an Advantage of their Misfortunes and make them a Province to *England*, in which we were more generous than wise, when we might have done so; and notwithstanding we brought all the Power and Repentments of *Philip II. of Spain* upon us, by the Assistance we gave to the *distressed States of the United Provinces*, the *Dutch* very honestly and gratefully forgot all those Acts of Friendship, almost as soon as they were performed. The Death of Queen *Elizabeth*, and the peaceable Disposition of her Successor furnished them with proper
Oppor-

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portunities of trying their Hands at ungrateful Returns; and the knavish Advice of corrupt, mercenary Ministers and Counsellors prevailed upon King *James I.* to part with the *Cautionary Towns*, which were the only Check we had retained over the new Republick to keep her within the Bounds of Decency and Gratitude. The Event has fully demonstrated that in parting with those Towns we gave up the best Part of our Trade, and the C--- Criticks may now nibble at the Expression if they dare venture the Issue. From that unlucky, *ill-fated Day for England*, even to this Moment, have we ever heard of a *Dutchman* that either writ or spoke in Defence of our Trade in Prejudice of *that of Holland*, or even in Favour of it in any Respect? Hitherto we have heard of no such Thing; nor shall we ever hear of it. *Holland*, to its just Praise it may be said, produces no Traitors to itself; it is in *England* that we must now look for Men, Sir, who write and act against their Country: There is no *Encouragement* or *Protection* for such execrable Monsters amongst the *Dutch*.

IF then the Modern *Dutch* please to look back to the Assistance which *England* gave their Forefathers in the Height of their Extremity, they will ring us no more Peals about the *Revolution*, but rather acknowledge the Obligations they have to us; and look upon us as the Authors of that great Figure they now make, not only in *Christendom* but even all over *Asia*. They cannot but be sensible that they owe their very Existence to our Friendship and Compassion: Without that Compassion, without that Friendship and the Proofs we gave them of it in protecting them, they had in all Probability, as I have already ob-
D served

(26)

served in other Words, instead of *Highb* and *Mighty* been still the *poor distressed States*, IF ANY STATES AT ALL.

EVEN Mr. *Janiçon*, of whom I have given an Account in my Letter to the *Merchants* of *Great Britain*, as cautious as he is to say any thing to our Advantage in Disfavour of the *Dutch*, confesses, *Page 54*, that the *United Provinces* never could have been in a Condition to resist all the Force of *Spain*, nor consequently, arrive to that Degree of Power and Grandeur, in which we now see their Republick, had it not been for the Alliances of *England* and *France*. In *Page 91*. he gives us, in a few but remarkable Words, a very lively and portentous Idea of this Grandeur and Power which *Britons* may please to compare with their own. " Another Mark, says he, of " the Grandeur and Authority of the States General, is the Concourse of Foreign Ministers " at the *Hague*, which renders the Assembly of the " *States General* the CENTER OF ALMOST ALL " THE NEGOTIATIONS OF EUROPE. " If this be true, God help our Trade! For if almost all the Negotiations of *Europe* center in the Assembly of the *States General*, as this ingenious Gentleman very smartly observes, *the Negotiations concerning the Trade of Great Britain may come to center there also*. Upon this Account, how satisfied *Britons* may be at the Grandeur of the *States General*, I shall not scruple to own that we have no great Encouragement to rejoice at their Authority, lest it may some time or other have too great an Influence over the Affairs of *Great Britain*. I can never be brought to think that our Trade would thrive better under the Direction of a *Dutch* Ministry than under the Care of an honest *British*

(27)

British one; and I assure you, Sir, that I have some very stubborn Doubts within me relating to this important Point of directing our Trade, which I shall have the Pleasure of communicating to you upon another Occasion. In the meantime, I hardly believe that any of our Merchants, in their private Capacities, or our *East India*, *South Sea*, and *Turkey Companies*, as Bodies corporate, would like the Change; or that even our Trademen, Artificers and Labourers would find themselves much better employed by it; at least if we can form any Judgment of what the Behaviour of *Holland* would be to us in such a Case, by what it has been in Times past, whenever they found Opportunities of taking Advantage of us, or of making our Ministers the mercenary Tools of their Measures. This will appear pretty plain by a short historical Account, which I take Leave to present you of the Rise and Progress of the *Dutch East India Company*, and the Means by which they usurped the Possessions of their Neighbours: It is taken from Mr. *Janiçon's* Present State of the Republick of the *United Provinces*, published in 1729; a Book which no *Briton* ought to be without. To the Text I have added some Remarks of my own, and I flatter myself that the People of *Great Britain* will not disapprove them.

" THE Trade between *Europe* and *East India* has been carried on above Two Thousand " Years. The *Egyptians* were the first that attempted it; after them the *Arabians* managed " it several Centuries with Success by Means of " the *Red Sea*, from whence they brought the " Products of *India* upon Camels to *Grand Cairo*. " From that City they fell down the *Nile* " to

“ to *Alexandria*, which was, in those Days, the
“ great *Emporium* or Center of Trade between
“ *Europe* and *India*, and was frequented by all
“ Nations for the rich Commodities of the *East*,
“ but especially by the *Venetians* who had then
“ engrossed the Trade of *India* to themselves.

“ THIS Trade continued so until towards
“ the Year 1498, when the *Portuguese* found out
“ a new Way to *India*, after having spent near
“ Fourscoure Years in the Discovery.

“ UPON their Arrival they found the *Arabs*
“ powerfully established in several Parts of that
“ great Continent, and entire Masters of the
“ Trade there. Those *Arabs* set all their En-
“ gines at Work to traverse the new Adventu-
“ rers, and prevailed upon several potent Kings
“ to declare against them. But the *Portuguese*
“ surmounted all Difficulties; they redoubled
“ their Efforts, and, in Spite of all Opposition,
“ made themselves Masters, at last, not only of
“ several important Places in *India*, but also of
“ the whole Commerce of that vast and rich
“ Country. In the Year 1510, they took the
“ City of *Goa*, and made it the Capital of the
“ New Empire, they designed to establish in the
“ *East*, the Riches of which were sent every
“ Year to *Portugal*, and, by that Means, all the
“ Trade of *Europe* was drawn from *Alexandria*
“ to *Lisbon*.

(d) “ BEFORE the Reunion of the Crown of
“ *Portu-*

(d) Here Mr. *Janicon* very artfully endeavours to give the
best Gloss he can to the Proceedings of the *Dutch* in en-
croaching upon the *Portuguese* in *India*, and makes the Per-
secution

“ *Portugal* to that of *Castile* in the Year 1580;
“ the *Dutch* used to furnish themselves at *Lisbon*
“ with all Sorts of *East India* Goods, but the
“ Persecution they suffered under *Philip II.* of
“ *Spain* confirmed them in the Resolution they
“ had taken, *some Time before*, to go themselves
“ to *India*, for those Commodities which they
“ had been so long used to buy from the *Por-*
“ *tuguese*.

“ AFTER several fruitless Attempts to find
“ a Way to *India* by the *North*, some Merchants
“ began to listen to the Advice of one *Houtman*,
“ who had made several Voyages to *India* along
“ with the *Portuguese*, and had been a considera-
“ ble Time a Prisoner amongst them for prying a
“ little too narrowly into the Nature and Parti-

secution they suffer'd from *Philip II.* of *Spain* one of their
Motives for going to *India*, tho' he owns at the same Time,
that they had taken the Resolution to do so *some Years* be-
fore: But, with his Leave, Persecution from *Spain* could
have no Share in the Business, nor be any Reason for at-
tacking the *Portuguese* Trade in the *East*, the Crowns of *Ca-*
stile and *Portugal*, according as he himself has fixed the Date
of their Reunion, not being reunited when the *Dutch* sent a-
way Four Ships, in 1559, under the Command of *Houtman*.
Here it is to be noted that the *Dutch*, according to Mr. *Jani-*
con's own Confession, had even made several Attempts to find
a Way to *India* by the *North*, long before *Houtman's* Voy-
age, which must necessarily have taken up several Years in
the different Experiments. Had the *Portuguese* been under
the Dominion of King *Philip* at that Time, as this Author
artfully insinuates, the *Dutch* would then have had a more
plausible Pretence for their Conduct in *India* provided they
had declared against *Spain*, which they did not do till the
Year 1566, Seven Years after *Houtman's* Voyage, nor was
the *Union* of *Utrecht* made till the 23d of *January* 1559:
So that when *Houtman* went to *India* the *Hollanders* were
actually Subjects to the King of *Spain*. As to *Portugal* it
was a free Kingdom, in Peace with *Spain*, and had given no
Offence to the *Dutch*.

