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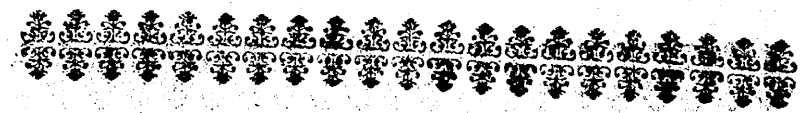


A N
 E S S A Y
Ex lib ON THE *Collection*
Nature and Methods
 Of carrying on a TRADE to the
 S O U T H - S E A.

By ROBERT ALLEN,
 Who Resided some Years in the Kingdom
 of PERU.



L O N D O N:
 Printed, and Sold by John Baker, at the Black-
 Boy in Pater-Noster-Row, 1712.



To the Most HONOURABLE

ROBERT,
Earl of *OXFORD*,
and Earl *Mortimer*, Lord
High Treasurer of GREAT-
BRITAIN, &c.

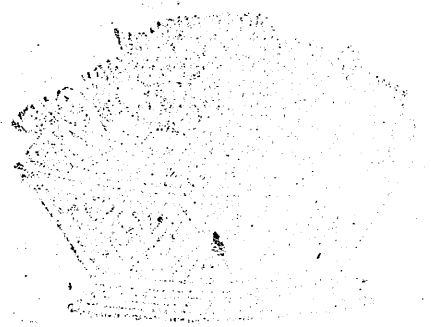
THis ESSAY on the Nature
and Methods of carrying on a
Trade to the SOUTH-SEA, is hum-
bly Inscrib'd, by

Your LORDSHIP'S,

most Humble and most

Obedient Servant,

ROBERT ALLEN.





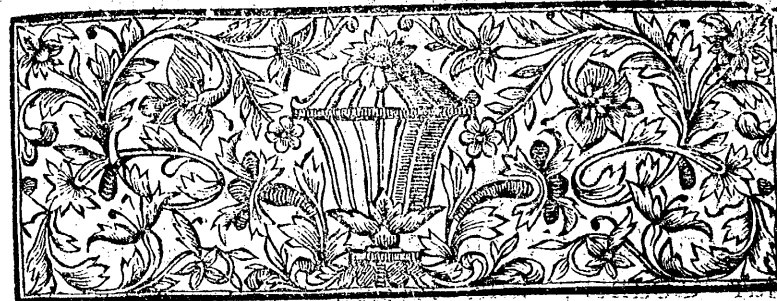
TO THE
READER.

I Have been advis'd by several of my Friends to Publish the following ESSAY for the Publick benefit, which I have by some years Residence in the Kingdom of Peru, obtain'd the knowledge of: If the Reader receives any Satisfaction by it, I shall have my End; desiring Pardon for what he finds amiss, and accept the good Intention of

His most Humble Servant,

R. ALLEN.

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AN
ESSAY
ON THE
Nature and Methods

Of carrying on a TRADE to the
SOUTH-SEA.



THAT the Continent of *America* was Discover'd long before the Days of *Christopher Columbus*, our Ancient *British* Histories sufficiently evince, which give an Account of several Expeditions made about the Year 1190, by a Prince of *Wales* to the Coast of *Mexico*, where he Planted a *British* Colony, and having made several Success-
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ful Voyages, at last died in that Country. And this Account was also very much confirm'd upon *Columbus's* Discovery, by the *Mexicans* themselves, their Language being found to abound with many *Welsh* Words, and many of their Families holding a Tradition, That their Ancestors came from a far Country and settled there among the *Indians*; with many other Particulars, which can only agree with the aforesaid *British* Expedition.

BUT as in those Days the Genius of *Europe* took another Turn, being much involv'd in Wars, and little inclin'd to Trade and new Discoveries; so this new Colony came to be intirely slighted, and even so much forgot, that 'tis a Question, Whether *Columbus*, upon the Information he might receive from our Histories, or from some Hints in Ancient Poets, or whether merely by the Strength of his own Reason, was induc'd to undertake a Voyage in quest of a New World: Certain it is, That he made his Proposals first to the Court of *ENGLAND*; which being slighted and rejected there, he afterwards went to the *Portuguese*; and met with the same fate: And from thence to the Court of *Spain*, where after a long Attendance and Solicitation, he obtain'd a small Sum of Money, and fitted out Three Vessels, with which he proceeded, and laid the Foundation for such Discoveries

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veries as have since fill'd all *Europe* with immense Treasure, Wonder and Surprize. *America* being thus again happily Discover'd, the Fertility of the Soil, and the many Rich Productions of the Country, quickly induc'd the *Spaniards* to use all their Skill and Interest to extend their Conquest, and secure a Propriety in all the Countries of this New World, which make up not only the Largest, but also the Richest Part thereof.