“ culars

“ culars of that Trade. Those Merchants found
 “ their Account in embracing his Proposals;
 “ made a Joint Stock, and gave him the Com-
 “ mand of Four Ships with which he sailed from
 “ the *Texel* in the Year 1559, and steered the
 “ same Course which all the *Portuguese* had done
 “ in passing the *Cape of Good Hope*.

“ *HOUTMAN* met with a great many Dif-
 “ ficulties and Disappointments by Means of the
 “ *Portuguese*; nevertheless, he brought three of
 “ his Ships back to *Holland* in *August* 1561, ha-
 “ ving been obliged to abandon the Fourth for
 “ Want of Hands.

“ THE Cargoes of those three Ships, the
 “ Profits of which far exceeded the Expence of
 “ Equipment, gave Birth to greater Hopes, and
 “ encouraged other Merchants to form several
 “ Societies for carrying on the same Trade.

* Mr. Janicon is a great Admirer of Companies and Monopolies, which are not so suitable to the Genius of a free Kingdom as a Republick, where the Rulers are commonly the chief Monopolizers.

“ THIS Multiplicity of
 “ Societies, * which in the
 “ End would have ruined
 “ one another, obliged the
 “ States General to take a
 “ Resolution in the Year
 “ 1602, to incorporate them all into one Com-
 “ pany, which might be in a Condition to make
 “ Head against the *Spaniards* and *Portuguese*,
 “ and carry on a free Trade in *India*. Privilege
 “ was accordingly granted to this Company for
 “ twenty-one Years, to trade to *India*, exclusive
 “ of all others; but upon Condition, neverthe-
 “ less, that it should always be subject to and
 “ depend upon the States General. The Octroy
 “ contained

“ contained Forty-six Articles which may be
 “ found in the great Placart Book.

“ THE Company then immediately made up
 “ a Fund of 6,459,840 Guilders, Part of which
 “ Money was forthwith employed in fitting out
 “ Ships that were sent to trade in *India* under
 “ experienced Commanders.

As the *Portuguese* neglected no Opportunities
 of (e) attacking the *Dutch* and obstructing their
 “ Trade, the Company resolved to repel Force
 “ with Force, and attack them in their Turn.
 “ IN

(e) Tho' the Fact should prove to have been as Mr. Jani-
 son has related it, which it is demonstrable it was not, the
Portuguese did no more, in attacking the *Dutch*, than what
 the *Arabs* had done to the *Portuguese* long before; nor than
 what any other Nation would have done in the like Case.
 They were the first *Europeans* that, at vast Expences and Pains,
 discovered the Way to *India*; upon this Account they un-
 doubtedly had, and perhaps may still have, the best Right of
 any *European* Nation to settle and trade there. The *Portu-
 guese* have lately established a Company at *Lisbon* to trade to
Goa and their other Settlements in *India*; the *Spaniards* are
 also going to trade directly from *Spain* to the *Philippine* I-
 lands: The *Dutch* take Umbrage at this, and would have Us
 enter into Concert with them to prevent it. What Modesty!
 What Justice! The *Dutch* would still make us further Tools
 of their Aggrandisement, by joining with them to our own
 visible Detriment, to hinder the *Spaniards* and *Portuguese*
 from trading to their own Countries. Well! Our Allies are
 certainly very extraordinary Men, and so shall we be too, but
 in another Sense, if we suffer ourselves to be their Dupes upon
 such Occasions. It would be a very pleasant Thing, indeed,
 in us, to hinder two Nations, which take so much of our
Woollen Manufactures and keep our Country in Cash, by the
 Yearly Ballance we draw from them, to trade to *India*, mere-
 ly to humour the *Dutch*, because they are likely to be clipped
 in their Power and Profit there by such a Trade. What Da-
 mage can we sustain by the *Portuguese East India Company*?
 What Spices, what Drugs, what Pearls, what Diamonds, &c.
 do

“ IN the Year 1605 they seized the Forts which the *Portuguese* had in the Island of (f) *Amboina*. The Conquest of this Island was followed by That of the rest of the *Moluccas*; upon which the *Dutch* became Masters of that most important Article the *Spice Trade*, particularly the *CLOVES*.

“ IN

do the *Portuguese* take from us? They take a great deal of our *Woollen Manufactures*, and will take a great deal more, if we encourage them to gain Ground upon the *Dutch Company* in the East; but yet the Discoverers of *India* must not be suffered to establish an *India Company*, because *Holland*, forsooth, does not like it! If the *Dutch* succeed in this Point they may well be called *High* and *Mighty*; but what will other Nations call *Englishmen*?

(f) A *Foreigner*, who never had heard of the Murder of our Countrymen at *Amboina*, and the seizing of our Factories there, would think, by reading this Paragraph, that we never were upon that Island, nor had any Thing to do with the *Moluccas* and *Spice Trade*: Here Mr. *Janicon's* Partiality is glaring and not to be passed over in Silence. He manages his Account so as to make the World believe that, after the Expulsion of the *Portuguese*, the *Dutch* were all along, as they are at present, the only *Europeans* concerned in *Amboina*. He does not speak one Word of the villainous pretended Conspiracy trumped up by the *Hollanders* when they murdered the *English* there, with all the Pageantry of an arbitrary, despotick Procedure, which they insolently called a judicial one, and made not only suborned, profligate, Pagan Evidences, but Racks, and Tortures, and Axes and Gibbets for *Englishmen*, the Means by which they became entire Masters of the *Spices*; and have remained so ever since that horrible Tragedy. But, notwithstanding all this, the *English Blood* shed there with such amazing Circumstances of Cruelty, Avarice and Injustice, is still unrevenged; nor has *England*, to this very Hour, received the least Satisfaction, either for the Murder of her People, the Insult made upon her Honour, or the Robbery committed upon her Property: But for this, one principal Reason, perhaps, has been, that the *Dutch* had more Money and private Friends in *England*, at that Time, and in some subsequent Reigns, than the *English* Ministers had Honesty,

“ IN 1609 they built a Fort at *Jacatra* in the Island of *Java*, where they maintained their Footing in Spite of the Inhabitants of the Island spirited up against them by the *Portuguese*, and afterwards by the *English*. (g) They gave that Fort the Name of *Batavia*, and have since built a most superb City upon the Ruins of *Jacatra*. This City they have made the Metropolis and Seat of their mighty Empire in the East.

E

“ IN

nesty, or Love for their Country, or Courage to resent the Affront and revenge the Injuries she had received. Nevertheless, it is to be hoped that, under the present virtuous and heroick Administration, Methods will be taken to revise and look thoroughly into this black Affair, the long and dishonest, as well as impolitick, Neglect of which has, unfortunately for *England*, given the *Dutch* but too much Encouragement in their other Attempts, and done more Mischief to our Trade than can be easily imagined by any but those that feel the Effects of it. In this Case it is difficult to determine which were the greatest Enemies to *England*: The *Dutch*, who massacred our People, robbed our Factories, and seized our Share of the *Spice Trade*, or those dastardly, corrupt, *English Ministers*, who then permitted such flagrant Villanies, so inhumane a Murder, so insolent and so unjust a Plunder to pass unpunished and unrevenged.

(g) Mr. *Janicon's* artful Silence, as to the Affair of *Amboina*, is an undeniable Proof of the Weakness of the *Dutch* Cause and the Injustice of their Proceedings there, for had it been possible to justify or even to excuse it, in any Respect, Policy and his own Honour as an Author, as well as the Honour of the Republick, would have obliged him to mention it. But, as dumb as he is upon this Point, he is open mouth'd about *Jacatra*, and very roundly accuses us of spiriting up the *Javaneze* against the *Hollanders*; but this is not the only Stone he throws at us in his Book, * printed just under the Eyes of the States General. Thus the *Dutch* did not think it sufficient

* At the Hague, in the Year 1729.

“ IN 1611 the Company established their
“ Trade in *Japan*, and have (b) secured it there
“ so well that, since the Year 1616, no Nation
“ is suffered to trade there but the Dutch.