THUS for Instance; On the Continent the *Spanish* Conquests reach from 30 Degrees North Latitude, to the Streights of *Magellan*, in the Latitude of 65 South; and in many Places extend in Longitude from Sea to Sea. *Mexico* and *Terra firma* are wash'd on the East by the *Atlantick*-Ocean, and on the West by the *Pacifick*-Sea. *New Granada* extends on the East to the River *Oronoco*, and on the West joyns to *Peru*, which, together with the Kingdom of *Chili*, reaches almost as far as the *Magellan*-Streights, and are bounded on the West by the *Pacifick*-Sea; and well provided with many convenient Ports and Harbors for Trade and Navigation, as *Guayaquil* and *Callao*, which is the Port of *Lima*, *Pisco*, and *Arica*, in *Peru*, &c. And *Conception* and *Baldivia*, &c. in *Chili*. And so Industrious have the *Spaniards* been, that from *Peru* and *Chili*, they have extended their Conquests all over the Inland Country,

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try, and particularly by the Way of *Loz*, *Charcos*, and *Paraguay*, and along *Rio de la Plata* down to *Bonafayros* situated near the Mouth of the River where it falls into the *Atlantick-Sea*. So that from *Carthagena* to *Bonafayros*, there is a Communication by Land which extends about 2000 Leagues.

THIS Great Empire which includes also all the *Spanish* Islands in the *Indies*, is Governed by Twelve Real-Audiencias, or Supreme Courts of Judicature, which are commonly compos'd of a President, Five or Six Oidores, and One Fiscal, all sent from *Old Spain*; and before them all sorts of Controversies within the Limits of each respective Province, are finally determin'd. There are also Two Viceroy, viz. the Viceroy of *Peru* and *Mexico*, who each preside in the respective Audiencias of *Lima* and *Mexico*: These Audiencias have many Governors and Corexedores of particular Districts under their Jurisdictions, which are all nominated and receive their Commissions from *Old Spain*, but must first be admitted by the Real-Audiencea, before they can take Possession of their respective Governments.

IT would be more tedious than useful to give a particular and minute Description of all the Provinces and Governments in the *Spanish-Indies*. It may suffice to instance in

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in one of the Real-Audiencias only, to give the Reader an Idea of the Nature of their Government, and Extent of their Territories.

THE Real-Audiencea of *Quitto*, which is one of the middle Governments, has under its Jurisdiction the Provinces of *Popayan*, *Jaen*, *Villa*, *Octuala*, *Quitto*, *Latacunga*, *Riobamba*, *Chimbo*, *Guayaquil*, *Cunca*, *Loxa*, *Pastos*, *Los Zujcas*, those Thirteen Governors and Corexedores have under them several Deputy Governors or Tenentes of the several Cities and Towns of their Jurisdictions; and those Tenentes have others under them in the small Villages of their Districts, as also the *Indian* Governors of those Villages or Poblos, and the Alcaldies or Bailiffs of the *Indians*, that are Yearly chosen by them, are likewise under those Tenentes.

THE *Indian* Governor serves to keep an Account of the *Indians* Numbers in his District, and where they are if gone; and is accountable to the Tenentes for their Tributes, as the Tenente is to the Governor, and the Governor to the Treasurers of the Province.

THE Governor of *Popayan*, which is One of the Thirteen above-mention'd, has under him the Tenentes of *Popayan*, *Calis*,
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Buga, Ancerma, Cartago, Caloto, Citera, Novita, Anchicaja, Barbacoas, Patia, Pasto and Lospastos. Most of which Tenentes are Men of great Consequence and Estates, and some have under them above Ten thousand *Indians, Motalloes, Mustis,* and others.

NOW the Reason why I chuse the Real-Audience of *Quito*, and the Government of *Popayan*, to illustrate the Nature and Extent of the *Spanish* Government in the *Indies*, is not that they are Larger and Richer than others, but that they are the nearest Places of *Peru* to be supply'd from the Coast of *Carthagená* and *Porto-bello*; and likewise, that they lie yet much nearer by several Hundreds of Leagues, and run much less risque to be supply'd from the Bay of *Gorgona* and *Guayaquil* in the *South-Sea*, by the *English, French,* or such other Nations, as may think it their Interest to Trade that Way.

THE Commodities of *Mexico* or *New Spain*, are, Silver and Gold, *Cocheneal*, Balsams, and divers other Medicinal Druggs, &c.