“ THE Fort which the King of *Isnager* per-
“ mitted them to build on the Coast of *Coro-*
“ *mandel*, secured them from the Insults of the
“ *Portuguese* of *St. Thomas*, and gave them an
“ Opportunity of extending their Trade all a-
“ long that Coast, from which they have en-
“ tirely

ent to murder and rob our People, but they give Us an ill
Name too into the Bargain, and attack the Honour of our
Country. Whether this Accusation is just or not in Mr. *Jani-*
con, it stands recorded in a Work which will be read as long
as the *French* Tongue subsists; wherefore it is humbly submit-
ted to the Ministry of *Great Britain*, and those whom it most
nearly regards, how far the Honour and Interest of *England*
may stand prejudiced by this Aspersions, since it may perhaps
have been dextrously thrown in, not only as a *Cover* but even
as a *Reason* for several Proceedings of the *Dutch*, and may
prove of more Consequence than any ordinary Reader can
foresee, especially if our Ministers take no further Notice of
it. The Accusation is either true or false; if true, then the
Author was in the Right to make it; if false, we shall be un-
just to ourselves and Posterity if we pass it over: The Words,
spirited up, imply a base, treacherous Proceeding in us against
our Neighbours, without any Provocation received from them
to authorize our Conduct. The Author has put these two Pa-
ragraphs of *Amboina* and *Jacatra* a little too close together
to escape our Notice.

(b) The *Dutch Company's* Embassadour endeavour'd to do
us just as much Service in the *Great Mogul's* Dominions just
after the *Revolution*, when he represented us to that Prince as
a pitiful, insignificant People whom the Dutch could subdue
whenever they pleased, and had lately given a King to. For
this the Reader may consult Captain *Alexander Hamilton's*
new Account of the *East-Indies*, dedicated to his Grace the
present Duke of *Hamilton* and *Brandon*, where the Emperor
Aurenzebe's

“ tirely driven the Subjects of the Crown of
“ *Portugal*.

“ IN 1640 the Company conquered (i) *Ma-*
“ *lacca*, which was one of the most important
“ Places the *Portuguese* possessed in *India*, and by
“ which the Dutch are become Masters of the most
“ considerable Streights in all *Asia*.

Aurenzebe's Answer is to be found at Length. The Captain
says in another Part of his Book, and I have heard him say
the same Thing an Hundred Times by Word of Mouth, that
the *Dutch* thought to act the Second Part of the Tragedy of
Amboina upon the *English* at *Japan*, where, by Mr. *Jani-*
con's own Words, it is very apparently owing to the Practices
of our dear Allies, amongst whom Mr. *Osborne* says we are
the Nation most favoured, that we are not permitted to carry
on any Manner of Commerce.

(i) This happened when our Disturbances and Mismanage-
ments at home left us neither Leisure nor Power to look after the
Affairs of *India*, either to prevent the further Progress of the
Dutch there, by assisting the *Portuguese*, as it was absolutely
our Interest to have done, or to call the *Dutch Company* to an
Account for their former Proceedings and our Losses. This,
by all Means, ought to have been done with the utmost Vi-
gour, as soon as the *Portuguese* had thrown off the *Spanish*
Yoke, if our own unfortunate domestick Troubles and Con-
fusions would have permitted it: Those Troubles and Confu-
sions were the Result of the ambitious, arbitrary and corrupt
Administration of a haughty, insolent, ignorant Minister in
the Reign of King *James I.* and continued by the same *Ignis fatuus*
of *England* in the Reign of King *Charles I.* so
fond was both *Father* and *Son* of that very Man who was the
Ruin of their Family, and proved the original Cause of the
Extirpation of the Male Line of it from the Throne of *Great*
Britain. Thus by the ill Conduct of a Minister, who was
too proud and too self-sufficient to be advised, and who had no
Talents or Merit under the Sun but that of raising Money by
Methods contrary to the Genius of our Constitution and the
Rights of the People, ENGLAND was not only put out of
a Condition to pursue her Interest Abroad, but even to de-
fend and preserve her Liberties at home. The same Causes
will always produce the same Effects.

“ IN 1641 the *Portuguese*, who had thrown
“ off the *Spanish* Yoke, concluded a Truce of
“ Ten Years with the *Dutch*. By that Treaty,
“ Navigation was to be left entirely free to both
“ Parties, and each remained in Possession of the
“ Places they held in *East* and *West* *India* at the
“ making the Truce.

“ BUT the *Dutch* (*k*) in Violation of that
“ Truce, made themselves Masters of *Gallé* and
“ *Colombo* in the Island of *Ceylon*, and by that
Means

(*k*) When the *Dutch* rose up in Arms against their own So-
vereign, they cried out to all the Earth for help; but ungene-
rously and unjustly took Advantage of the Confusion which the
Affairs of *Portugal* were in. The *Portuguese* had just recover-
ed their Liberty; *Spain* was thundering upon them with all
its Fury; *England* was plunged in Rebellion and Blood at home,
and this was the honest Opportunity which the *Dutch* took hold
of to break publick Faith with the brave *Portuguese* when all
the rest of Mankind wished them Success, as it is natural for e-
very honest Man to do to all brave People struggling to regain
their Liberty, and as it was lately done to the gallant *Corfi-
cans*. Here we may observe a Piece of State Craft and neces-
sary Affectation of Impartiality in Mr. *Janicon*. He does
not scruple to acknowledge the *Dutch* to be in the Wrong
when the Dispute is not between them and the *English*. He
thinks it can be of no great Consequence to let the *Portuguese*
know how unfairly they have been used in the *East Indies*,
because it gives an Air of Impartiality to what he says against
us, and because he imagines it out of the Power of *Portugal* to
do itself Justice; but he takes quite another Method with
England. He industriously conceals the Injuries we have re-
ceived from the *Dutch* in the *East Indies*, and accuses us of
Injustice for shewing any Effects of our Resentment: which,
God knows, was but too seldom, thanks to our noble Ministers
in those Days! But this Artifice in Mr. *Janicon*, tho' the only
One he had to make use of, may, perchance miss the End it
was designed for; *Portugal* may come to open her Eyes, and
the People of *Great Britain* to exert their Right: Both Na-
tions may, perhaps, be convinced that it is their common In-
terest.

“ Means became also Masters of the *Cinnamon*
“ Trade, and not only so but even of the *Streights*
“ between that Island and *Cape Comorin*, conse-
“ quently of the two most considerable Passages of
“ *Asia*.

“ (1) THAT Breach of the Truce caused a
“ new War which held until the Year 1661, du-
“ ring which the *Dutch* took the best Places the
“ *Portuguese* had in *India*. At last, a Peace was
“ con-

terest to join in overhawling the *Dutch*, and examining the
Validity of that Title by which they pretend to keep such o-
vergrown Dominions in the East, and to Lord it over all the
European Nations that Trade there. As the *Dutch Company*
made no Manner of Scruple to violate publick Faith with the
Portuguese when they had a furious War upon their Hands in
Europe, and inhumanly took that Opportunity to attack them
and seize upon *Ceylon*. Quere, Whether the *Portuguese* can-
not reclaim that noble Island as well as several other Places,
notwithstanding any necessitated or extorted Treaties? Whe-
ther it is not absolutely the Interest of *Great Britain* that they
should do so? And whether it is not also the Interest of all the
other Trading Nations of *Europe*, and even of the *Indian*
Princes themselves, not to suffer the *Dutch* to continue any lon-
ger Masters of the whole *Spice Trade* and the two most consider-
able Passages of *Asia*, which they seized upon contrary to all
known Rules of Honour, contrary to the universal Law of
Nations, and in Defiance of the Command of GOD himself
laid down to us in Holy Writ.

(1) *England* was then in the utmost Distraction and Misery,
and the *Dutch* took Time by the Forelock: But it is Matter of
Astonishment that King *Charles* the Second, who ought to
have learned Experience Abroad, could be so ill informed of
his own true Interest and That of his People, as to be Media-
tor of a Peace to make the *Dutch* entire Masters of all the va-
luable Trade of *India*; whereas he ought rather to have assisted
the *Portuguese*, commanded the *Dutch* to disgorge, and to have
broke the Power of that insolent Company, which was then
grown too exorbitant in the *East* for the rest of *Europe*. But
tho' *England* abounded, at that very Time of the hopeful Me-
diation, with the best Soldiers and Seamen in the Universe,
yet

“ concluded at the *Hague* by the Mediation of
“ his *Britannick* Majesty King *Charles* II.

(m) “ By that Treaty the *Dutch* abandon-
“ ed *Brazil* but kept their Conquests in *In-*
“ *dia*;

yet King *Charles*'s honest Ministers acted, it seems, upon other Principles, for which *England* has no great Reason to multiply Blessings upon their Memory, nor upon *that* of any Minister who may happen to tread in their Steps. A wise and honest Ministry would have looked upon *Portugal* as a Kingdom highly deserving the Care and Friendship of *England* upon Account of our Trade with it, which, as has been already observed elsewhere, has been so considerable some Years, that the Balance we drew from thence in the late War was the principal Article of our Support. Nevertheless, how plain soever Things may appear to the People, Ministers have their own Way of thinking, and very often think to much better Purpose for themselves than for their Country: This made *Jugurtha* say to *Rome*, when she was near her Period of Liberty, “ O thou corrupt City, meaning the leading
“ Dons in the Ministry and Senate, thou only wantest a
“ Merchant to buy thee.” This Expression of *Jugurtha* might, in some Reigns and upon some certain Occasions, have been applicable enough to some of our own Ministers and Senators, but with this Difference, however, that they found the Merchant to buy them. If any Thing renders this Remark useless to *Britons*, it is the Virtue and Disinterestedness of our present Administration.

(m) Here Mr. *Janicon* is straining himself again for his beloved Republick. He would have his Readers understand that the *Dutch* kept their unjust Acquisitions from the *Portuguese* in *India* as an Equivalent for their abandoning *Brazil*; whereas the *Portuguese* had entirely driven them out of the latter before the Treaty was concluded. Besides, by Virtue of that Treaty of King *Charles*'s mediating by the Advice of his Ministers, the King of *Portugal*, over and above the Loss of so many important Places in the *East Indies*, was obliged to pay the *Hollanders* † Eight Millions of Florins; strange Infatuation of *England*! and to favour *Holland* so much in Point of Trade that *Englishmen* have felt the Effects of that Treaty ever since: A Demonstration that all the fatal
Consequences

† Above Seven Hundred Thousand Pounds Sterling.

“ *dia*; (n) but some Dispute happening between
“ the Vice Roy of *Goa* and the Governor Gene-
“ ral of *Batavia*, the War soon broke out again
“ in that Country.

“ IN 1663, the *Dutch* took *Coulan*, *Cananor*,
“ *Cochin*, and *Great Ganor*, which were the last
“ Places the *Portuguese* had on the Coast of *Ma-*
“ *labar*; so that in less than a Year about an
“ Hundred and Fifty Leagues of that Coast chang-
“ ed Masters, very little remaining with the *Por-*
“ *tuguese* but *Goa*, *Diu*, and some other Places
“ of no great Consequence, of which they are
“ still in Possession.

“ BUT one of the most useful Conquests to
“ the Company was that of the *Cape of Good*

Consequences of an evil and weak Conduct in Ministers do not appear immediately. This is one of the Panegyrics that may be justly made upon our Ministers in those Days. God make the present ones honest and wiser.

(n) If the Fault had been on the Vice Roy's Side, our Author would not have failed to tell us so. But he has left the Thing in Suspence, because, very probably, he was ashamed to accuse his Favourites, so soon again, of a new Piece of Perfidiousness to the injured and betrayed *Portuguese*. Here we see the *Dutch East India Company* breaking through their Treaties with *Portugal*, without any Regard either to the Person or Honour of King *Charles* II. as Mediator of the last Peace, or Fear of his Resentments for the gross Affront put upon him. In open Breach of that Peace they stript the credulous *Portuguese* of all the Places they had left worth seizing in the *East*, and extended their Dominions 150 Leagues along the Coast of *Malabar*, which it was the Interest of *England* to have prevented at any Rate, as it was the Duty of the Ministry to have taken effectual Measures to do so. Our present great Minister was not then in Being; he could have no Hand in the iniquitous Conduct of his Predecessors, nor can he be accountable to his Country for any Thing but his own Actions.

“ Hope,

“ *Hope* (o) on the Coast of *Africa* in the Year
“ 1653, that Place serving as an Entrepot for
“ Ships going to *India* and coming from it,
“ where they commonly stay five or six Weeks
“ to Water and refresh their Crews.

“ THE *Dutch* had also the good Fortune in
“ the Year 1656, in Spite of all the Obstacles
“ thrown in the Way by the *Jesuits* and the
“ *Portuguese*, to obtain Permission from the Em-
“ peror of *China* to trade in his Dominions; (p)
“ but they have no Settlements, nor any Prefe-
“ rence to any other *European* Nations, who are
“ all equally admitted there.

“ BUT, notwithstanding this Favour, they
“ received a most mortifying Blow in the Year
“ 1662, when the *Chinese* took the Island of
“ *Formosa* from them; they used to carry on a
“ very considerable Trade from thence with
“ *China*, *Japan*, and other Places, because the
“ Ports of that Island are the safest and most
“ convenient in all the *East*. Ships may put in
“ there at all Times without being obliged to

(o) This was entirely the Fault of the *English*; but the Rea-
der is referred to Captain *Hamilton's* new Account of the *East*
Indies, where he may find how civilly we are treated there
upon Occasion, as well as all over *India*, when we are to try
the Friendship of the *Dutch*, or are obliged to submit to their
Will and Pleasure.

(p) Mr. *Janicon* seems to say this with a Groan, that it is
not otherwise; but we owe no Thanks either to him or the
Dutch that they have no Preference to us in *China*. If it lay
in their Power to get us excluded from thence, as well as they
have done from *Japan*, there is no Doubt but they would go
about it immediately, or else the *Dutch Company* would deviate
from those Maxims and Principles upon which it has hitherto
acted in that Part of the World.

wait

“ wait for the *Alisan* Winds, and are sheltered
“ from all Sorts of Winds whatever.

“ BESIDES the *Portuguese*, the *Company*
“ had some *Indian* Kings to fight with. The
“ War with the King of *Macassar* was one of
“ the longest and most dangerous which the
“ *Dutch* have had upon their Hands in those
“ Parts. That King's Subjects made a Practice
“ of robbing and murdering, where and when-
“ ever they could, all such as were in the Ser-
“ vice of the *Company* or in Alliance with it;
“ and were extremely troublesome to the *Spice*
“ Trade. At last, the *Company* attacked him so
“ vigorously that he was oblig'd to sue for Peace,
“ and accept of such Terms as the Council of
“ *Batavia* thought fit to impose upon him in
“ the Year 1669; amongst other Things That
“ of giving up the Fortress of *Macassar*. By
“ that Means the *Dutch* freed themselves from
“ the most dangerous Enemy they had in *India*,
“ and became absolute Masters of the Trade of
“ the *Molucca* Islands which the *Macassars* had
“ so long interrupted.

“ THE *Dutch* had also the good Fortune to
“ see their Troops in Possession of the Town of
“ *St Thomas* in 1675, having assisted the King
“ of *Golconda* to retake that Place from the
“ *French*, who had seized upon it some Years
“ before.

“ THE King of *Materan*, who pretends to
“ be Emperor of the whole Island of *Java*, has
“ also, in his Turn, made War against the *Com-*
“ *pany*; but being assisted by them in the Year
“ 1680, against his two Brothers who had re-
“ belled,

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“ belled, he gave them the Towns of *Japara*
“ and *Cheriban*.

(q) “ Two Years after; the *Company* taking
“ Advantage of the Civil War that broke out at
“ *Bantam*,

(q) It is worth every *Englishman's* While to observe, and even necessary for him to know, the laudable Means by which the *Dutch* thrust us out of our Trade and Settlements at *Bantam*. Our Factory assist the lawful King against his Rebel-Son whom the *Dutch* assist with all their Power from *Batavia*: Fortune declares for the unjust Side, as she has often done: The unnatural Son prevails: The *Dutch* enter the Town by Storm: They imprison the King and drive away the *English*: So that our Countrymen dare not now go ashore at *Bantam* without asking Permission from these *Lawgivers* of *India*. *Bantam* is situated near the Straights of *Sonda*, about twelve Leagues to the Westward of *Batavia*. It is watered by three fine Rivers, which together, form a most beautiful and commodious Haven. Before this unnatural War, aided and fomented by the *Dutch*, we had a considerable Trade and Settlement there, and it is to be reasonably supposed that our Countrymen were not free to remain Neuters, since they were inclosed in the Town where King *Agum* was besieged and assaulted by his Son Prince *Agni* and his honest *Dutch* Auxiliaries, who afterwards became his Masters, and he their Vassal, according to Custom. However Mr. *Osborne's* Supporters and Preservers of the Religion and Liberties of *Britain*, made this Affair, in which they ought to be detested and abhorred by all Mankind, a formal Pretext to forfeit our Settlements and Trade, as if *Englishmen* had been Rebels to the *Dutch*: There was not, at that Time, any Quarrel or Rupture in *Europe* between *England* and *Holland*; however we lost our Trade at *Bantam* from that Day to this. As the *Dutch Company* was afterwards confirmed in the Possession of that City and its rich Commerce by the most solemn Treaties; and as it is pretty well known how those Treaties were made, it is needless to push this Point any further at present: But People may be apt to infer from these Sorts of Proceedings, and the Papers we see daily and insolently published in *London*, not only in Defence but even in Praise of the Authors of those Proceedings, that the *Dutch* think they may do what they please, and use us as they please in *India*, while we do all we can to oblige, serve and aggrandise them both there and in Europe.