THE Commodities of *Terra-firma, Peru* and *Chili*, are, Gold and Silver in vast Quantities, costly Pearls, Emeralds, Amethysts, and several other sorts of precious Stones, Copper, and other Metals, Bezar, Beconia, Wool,

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Wool, Cotton, Balsam, Gums, and several valuable Drugs.

THE chief Embarcaderos or Ports of Trade belonging to this vast Empire, are in the Kingdom of *Mexico*, or *New-Spain*, *la vera Cruz* in the *North-Sea*, and *Aquipulco* in the *South-Sea*.

Secondly, UPON the Isthmus of *Darien* is *Porto-Bello* in the *North-Sea*, and *Panama* in the *South-Sea*.

Thirdly, *CARTHAGENA, d'Labacha, Comana,* &c. in the *North-Sea*, and *St. Maria*, and several Harbours in and about the *Gorgona* in the *South-Sea*.

Fourthly, ON the Coast of *Peru*, are the Sea Parts of *Guayaquil, Payta, Truxilla, Callao*, or Port for *Lima, Pisco* and *Arica*, which formerly was the Sea-Port for *Potosi*, &c. all in the *South-Sea*.

Fifthly, ON the Coast of *Chili* are many good Harbours and Ports, as *St. Jago, la Concepcion, Aranco, Baldivia, Coximbo,* &c. all situated in the *South-Sea*.

Sixthly, TO the Eastward of *Chili*, and Southward of *Brazil*, lies *la Plata*, water'd by a River of the same Name, which takes its
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its rife near the famous Mines of *Potosi*, within the District of the Real-Audience, *de los Charcos* and empties itself into the *Atlantick*-Ocean; near the Mouth of this River is the famous City of *Buenos Ayres*, and a little higher up is *Assumption*, with some other Towns for the Conveniency of their Trade and Commerce.

HAVING thus premis'd a brief Account of the Extent of the Country, the Nature of the Government, and the Scituation of several of the Trading Ports of the *Spanish-Indies*; I shall now come nearer the Point, and shew how the Trade to these Rich Countries was at first manag'd from *Old-Spain*.

Secondly, BY what Means other *European* Nations, and in particular *ENGLAND*, have always receiv'd some considerable Share of the Profits thereof.

Thirdly, HOW, and by what Means the *British* Share and Interest in this Trade, is, and has been for some Years past, much decay'd, and in great danger of being lost: Which being duly Consider'd, 'tis humbly hop'd, we shall be the better enabled to judge by what Ways and Means so Beneficial a Part of our Foreign Trade, may most probably again be recover'd and improv'd.

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I. THE City and Sea-port of *Cadiz* in the Province of *Andalusia* in *Old-Spain*, being the most conveniently scituated for Foreign Trade is, and always has been, look'd upon as the Embarcadero of the *Spanish-Indies*: from the Port of *Cadiz* the Galleons and Flota set out, and thither they return again loaden with all the Riches of the *Indies*; the Flota, which is a smaller number of Ships, proceeds directly to *la vera Cruz*, the chief Sea-port of *Mexico*, where they supply *Mexico* with all such *European* Goods as they want, and take in return the Effects of that Country, and then return to the *Havana*, a well Fortify'd City and Port on the *North-West* side of *Cuba*, and the general Rendevouz of the Galleons and Flota, where they joyn, and return all together to *Old-Spain*; the Galleons arrive first at *Carthagena*, from whence the *Spanish* Admiral of the Galleons, sends Advice by several Vessels to *Porto-bello*, and other Maritime Places, to advise the respective Governors of the Galleons arrival, and also to supply those Parts of the Country with Goods. The Governour of *Porto-Bello* sends over-land to the President of *Panama*, who sends and proclaims the arrival of the Galleons throughout his Jurisdiction, in order that the Money to be remitted to *Spain*, may be got ready, and at the same time, sends a Ship with the Advice

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vice of it to *Payta*, a Sea-Port of *Peru*. She is commonly 30 or 40 Days on her Voyage, and will be above 70 if she were to go to *Lima*, the Sea-breezes being generally contrary. But from *Payta* they send the Pacquet by Land in 12 or 14 Days: the Admiral of the Galleons sends also from *Carthagena* to *Santafee*, the chief City of the Kingdom of *New-Granada*, from whence Dispatches are sent to *Popayan*, and *Antiochia*, and *Mariquita*, and the adjacent Provinces, to notify the arrival of the Galleons; he also sends a Courier over-Land to *Lima*, that sometimes carries the Advice there sooner than they can be transmitted by the way of *Porto-Bello* and *Payta*, tho' the distance by Land between *Carthagena* and *Lima* be above 1000 Leagues.

FROM *Carthagena*, the following Provinces are supply'd with Goods, viz. *St. Martha*, *Rio d'Labacha*, *Venezuela*, *Andalusia*, *Paraja*, *Granada*, and *Popayan*: *d'Labacha*, *Paraja*, *Venezuela*, and *St. Martha*, being Maritime Provinces are chiefly supply'd by Vessels by Sea. But *New-Granada* and *Popayan*, are the most considerable, and are supply'd partly by the Means of the River *Magdalena* and the rest by Land-Carriage, which greatly enhances the Prices of Goods at *Popayan*, *St. Affee de Bougota*, and other In-land Places.

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T H O S E large Countries which are thus supply'd from *Carthagena*, abound in many Places with very Rich Mines of Gold, viz. at *Popayan*, *Antiochia*, *Citera*, *Novita* and *Barbacoas*, some of which yield above two or three Castellan's per Negro a Day, and sometimes in the *Lavatories*, much more, which is above four or six Peices of Eight per Man a Day. The Merchants that come down to *Carthagena* from *St. Affee* and *Popayan*, &c. have many Difficulties and Dangers to encounter, such as the wild *Indians* upon the Sides of the River *Magdalena*, and a long and tedious Passage up, three Weeks or a Month, and sometimes much longer, because of the Floods, which sometimes overturns their Cano's, to the loss of both Merchants and Goods.

IN *New-Granada* are the Silver-Mines of *Mariquita*, not far from *St. Affee*, where they Coin the most of *Popayan*, *Choco*, and *Antiochea* Gold, and also the Silver of the said Mines of *Mariquita*. In the said Kingdom lies the Town call'd *Musa*, where the Emerald-Mines are: Also the Town of *Tunjar*, from whence comes the *Tunjar-Snuff*. All which Productions, as also great Quantities of *Perujan-Plate*, are brought down to *Carthagena*, either to purchase *European* Goods, or to be sent home by the Galleons to *Old-Spain*.

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There are also great quantities of Provisions brought down to *Carthagena* from the Kingdom of *New-Granada*.

UPON Advice of the arrival of the Galleons at *Carthagena*, the Viceroy of *Peru* commands the *South-Sea* Galleons to be careen'd and got ready, commonly within 70 Days, or thereabouts; and at the same time sends to the Kingdom of *Chili*, and Provinces of *los Charcos*, *Guamango*, *Cuzco*, *Aricipa* and *Quitto*, and all the other Provinces, ordering them to get in readiness all the King's Money; and that all the Merchants with their Money and other Effects, may be in a readiness to embark against such a Day that the *South-Sea* Galleons will be ready to Sail for *Panama*. All which is accordingly done, and every Body endeavours to send some Adventure to the Fair that is to be held at *Porto-Bello*, which has formerly been the greatest in the World.

LIMA, the Metropolis of the Kingdom of *Peru*, is two Leagues from the Sea, and lies in the Latitude of 12 *South*, the Embarkadero, or Sea-Port for it, is call'd the *Callao*, which consists of about five or six Hundred Houses, and a Fortification, and a good Garrison, and a General commonly sent from *Old-Spain*. The City of *Lima* is the best Peopled with White Men of any in that King-

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Kingdom: It never Rains upon the Coast of *Peru*; notwithstanding, they have plenty of every thing; the City is vastly Rich, and is inclos'd with a Wall: It is the Place of the Residence of the Vice-King, the Real-Audience, the Archbishop, and many other inferior Ministers and Tribunals, both Ecclesiastical and Secular, as in *Old-Spain*. In this City there is also a Mint-House, where most of the Silver and Gold from all Parts of the Kingdom of *Peru* is coyn'd. At the *Callao* lies the Armado of the *South-Sea*, which consists now of three Ships, *viz.* The Admiral of Forty-four Guns, the Rear-Admiral of Thirty-six, and the *Patache* of Twenty-eight Guns; they have also belonging to this Port some *Pereago's*, and some Coasting-Vessels, and Merchants Ships, and Galleons; most of which are built at *Guyaquil* in the Province of *Quitto*, and never Trade any where but in the *South-Sea*, along the Coast of *Peru* and *Chili*, and to and from *Panama* and *Mexico*.

THESE *South-Sea* Galleons being ready and Loaded with immense Treasure, belonging to the King, and the Merchants, and the Great Men of *Peru* and *Chili*, and also upon several Charitable Accounts, at the Day appointed, they take their Departure from *Callao*, and make the best of their Way for *Payta*, where they Wood and Water, and

and are joyn'd by the *Navio del oro*, which carries the Money, and other Merchandizes from the Province of *Quitto* and adjacent Countries; and from thence they all Sail for *Panama*.