“ *Bantam*, and siding with the Son against the Fa-
“ ther, seized upon that City and all its Trade,
“ which was open to all the Nations of *Europe*
“ before that Time. This, indeed, proved the
“ Cause of great Disputes between the *English*
“ and
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Europe. The Product of *Java*, in which *Bantam* lies, consists, according to Mr. *Janicon*, in Pepper, Ginger, Rice, Fruits and Provisions in Abundance: May we not then suppose this Article of Product to have been Crime enough in the *English*, and righteous Reason enough in the Eyes of the *Dutch* to drive us out of *Bantam*? This is an undeniable Proof that we are the Nation the most favoured by them. *Japara*, in the same Island, is also a rich and flourishing City, and still under its own King. It has a very safe and convenient Harbour. All Nations frequent it and drive a considerable Trade there, which Mr. *Janicon* says, p. 328, the *Dutch Company* has not been able to prevent as yet: But, it is to be naturally supposed, he hopes they will be able to prevent us in Time, and have already actually endeavoured to do so; otherwise the Remark had been an Error in Judgment which so acute an Author is not capable of falling into.

The *Dutch East India Company* has seldom left any Means unattempted, wherever she could lay her Hand, to turn out her Neighbours and engross all the Trade to herself: But can we help being astonished at the Indolence, the Supineness, the ill Policy of some *European* Powers in suffering such Proceedings to pass unchastised, and permitting themselves to be unjustly, insolently thrust out, and forcibly excluded from the richest Trade in the Universe; and that too by the Inhabitants of a Spot of Ground which, before our Ancestors took it under their Protection, was hardly worth possessing? Of the Six Chambers, of which the *Dutch East India Company* is composed, Five belong to the Province of *Holland*, and the other to *Zeland*; the other Provinces are but slenderly interested in them: So that the *Hollanders* and *Zelanders*, the Inhabitants of Fens and Marshes, are principally the People that have done us all the Mischiefs and all the Injuries we have met with in the *East*. *Holland*, itself, was formerly but a mere Bog, and would very soon become so again were it not for the vast Expence and the prodigious Pains the State is at to preserve it: *Zeland*, indeed, is somewhat bolder Land; but the whole Seven Provinces taken together, and the Country of the *Generality*, too, put into the Account,
are

“ and the *Dutch*; but the latter have been since confirmed in the Possession of the City and Trade of *Bantam* by the most solemn Treaties.

“ BEHOLD the Means by which the *Dutch* established themselves in *India*, and formed an *Empire there which now gives Laws to almost all the Universe in regard to the Trade of the East.*”

SIR, this is the most favourable Account Mr. *Janiçon* could give us of the Proceedings of the *Dutch East India Company*, in seizing other People's Dominions, and becoming *Lawgivers*

are hardly Forty Eight Leagues in Length, from the furthest Part of *Dutch Limburgh* to that of *Groningen*; nor above 40 Leagues in Breadth, from the Extremities of *South Holland* to those of *Overysfel*. Thus the whole Country, in *Europe*, of those *high and mighty Lords* the States of the *United Provinces* is not half as big as *Ireland*, nor does it contain twice as many Acres as *Yorkshire*, Allowance being made for what is taken up by Water. Nevertheless, it has been observed, by more Authors than one, that this Republick is always coupled with the Kingdom of *Great Britain* as the two maritime Powers of *Europe*. The *Dutch* are also every Day leaving us farther behind them in Trade, tho' their Country does not produce Subsistence for the Hundredth Part of the Inhabitants, nor Objects of Commerce to keep one in a Thousand of them from begging: They increase in Riches, Power, and Haughtiness in the Midst of their Bogs, while Thousands and Thousands of *British Families* are destitute of the common Comforts of Life, and can hardly procure wherewithal to pay their Taxes in one of the most considerable Kingdoms of *Europe*, in regard to the Fertility of its Soil, its Objects of Commerce, its Extent, its Situation for Trade, and the Number and Goodness of its Ports; whereas the *Dutch* have not one good one in all their Country. But the Reason of this strange Contradiction to the Design of Nature and Providence *must* be submitted to the Wisdom of our Superiots.

to

to the Universe in regard to the Trade of the *East*. In this Account, which I have translated as literally as our Idiom would possibly bear, we may indeed behold the Means, and behold them too with Astonishment, by which that Company from a Capital (r) of but * 6459840 Guilders, or about 587258 Pounds Sterling, is arrived to a Strength and Power in *India* which, Mr. *Janiçon* says, equals, if not surpasses, most of the greatest and most absolute Monarchs in *Europe*.

* A Guilder is a Dutch Pence, for eleven of which an English Shilling commonly passes at Amsterdam.

BESIDES the Expences abroad the *Company* maintains (s) Sixty-five or Sixty-six Directors at Home

(r) This Capital is thus divided, viz.	Guilders.
The Chamber of <i>Amsterdam</i> has	3,674,915
<i>Middleburg</i> in <i>Zeland</i>	1,333,882
<i>Delft</i>	470,000
<i>Rotterdam</i>	177,400
<i>Hoorn</i>	266,868
<i>Enkhusen</i>	536,775

6,459,840

Guilders, which Sum was divided into Shares or Actions; each Share was 3000 Guilders in the Beginning; but notwithstanding the vast Expence the *Company* is at, both at Home and Abroad, they sometimes sell at 24 or 25000 Guilders a Share, more or less as Stock rises or falls. Here it is to be noted, that tho' *Rotterdam* had but a Capital of little above *Sixteen Thousand Pounds Sterling*, yet that Chamber, the meanest of the Six, maintains, at present, Eight Directors, a Cash-keeper, a Chief Book-keeper, a Second Book-keeper, — Clerks, a Chamber Keeper, two Master Store Keepers, a Master Ship Builder, a chief Pilot, with several other Officers and Workmen, and a magnificent Yacht. As this is the most inconsiderable of all the Chambers, the Rise, Riches, and Grandeur of it may be worth an *Englishman's* Notice.

(s) These Directors have not all Salaries alike; the highest Salary is Three Thousand, and the lowest twelve Hundred

dred

Home belonging to the several Chambers of which it is composed. It has also Six Cash-keepers, Six Master Ship Builders, above Thirty Book-keepers, besides Secretaries and Clerks in Proportion; there is likewise such a Swarm of other Officers, Workmen and Servants belonging to this *Company* in *Holland* that the Number of them is incredible. In *Amsterdam* alone, which is but one of the Six Chambers, the very fortifying of the *Spices* finds constant Work for above Fifty Persons throughout the whole Year.

BUT if the Expence at Home is prodigious, Abroad it is immense. The Governor General is the first Man in that *Empire* which the *Company* has established in *India*, and, as it were, the Stadtholder, Captain General, and Lord High Admiral of it. He has a *Master Key* to the *Treasury* and all the Magazines and Stores, out of which he takes what he pleases, (t) without being accountable to any Body there. The *Company* allows him Thirteen Hundred Rix Dollars a Month, and maintains his Household besides, which amounts to a considerable Expence; but all this is a mere Trifle in Comparison of his Perquisites, and the numerous Opportunities he has of making Money. His Court resembles That of an absolute Monarch, and he receives the same Honours, by

dred Guilders a Year: So that the Salaries of the Directors, whatever their Management may be, cannot be said to eat up the Profits of the *Company*, and keep the Dividends low.

(t) This would be a great Error in the *Dutch* Policy, if the Governor General were not accountable to the Directors when he comes Home; for when a Minister has a Latitude to rob and plunder at Discretion, without being accountable, the Publick seldom fares the better for it.

Order.

Order of the *Company*, that are usually paid to the greatest crowned Heads. The Ambassadors and Envoys sent to him by the *Indian* Kings are introduced to their Audience with as much Pomp and Ceremony as the *Grand Seignor's* Ambassador was in *Paris* in the Year 1721; and when he appears Abroad it is with greater State and Magnificence than the greatest Monarch in *Christendom*.

THE Director General is the next Great Officer to the Governor General; his Power is very great among the Merchants, his Salary very considerable, and his Levees very numerous.

THE Major General is the third Person in the Government; he has a good Salary and considerable Profits; he commands twelve Thousand regular Troops, and an Hundred Thousand well disciplin'd Militia.

BESIDES this Expence there are also two great Councils at the Charge of the *Company*; one of State and the other of Justice. There are also Eight very considerable tho' subordinate Governments, besides a Multitude of Factories dispersed up and down those Countries in the *East Indies* where the *Dutch* are not entirely Masters. The *Company* likewise maintains an incredible Number of Officers, Ministers, Schoolmasters, Workmen and Servants Abroad, and has about an Hundred and Eighty Ships from Thirty to Sixty Guns to protect Trade, but upon Occasion can fit out Forty more of greater Force, according to Mr. *Janiſon*. The Eight subordinate Governments are in the Order I am going to describe them.

A M.

AMBOINA is the first of these Eight Governments, of which a Description has been given already in my Letter to the Merchants of *Great Britain*, as well as a Hint of our Misfortunes there and the Cruelty and Injustice of our Allies; wherefore I need not enlarge upon so melancholy a Subject when I consider how great an Affection you have for your Countrymen. I hope, Sir, you will make this Affair a Part of your indispensable Duty to think of, and, in Justice to *England*, order a Computation to be made of our Losses according to the Quantity of *Spices Amboina* furnishes every Year, and then demand Satisfaction from the *Dutch Company* for them. I am sure no *British* Minister has had so favourable an Opportunity, since that Business happened, or so much Reason to do so as you have at present. If you do not understand me I am ready to give you a private Explication of this Article, as, perhaps, I may present you with a publick one, when a certain Time is elapsed.

BANDA is the Second Government; its Capital *Nera*. It has under it the Islands of *Orfattan*, *Gunnanoppi*, *Wayer*, *Palowai*, and *Pulorin*; the principal Forts of these Islands, besides several small ones, are *Lantor*, *Nassau* and *Belgica*. These are the only Islands that produce Nutmegs, of which the *Dutch* are sole Masters; the Trees bear three Times a Year, viz. in *April*, *August* and *December*. *Banda* is but twenty-four Leagues from *Amboina*.

TERNATE, the third Government, has still its own King, whose Residence is at *Malayo*, the Capital of the Island. This King had formerly

merly the Kings of Seventy Islands his Vassals, but he is now himself a Vassal to the *Dutch*, (u) who got Possession of his Country under Pretence of protecting him from the Portuguese. The *Dutch Company* has obliged him to grub up all the Clove Trees that grew in his Country, that other European Nations, particularly the *English*, might not get any of that Spice from thence; they have done the same in all the other Islands where it grew, except *Amboina* and four of the Islands depending on it, to engross that rich Commodity to themselves, which *England* has hitherto looked upon with as much Temper and Fondness for the *Dutch* as if there was neither Injustice nor Insolence in the Case. I presume Mr. *Osborne's* worthy Director was not unacquainted with this Article when he stiled them our *Preservers* and *Protectors*; and I also presume, Sir, that you will bestow a few Moments Reflexion upon it, and think of the Means to retaliate such evident such undeniable Proofs of the Friendship of *Holland* to us.

MALACCA is the fourth Government, and the Rendezvous of all the *Dutch* Ships coming from *Japan*, where the Cargoes are distributed and sent to the *Company's* Factories all over *India* (x).

G C E Y

(u) These are Mr. *Janicon's* own Words, and as they come from a Man so devoted to the Interest of the *Dutch*, and so great an Admirer of their Maxims, we have no Reason to question the Truth of them: They may serve as a Caveat to all Nations, not to be too fond of having *Dutchmen* for their *Preservers* and *Supporters*, nor to rely too much upon their Faith or Friendship when any Thing is to be got by violating them.

(x) Tho' this Paragraph is very short, it gives us a very just and extensive Idea of the vast Importance which the Trade of *Japan*

CEYLON, which the *Dutch* took from the *Portuguese* in Violation of the Truce between them, as has been shewn already, is the fifth Government. This Island is about One Hundred and Sixty Miles from North to South, and Ninety from East to West. It lies to the South East of the Peninsula of *India* beyond *Ganges*, and is only separated from the Coast of *Coromandel* by the narrow Streights of *Chilao* or *Manar*. *Ceylon* is called the Land of Delights, and is famous for the Variety and Abundance of its Productions, especially the *Cinamon*, of which the *Dutch* have made themselves entirely Masters by their Breach of Publick Faith, and the ill Policy and Negligence, if not Roguery, of some of our then Ministers in letting them. Besides an infinite Variety of Fruits, this Island has Iron, Copper, and, according to the Opinion of some People, Quicksilver and other Minerals. The Country has also great Plenty of Wood, and abounds with Sheep, Oxen, and other tame Animals. The Inhabitants find Rubies, Sapphirs, Topazes and other precious Stones in great Quantities; there is likewise a Pearl-Fishery on the Coasts of *Manar* and *Toftertorin*. All these Advantages proved, without doubt, strong Temptations to shake the Honour of the *Dutch*, in regard to Publick Treaties; and, with their Behaviour, might, perhaps, have proved as strong Motives to some of our own Ministers, had they continued a few Years longer in Power, to have had some Discourse with the Court of *Portugal*

Japan is to *Holland*, and would be of to *Britain* could we get a Share of it: But still it is not of that Importance as to engage us to deny JESUS CHRIST for it.

about

about them. Sir, I suppose I have the Honour to speak to a Gentleman who knows how to make Use of a good Hint when it is given him. The Elephants in *Ceylon* are larger than those of any other Part of the *East*; they are likewise numerous and the Country abounds with Elks, Stags, Bufflers, Civets, Monkeys, and Birds of divers Figures and Colours. The chief Towns and Fortresses are *Colombo*, the Residence of the *Dutch* Governor, *Nigombo*, about which Place the best *Cinamon* grows, *Kalture*, *Hangwelle*, *Kalpentin*, *Gallé*, *Maturé*, *Kattvene*, *Ifnapatnam*, *Manar*, *Hamanbiel*, *Trinkencmale*, and *Baticalo*. This Government is now esteemed to be one of the most considerable in *India*, and it was computed to contain 389000 Christians in the Year 1720.

COROMANDEL, the Sixth Government contains the Town of *Negapatam* and Fort *Guelderland*; besides the Factories at *Guenepatnam*, *Sadrespattam*, *Malespattam*, *Pelicol*, *Datzkorom*, *Benlispattam*, *Naguernautre*, and *Golconda*: To which are joined the Places on the Coast of *Malabar*.

MACASSAR, the Seventh Government is a Town in the Island of *Celebes*, with a good Harbour and considerable Fort. This Island is between *Borneo* and the *Moluccas*, about 160 Leag. to the North East of *Batavia*. The Trade of it is very considerable. But Mr. *Janiçon*, p. 375, says it would be much more advantageous to the *Dutch* than it is at present, if they could entirely exclude the other *European* Nations, by which Expression we are always to understand the *English*, from trading there. This Gentleman is perpetually making Complaints of this Nature,

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and

and looks upon it to be a very hard Case that the *Dutch* cannot *as yet* get all the Trade of *India* into their own Hands by driving us entirely out of it. Time indeed may do much, and I dare venture to engage that the *Dutch* will never be wanting in their Part to accomplish it, whatever we may be in ours to hinder them; especially if we should ever have a Minister more inclined to oblige *Holland* than to discharge his Duty to his own Country.

THE *Cape of Good Hope* is the last of the Eight Governments, where there is a large Borough at present, and a Fort with five Bastions which commands the Bay: This Bay is three Leagues broad and has excellent Anchoring Ground. The Air of the Country is very sweet and temperate, the Water excellent, the Soil abundantly fruitful and pleasant, Provisions extraordinary cheap; the *Dutch* take special Care to preserve this Place, but the *English* were first in Possession of it, though they did not know the Value of so delightful a Country, so healthy a Climate, and so useful an Entrepot, *as it would be* to us between *Great Britain* and *India*.