By the time, or before, the *South-Sea* Galleons arrive at *Panama*, the *Old-Spain* Galleons having first supply'd all the Countries adjacent to *Carthagena*, and deposited the Product of what they dispos'd of there until their return, put to Sea again, and make the best of their Way to *Porto-Bello*, which is about Eighty Leagues; and upon their arrival there the *South-Sea* Merchants come from *Panama*, and bring their Gold and Silver, and other most valuable Commodities with them over-Land, and send their heavy and more bulky Commodities down the River *Chagrie* to meet them at *Porto-Bello*; then the Fair at *Porto-Bello* begins, and the Merchants and Factors interested in the *Old-Spain* Galleons, dispose of their main Cargoes to the *Peruvian* Merchants, which in Money and Goods, was never known to be less than Thirty or Forty Millions, who carry over-Land, or up the River *Chagrie*, their Commodities to *Panama*, and there Load them on Board the *South-Sea* Galleons, and other Vessels; and as soon as the Fair is ended return again to *Callao*, as also the other Merchant Ships to their respective Ports. And by

by such Means only, all the Provinces of *Peru* and *Chili* were formerly supply'd with such *Spanish* and other *European* Goods as are Venable, and in Demand with them.

So soon as the Fair at *Porto-Bello* is ended, the *Old-Spain* Galleons with all their Treasures put on Board them by the Kings Officers, and private Persons, and also the produce of the Goods sold at the Fair, return to *Carthagena*, and there take in such Treasure and Commodities as they left at their departure from thence: And having thus dispos'd of all their Cargoes, and being now full and richly Laden; from *Carthagena*, they go directly to the *Havana* to joyn the Flota from *la vera Cruz*; and being both there, they take their departure altogether from the *Havana*, and make the best of their Way to *Cadiz*, the Port of *Old-Spain*, from whence they first set out; and from thence their Treasure, and all their other rich Commodities, are quickly dispers'd over all *Spain*, and most other Countries of *Europe* besides.

THIS is a true Account of the Policy and Methods used by the *Spaniards* in carrying on their *West-India* Trade; and as a farther Security, by their Constitution both in *Old-Spain* and in the *Indies*, all other Nations are prohibited under the severest Penalties,

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ties, to Trade on their Coasts, or in any of their Ports in the *Indies*. By which Means they hop'd to engross and secure all the Riches of those large and flourishing Kingdoms intirely to themselves.

BUT such is the shortness of Human Views, That the vast Extent and Riches of this new Discover'd World, so elated and puff'd up the pretended Proprietors, that they soon gave themselves up to so much Pride and Sloth, that not being able to supply the Demands of such large Kingdoms with the Manufactures of their own Country, they brought themselves under a necessity of purchasing very large Quantities of all sorts of Manufactures of other Nations, more Industrious than themselves, which they Transported to their *Indies* in their own Galleons, and in return paid for those Manufactures in Gold and Silver. So that in effect, the *Spaniards* from a Principle of Pride, fell so low, as to be mostly the Carriers and Labourers for other Nations which supply'd them with Manufactures, and had the Honour to bring home immense Quantities of Gold and Silver to *Old-Spain*, to be privately Exported again, and paid away in Exchange for such Goods and Manufactures.

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HENCE arose the greatest and most beneficial part of our *Spanish-Trade*; for our *English* Merchants perceiving that they could not with any Safety Trade directly to the *Spanish-West-Indies*, settled Correspondents at *Cádiz*, and Imploy'd *Spanish* Factors, to whom they consign'd great Quantities of our Manufactures, which Factors went in the Galleons and sold the said Manufactures, and brought back the returns in their own Names; which upon their return to *Old-Spain*, they found means to remit privately to their Principals in ENGLAND: And tho' the Indulto or Duty laid upon all Goods Exported from *Old-Spain* to the *Indies*, as also upon all Returns from the *Indies*, was considerable, and Commissions ran high, and the Trade itself liable to many Accidents, as Mortality, Factors Breaking in the *Indies*, &c. the Risque of Exporting Gold and Silver from *Old-Spain*, I say, tho' all those Obstacles and Discouragements lay in the way, yet the Profits of this Trade were so considerable, that great Quantities of our Manufactures were Yearly Exported, and proportionable Sums of Gold and Silver remitted to ENGLAND; which greatly tended to enrich this Kingdom, as well as the Industrious Merchants concern'd in that Trade. Others, who were unwilling to run such Hazards, and would be contented with less Profits,

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fold their Goods at *Cadiz* to *Spanish* Merchants at a moderate Advance, and left them to send 'em to the *Indies* on their own Account and Risque.