To this Account of the Governments, permit me to add a short Description of the Capital of the *Dutch* Empire in the *East*.

BATAVIA is divided into two equal Parts by the River *Jacatra*, and pierced by Fifteen Canals of running Water; those Canals are finely faced with Coral Stone, bordered with lofty Trees always in full Verdure, and passable by Fifty-six Bridges besides those without the Gates. To add to these Beauties, the Streets are regularly drawn by

by a Line, and most of them Thirty Foot broad; the Houses are all of hewn Stone, very lofty, strong, and extremely well built; the Town House is a stately Pile, and the Churches, College, Hospital and other publick Buildings very beautiful and grand. This City has five Gates, is Four Miles and a half in Circuit, has a Citadel and six considerable Forts, besides several small ones to secure the Avenues to it. The Citadel, itself, is a square Fortrefs and contains about Forty Acres within the Ramparts; It has four Bastions, two of which overlook the City and the other two command the Port. This Piece is very strong, the Walls faced with white Coral, the Ditch of a just Breadth and extremely deep, especially at High Water because it has a Communication with the Sea. In this Citadel the Governor General has his Palace, which is a proud Piece of Architecture; here is also an Arsenal, the Exchequer or Chamber of Accompts, a very neat Church, the Director General's House, and Lodgings for the principal Officers belonging to the Company.

Now, Sir, is it not natural for Men, who are Strangers to the sudden Rise and prodigious Growth of the *Dutch* in *India*, to imagine that such amazing Power, Riches and Grandeur, as I have just given you a short View of, must necessarily have been the Work of many Centuries, as well as the Product of an immense Capital in the Beginning, conducted with invincible Courage, Address and Honesty in the Management? As to their Capital the World sees what it was; their Courage I don't dispute, nor can it be fairly questioned; their Address in managing their own Affairs, *and even the Affairs of some of their Neighbours*

Neighbours too, we have been but too often convinced of to our Cost; and for *Honesty*, I am ready to allow them as much of it as they themselves are, or ever were inclined to make use of in their Publick Dealings either with us or by us.

BUT not one of these Things, nor even all together; neither their slender Capital of about 587258 Pounds Sterling; nor their Courage, nor their Address, nor their *Honesty*, great as it is, without other Helps of an extraordinary Nature, could ever have raised the *Dutch East India Company* to the hundredth Part of what it is to Day. Several concurring Accidents and Measures contributed to build up this Colossus to that stupendous Height which the *London Journalist's Friend* would have *Englishmen* look upon with Respect and Veneration. The Misfortunes of *Portugal* contributed to it, the Calamities of *England* also contributed to it; but it was chiefly the Roguery of some of your Predecessor Ministers, the Infatuation of some of our good natured Princes, the seperate Interest of some others of them, and the Indolence and Supineness of *Englishmen* in suffering themselves to be scribbled and canted out of their Reason, that buoyed up this Company to that Pitch of Power and Insolence, which it has so often exercised over our Countrymen from the *Cape of Good Hope* to the Confines of *Japan* (y).

THE

(y) Mr. Terry a grave and pious Divine, and Chaplain to Sir Thomas Row Ambassador from King James I. to the Great Mogul, has the following Words in the Account he published of his Voyage, p. 112. — "Whence we see it often come to pass that when the Laws of Nature and Nations, yea of God himself, lie in the Way of their Profit, or other earthly Advantages (whatever their Sufferings or Loss be afterward) they either spurn them thence, or else tread and trample upon them."

THE Assistance which we gave the new sprung States of *Holland* in Queen Elizabeth's Days, tho' charitably intended, only served to establish Rivals in Trade for us, and Masters for the *Portuguese* in *India*: Whereas had the *Portuguese* kept Possession of their Settlements to this Day, they would have taken near ten times as much of our Woollen Manufactures as they do at present; and our Footing in *India* had been greater, because the *Dutch Power* there had been less.

THE peaceable Disposition of her Successor King James I. and the Knavery and Ignorance of some of his Ministers, encouraged the *Hollanders*, in those Days, ungratefully to encroach upon and insult us; in which they succeeded marvellously well, and so did some of our *English Courtiers* in letting them.

THE Reign of the *Royal Martyr*, whom the *Dutch*, as embarrassed as they pretended to be with the War against *Spain*, might have assisted and saved too if they would, was a Sun-shine Season for them to make Hay in; and, to do them Justice, they made the most of their Time: But, it must be owned, they met with some due

"them at Pleasure, to compass their Ends for the present. This I can say of the *Dutch* (something from my own Knowledge but more from the Report of others) that when I lived in those Parts, and we *English* there were more for Number than they, and consequently could receive no Hurt from them, we there used them as Neighbours and Brethren; but in other Places, where they had the like Advantage of us, they dealt with us neither like Christians nor Men." It is to be hoped that this Testimony will not be excepted against, because it comes from a Minister of the Church of England who was upon the Spot.

Correction

Correction afterwards from the Hand of *Cromwell*, and, very probably, would have met with a great deal more had his Affairs, and the *Presidency* in those Days, permitted him to follow his Inclinations. As much an Usurper as he was, he had not only Courage to keep the Throne, but also Talents to become it: He held the Reins of Government in his own Hands: He kept his Ministers to serve him and conduct his Measures, *but not to dictate to him, nor to plunder the People*; and it was remarkable that none of his Ministers ever grew rich, nor did he heap up Money himself. That great, wicked Man, as *Clarendon* calls him, wanted but a *just* Title to be numbered amongst the greatest and the best Princes that have sat upon the Throne of *England*: His Courage and Wisdom justly entitled him to the Character of Great, and his *Care of the Trade of Britain, in protecting it, as he bravely did, from the Insolence and Encroachments of Foreigners*, would undoubtedly and deservedly have procured him the Name of Good.

KING *Charles II's* Reign would have produced great Matters in Favour of our Commerce, had not that Prince been always traversed in his Measures by those Men who either gave him bad Advice when he listened to them, or else opposed him when he did not consult them, and openly declared for a *Dutch* Interest; but I don't say that the States General sent them Bribes, at that Time, to put them upon such Services, or to any of our Ministers since.

KING *James II.* the Affair of Religion apart, shewed all the Dispositions of a Prince zealously determined to pursue the Interest of his Country, particularly in regard to her Trade. He would, undoubtedly,

undoubtedly, have called the *Dutch* to an Account for the *Herring Fishery*, the Business of *Amboina*, the Arrears of the *Spices* they owe us, and several other important Articles; but he had not Time allowed him to do so: The *Dutch* came, more to prevent his Designs that Way than to assist the Church and Constitution of *England*. Thus his Reign was troubled, short, and unfortunate, and in nothing more unfortunate for the Nation than in that his Religion was not as entirely *English* as his Heart.

KING *William* was certainly a glorious, great Prince, but still he was a *Dutchman*. As he had no Issue to leave the Crown to, it would, perhaps, have been looked upon unreasonable in us to expect him to enter into a Dispute with his own Countrymen about Trade, and that too for a People whom he was to quit in a very few Years by the Craziness of his Constitution. Tho' he was King of *Great Britain* he was still a Native of *Holland*; tho' he was a great Captain, he was not either an Admiral or a Merchant, but King *James* was all Three; and the *Dutch* have shewed by their Conduct that this was their own Sense of the Matter.

QUEEN *Anne* was an excellent Princess, but very little at Liberty, in the Beginning of her Reign, to shew either her Judgment or her Inclination. At her Accession to the Throne, she found an Alliance ready made for her, by her Predecessor and the *Dutch*, that engaged her and the *British* Nation in a long, bloody, and expensive War, which chiefly served to protect and increase the Trade of *Holland*; for Queen *Anne's* Title and the Happiness of her People never would

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have been disturbed by *France* had she fate still:
 This I have put out of Dispute in a * Piece printed at *Rotterdam* in *English*, at the *Hague* in *French*, and reprinted in *London*, all in the Year 1725: I humbly refer you to that Piece because you were pleased to approve the Arguments of it, tho' the *London Editor* unfairly left out my Preface. The *Dutch* found afterwards in a Peace the End they aimed at in a War, but the Queen was taken off a little after the Conclusion of it; so we cannot say positively whether she designed to procure any Satisfaction for her People from *Holland* or not: Some Politicians are of Opinion she resolved it, and that *Means* were taken to prevent her.