IN the time of the Usurpation of *Oliver Cromwell*, we got Possession of the Island of *Jamaica*, and for several Years after the Inhabitants there were for the most part Employed in Plundering the *Spaniards* both by Sea and Land: This in a great measure lasted till the Reign of the late King *James*, that the *Spanish* Ambassador at *London* complain'd to the King of such ill Usage: Upon which, the King sent Orders with the Governor that was then going to that Island, commanding him to call in all the Privateers, and that they should make Restitution to the *Spaniards* of such Effects as had been taken from them. When the Governor arriv'd at *Jamaica*, he sent to the several *Spanish* Ports, to let them know, That if they would come to that Island, they should have all their Effects that could be found, restor'd to them. Upon which Declaration, several of the *Spaniards* came to *Jamaica*, and had their Ships and Car-goes restor'd to them; upon this, the People of *Jamaica* became acquainted with the *Spaniards* of those Parts, and continu'd to keep a Correspondence and small Trade with them, and they with us for Provisions mostly, and some few dry Goods and Negroes by stealth. And

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And much about the same time Sir *James* *Castile* of *Jamaica*, agreed with the *Affiento* to supply them with Negroes; which, while continu'd, turn'd to a very good Account.

HAVING thus found the Way, and tasted of the Sweets of the *Spanish*-Trade, from *Jamaica*, the *Jamaica*-Merchants and Factors endeavour'd to improve it with all possible Diligence and Application; Notwithstanding the *Spanish* Galleons come in those Days regularly once in two or three Years, and supply'd all that Country with *Spanish* Governors and *European* Goods. But as our Merchants could afford to sell their Goods from *Jamaica* much cheaper than the *Spaniards* in the Galleons could do, they being oblig'd to pay all the Duties both in *Old-Spain* and the *Indies*, as above-mention'd, and our Goods from *Jamaica* being free from such Duties; Interest, the true Loadstone of all Merchants, brought the *Spaniards* in those Parts, to come and Trade with our Vessels in the private Creeks; where our Vessels commonly lay to Trade with them. Thus was a very Advantageous Trade carry'd on for several Years by stealth, on both sides, our Ships being oblig'd to Trade in the private Creeks for fear of being taken by the *Spanish* Guard-Ships on that Coast, in which Case, they would have been good Prize, and the *Spaniards*

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niards themselves being oblig'd to Trade with us with all possible Secrecy for fear of being discover'd by the Guards, set on purpose to watch the Coast, and incurring the Penalties of their own Laws, in case of Discovery, which are very severe, tho' at the same time many of those Guards come themselves and buy our Goods.

BUT that which most of all favour'd this *Jamaica-Trade*, was the Galleons not coming from *Old-Spain*, as had been usual for Nine or Ten Years together, *viz.* from the taking of *Carthage* by Monsieur *Ponti*, *Anno Domini* 1697, until the Year 1706; for the *Spaniards*, during that interval of time, receiving few or no Supplies from *Old-Spain*, and at the same time many of them coming down with their Money and other Commodities, under pretence of waiting for the arrival of the Galleons, they took their Opportunities, and supply'd themselves privately from our Vessels, and by such Means the Merchants and Factors at *Jamaica*, drove a very considerable Clandestine Trade all along the Coast from *Rio de la hacha* to *Chargrie*, besides some small Trade which they also carry'd on to *Mexico*, *Cuba* and *Hispaniola*; but the largest and most beneficial part of that Trade was carry'd on within the aforesaid Limits, on the Coast of *Porto-Bello* and *Carthage*, those Places being the Ports

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from whence all the Kingdoms of *Peru*, *Chili* and *New-Granada* were supply'd, and whereof our Merchants had then a very considerable Share, to the very great Advantage of their Mother Kingdom.

IN this Period of Time *Jamaica* flourish'd and abounded more in *Spanish* Gold and Silver than ever it did before, or is like to do again, and the consumption of many sorts of *British* Manufactures which found a vent this way at very advantageous Prices, and the liberty we had of contracting with, and supplying the *Spanish* Assiento with Slaves, which we sold to them sometimes at 150 Pieces of Eight, and upwards, *per* Head, are such material Articles in our Trade, and so well deserve to be consider'd, that I hope, I may be allow'd to go on, and shew how the Channel of this Trade is now quite alter'd, and that we neither do, nor can supply the *Spaniards* with such Quantities of dry Goods and Negroes from *Jamaica*, as hitherto we have done. And then lastly, To shew how those Losses and Inconveniencies may be remedy'd, or at least ballanc'd with respect to *Great-Britain*, by opening and carrying on a Trade to the *South-Seas*, as the only way to Contend with a late, but very potent Rival, and also retrieve the Share and Interest we have, by a too long Neglect, lost in so very valuable a Trade.

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As to the Slave Trade, 'tis too well known, that the *French* are now under Contract with the *Spanish* Assiento to supply them with 4 or 5 Thousand Negroes Yearly; and the great Profits and Advantages which they reap from this Trade, has encourag'd them to send many strong Ships Yearly to the Coast of *Africa*, which have not only taken many of our Slave-Ships on that Coast, but also destroy'd several of our Forts and Settlements, and likewise made several new Settlements of their own, all which has been frequently represented both to the Governing and Legislative Powers of *Britain*, and no effectual reconciling Remedy taken as yet. But 'tis not to be doubted, but that the Importance and very great Advantages of this Trade, will induce this present Parliament to settle it in such a Method as that there may be no more Divisions, but an unanimous Agreement for the future, in order to retrieve pass'd Losses.

I RETURN from this, to shew how the Channel of the *Spanish*-Trade is quite alter'd from *Jamaica*, and that the *French*, a Nation whom we least suspected in Trade, have of late Years ingross'd much the greatest part thereof to themselves.

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As to the Consumption of our Manufactures, I have already observ'd, That the Kingdoms of *Peru* and *Chili*, were wont to be supply'd with all sorts of *European* Goods by the way of *Porto-Bello* and *Panama*, and that the Kingdom of *Mexico* was also supply'd from *la vera Cruz*. But since the Intrusion of the Duke of *Anjou* into the Monarchy of *Spain*, and the commencement of the present War, and for some time before, the *French* being appriz'd of the Importance and Advantages of a *Spanish-West-India* Trade, have used all their Skill and Interest to ingross it mostly to themselves.

As to the Trade of *Mexico*, the *French* have made a very considerable Settlement near that Coast, at a Place call'd *St. Bernard*, or *St. Lewis's Bay*, and from thence drive a very great Trade with the *Mexicans*; they also Trade to *Cuba*; and *Hispaniola* is almost all their own; they have also contracted with the Assiento at *Carthagen*a and *Porto-Bello*, &c. and in pursuance thereof transport great Quantities of Negroes to those Places, as likewise to *Rio de la Plata*; all which they sell at very high prices, and are well paid for in Gold and Silver, and other Rich Commodities.

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NOR have the *French* contented themselves to ingross those Branches of the *Spanish-Trade* in the *North-Seas*, but to compleat the Work, and the more effectually to ruin the *British Trade* from *Jamaica*, and even from *Old-Spain* itself, they have since the Year 1700, introduc'd a Trade to the *South-Sea*, and supply'd the *Spaniards* all along the Coast of *Chili* and *Peru* at their own Doors with all those several sorts of Goods and Manufactures which formerly they were oblig'd to come and purchase at *Carthagena* and *Porto-Bello*, and other Places along that Coast. By this Means the *French* have intirely alter'd the Course of the Trade of the *Spanish-West-Indies*; for ever since the Year 1700, they have continu'd sending Ships Laden with all sorts of Goods and Merchandize to the *South-Sea*; insomuch, that there has been Fifteen Sail of Merchant-Men there at once, and Two of the King's Ships of Seventy odd Guns each, and the immense Treasures they have brought from thence has not a little contributed to the support of the present War against us: This is so well known, that in the News-Papers we have, from time to time, had it publish'd how many Millions they have brought, and are Daily bringing from the *South-Sea*.

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THE Merchants of *Peru* that us'd to have all their Goods by the way of *Porto-Bello* and *Panama*, being aware of the Consequences of such a Trade from *France*, and especially, that they would be disabled from Trading to and from *Old-Spain* by the way of *Porto-Bello* and *Panama*. Upon the Proclamation of the last Galleons at *Lima* in the Year 1706. the Commerce of *Peru* express'd an unwillingness to go to the Fair of *Porto-Bello*, unless the Vice-Roy would ingage in the King's Name, that there should be no Innovation in the Indultoos, or Duties of Six *per Cent.* upon their Silver and other Commodities, and the Half *per Cent.* upon their Gold, by the President of *Panama*, or Deputies of the Commerce of *Old-Spain*, and also that he would take all due care to prevent the *French* from Trading on those Coasts, which they were very Jealous of. All which, the Vice-Roy promis'd should effectually be done according to their desire. Upon this Condition, the Merchants of *Peru* embark'd in the *South-Sea* Galleons, and other Merchant-Ships with all their Treasure: But upon their arrival at *Panama*, the President did, notwithstanding endeavour to lay new Duties upon them, but did not obtain his End. So they proceeded by Land to *Porto-Bello* to the Fair, where the *Old-Spain* Galleons lay waiting for them; at the same time the Eng-