His late Majesty King *George I.* of glorious Memory, came to the Crown at those Years when Ease is requisite both to the Body and the Mind, and a Preparation for the next World more suitable to the Duties of a Christian, than the Broils and Troubles and Acquisitions in this. He might perhaps have thought it no Scene of Life for him to begin Contests and Disputes with his Neighbours about Commerce, and thereby endanger the Possession of the Crown and the Succession of his Family. Trade was a Thing which his Majesty could not possibly have had Time, nor even Occasions, to inform himself thoroughly of, it never having made any great Figure, in his Hereditary Dominions, especially till the Purchase of *Bremen* and *Verden* after he came to *England*, further than it had been managed by retailing Traders and travelling Chapmen.

S I R,

S I R, what I have here had the Honour to lay before you is Part of the Second Letter which I designed for the Merchants of *Great Britain*; but as I find I have not Room for the Rest, I must defer it a few Posts: However, permit me to add a Word concerning that *General Excise* which most Politicians Abroad are of Opinion some busy Projectors have a Mind to introduce into *Britain*. Upon this Occasion I shall communicate to you a very remarkable Reflection made by a *Dutch* Merchant, according to my last Letters from *Amsterdam*. " A *General Excise* in *England*, " says he, which may possibly be the Consequence of some certain Peoples Designs, will " infinitely more than repair the Damage *Holland* has suffered by the Worms, and bring all " the Trade of *London* to *Amsterdam*, as the shutting up the *Scheld* did *That* of *Antwerp* to the " great Prejudice of *England*. The repairing " our Dikes may possibly cost us some Millions " of Guilders, but what then? A *General Excise* " in *Britain* makes us a Present of all the *British* " Commerce to make us Amends; and if the " *Ridder Van Foris* * speaks " good *Dutch* to us upon that " Occasion, we may possibly find our Account " in listening to his Proposals." This was the Reflection of a *Dutchman*, and as it seems to me to have been a very natural one, I don't doubt but it will appear so to you, and, consequently, meet with a serious Attention from you.

FOR, Sir, has not *Holland* Advantages enough over us already in Point of Trade? Has she not got the Trade of *India* almost entirely to herself, and only left us the mere Offals of it? Has she

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not got our *Herrings* into her Hands, as if she had the sole Property in them? Has she not almost ruined our Woollen Manufactures? Has she not engrossed the Trade of the *Austrian Netherlands* by Means of the *Barrier Towns*? And has she not almost cut us out of the *Mediterranean Trade*, by that Peace which *some Body* made for her with the *Algerines*? Are not these sufficient Advantages for her; but must they still be augmented by putting more Clogs upon our Trade? Must we give her new Opportunities of making further Advantages of *Pretendership*? As Excises advance and multiply upon *Englishmen*, do you believe, or even imagine, that Trade will not suffer and decline in *England*, and consequently flourish and encrease in *Holland* in Proportion? For my Part, were I a *Dutchman*, please to observe, Sir, that I put the Case were I a *Dutchman*, and had the Honour to sit in the Assembly of the States General, I would propose a Reward, even tho' it should be of a Million Sterling, to be *secretly* given to any *British* Minister, or other Person whatever in Power, that would introduce a *General Excise* in *Great Britain*; and also another Million, if necessary, to be *privately* and discreetly distributed amongst *Those* who had Credit and *Will* enough to forward the Work: This I should look upon to be Money put out to good Interest for the Republick of the *United Provinces*, were I a Member of it; tho' *Holland* might, perhaps, think such a Proposition unnecessary, because the Bank of *Amsterdam* is a safe Repository for all *corrupt* Ministers amongst her Neighbours, to secure their evil Acquisitions in; upon that Account she might think herself sure of their Services, upon all important Occasions, without any further Bribe.

BUT

BUT whether this might be so or not, I am fully persuaded that your Virtue, your Affection to your Country, and your Duty to your Prince and Royal Generous Master, are invincibly Proof against any Temptations of such a Nature; and I can never believe you a Friend to a Project, which, whether really designed or groundlessly apprehended, seems to have allarmed the Nation, to have raised the Hopes and Expectations of some of our Neighbours, and to have infused new Life and Spirit into a Party Abroad, which a Series of Disappointments seems to have sunk to the lowest Dejection. Permit me to say, Sir, with all due Deference to your Wisdom and Integrity, that the *Chevalier* may possibly gain by a *General Excise* in *Britain*, and some of his Ministers, perhaps, have Reason to boast of their Predictions that * * * * *, notwithstanding the burning of *Belloni's* Letter. Tho' I look upon this to be no more than one of their Gasconades, to make People believe their Affairs to be in a much better Situation, than any Friend to the *Protestant Succession* ought to wish them, yet I think it my Duty to acquaint you with it, that if any such *Ambo-Dexter* is secretly lurking about *St James's* and *Westminster*, you may find him out and prevent his Designs. But whether there is any such Man or not, or whether he is only a *Chimera* generated in the Noddles of the *Jacobites* at *Rome*, I can hardly believe that the August House of *Hanover* will ever be the better for a *General Excise*, or any such unpopular Projects; or that you will be wanting to oppose such insidious Advice should it ever be given. If the present Circumstances of the Nation, and the Situation of

Affairs,

Affairs, call for extraordinary Supplies, I have told you in the Letter addressed to you in Publick the 30th of last *April*, that you have a considerable Resource, if you please to make Use of it, without putting *Britain* to a Farthing's Expence. That Resource I am still ready to shew you either in Publick or Private, and therefore I humbly beg of you to consider how dangerous it may prove to the *British Liberties*, as well as expensive to the People, nay how dangerous it may prove to the *Protestant Succession* itself; to be daily moulding our Taxes to such a Form as must unavoidably add a great Encrease to the Number of Excisemen, Tax-gatherers, and other Revenue Officers of all Denominations. There are several Reasons why that Sort of ***** I had like to say Standing Army, cannot be as formidable to the Liberties of *Holland* as, perhaps, they may, in Time, prove to *Those* of *Great Britain*. In the Republick of the *United Provinces* almost every City is a Commonwealth in itself; the States General are not Sovereigns of the Republick, which is a great Defence of the Peoples Liberties and Bar to Arbitrary Encroachments upon them; for as the States of each particular Province are the Sovereign of that Province, the Orders of the States General are of no Force in any of the Provinces until they are approved by the Provincial States who are their Principals: So there can be no Parallel drawn near enough between the Constitution of *Holland*, where the Regency is in the Hands of so many Persons at once, and those all elective, and *that* of *Great Britain* where the Executive Power is always lodged in a single Person, and intailed upon one particular Family by Act of Parliament. In the several Provinces of the *Dutch Republick* the People are entirely secured

secured from Insults from Tide-waiters, Custom-house Officers, &c. No little Whipper-snapper there with a laced Hat, a Bag-wig, and a long Sword, the Emblem of Arbitrary Power, dare presume to set his Foot within the meanest Burgher's House to look or search for Goods, even tho' the * *Pachters* themselves are with him, without * Farmers of the Excise. Leave first obtained from the Burgher-Masters of the Place upon very solid Proofs of a Fraud committed, which Method, I presume, the Projectors of a *General Excise* do not think of establishing in *Britain*. In short, Sir, there is so great a Difference betwixt our Constitution and *that* of *Holland*, that, in my humble Opinion, any Steps leading to a *General Excise* must be incompatible with the Interest and Liberties of *Great Britain*, for the Preservation of which the Revolution was undertaken, our immense Debts contracted, and the Crown settled upon the *August House of Hanover*. You will please to remember that one of the first Things King *William* did in *England* was to abolish the Tax upon Chimnies or Hearths, in which he highly pleased his Subjects; but had he gone upon excising the Nation, perhaps the People would have been very soon sick of the Revolution. You may also remember that the unfortunate and deceitfully advised King *James II.* did not, amongst all his Faults, make Use of his Power to fleece the People, either by himself or his Ministers. But as this Argument is properly the *Craftsman's* Province, I beg his Pardon for touching upon it; to go further would not only be rash but even presumptuous in me, since he has hitherto handled it with so much Judgment and Eloquence.

As I cannot accuse myself of having said any Thing in this Letter which my Duty to His Majesty and the Nation did not oblige me to, I hope you will not take any of my Expressions amiss; if I offend the Enemies of *Britain* by them, and if they endeavour to make me feel their Repentments, I must defend myself as well as I can:
Pro Patria pugno.

I HUMBLY refer You to my private Letter to You of the Third Instant, and am,

S I R,

Your Most Humble,

and Most Obedient Servant,

CHARLES FORMAN.