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lish and *Dutch* had a very great Trade at *Bastimentos*, a Place distant from *Porto-Bello*, about two Leagues, where our Vessels sometimes to the number of about Twenty, small and great, with their Convoys, Traded with the *Spaniards*: For those People that had come from *Peru*, &c. were more willing to buy from the *English* or *Dutch*, that could afford their Goods cheaper than the Merchants of *Old-Spain* could do, after their having paid all the Duties before-mention'd. And thus by Accident, we carry'd on a very great Trade with the *Spaniards* from *Jamaica*, which was partly owing to the Assurances the Vice-King had given to the Merchants of *Peru*, that he would put a stop to the *French-Trade* in those Parts, upon which they ventur'd to come to the Fair, and our *Jamaica* Merchants happily came in for a Share of the Trade. But whether they may reasonably hope for the like Opportunity again so long as the *French* drive that Trade will appear anon.

THE first *French* Ships that went into the *South-Sea* were commanded by Monsieur *d' Beauharne*, who upon her arrival at *Pisico*, a Sea-Port a little to the Southward of *Lima*, writ a Letter to the Count *d' Monclova*, then Vice-King of *Peru*, and made his court to him under pretence of being Commission'd and sent by the *French* King into those Seas

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to look for *English* or other Pirates. And with the Letter sent a Copy of his said Commission, which was wrote in the *Latine* Tongue.

To which the Count *d' Monclova* in a Letter dated from *Lima*, May the 18th 1700, answer'd to this effect.

“ That he found nothing in the said Commission that impower'd him to come into those Seas; That he had no Advice nor Order from the King his Lord, upon the Motives he said brought him thither; That there was no Precedent, that his Majesty had ever given License or permitted any Ships of Princes in Amity with him, to pass, or sail in them: And, that they had Laws and Customs indispensible ever since the Conquest of those Dominions, to prohibit all other Nations from coming into them. And therefore he advis'd him, that he would with all speed return to the Ports of *France*, from whence he came; since in the Ports of those Kingdoms there was no Reason or Cause to dispense with the Orders he had given.

This was the substance of the Count *d' Monclova's* Answer. And upon the receipt thereof Monsieur *d' Beauharne* wrote another Letter to the Vice-King, Dated from on Board

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his Ship at *Pisco*, May 22. 1700. wherein he tells him, That his Commission being a general Order, it was not necessary to insert any Clause concerning the South-Seas in it; but that it was in his particular Instructions; That as to the Laws and Customs of this Kingdom, these being the first Vessels of France that had ever been there, he did not understand them; but would regulate himself by the Treaties of Peace, and give an Account of such things to the Court; And finally, that since his coming there could be of no use to that Kingdom, he would return to France so soon as possible, after having provided himself with some Wood and Water, and other Provisions that he wanted: And that he had taken Two Hundred Jarrs of Brandy from a Spanish Ship, but had paid for it Ten pieces of Eight each, which he hop'd his Excellency would not take amiss.

NOTWITHSTANDING the severity of the Count d' *Monclova's* Letter, the Spaniards found ways to come privately and buy from those Two French Ships all their Cargoes; and the very extraordinary Advantages which they made upon their return, was an immediate Inducement for other Ships with vast Cargoes of Goods from France to go into those Seas, and have ever since continu'd in the same. The original Copies of those Letters in Spanish, I have by me; the Dates and Contents of them is a clear Demonstration that the French first undertook that Trade without

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without any previous Contract or Permission from Spain, and that Interest only has induc'd the Spaniards to Trade with them.

IF the Merchants and Traders of *Peru* and *Chili* can be supply'd with such Goods as they want much cheaper at their own doors from the French Ships, than they can be from *Carthage* and *Porto-Bello*, over vast Tracts of Land, or by the South-Sea Galleons, it's evident they will contrive all Ways, and even run some Risque to encourage such a Trade. This, as it's highly reasonable to believe, so 'tis confirm'd by Experience; as appears by the following Paragraphs taken out of several Letters from Merchants at *Lima* to their Friends at *Panama*, and other Places, giving an Account of the State of the Trade of *Peru* at that time.

IN one dated *Lima*, June 11. 1708. by a Merchant that had been at the Fair, who upon his return to *Lima* with such Goods as he bought at the Fair, writes as follows to his Correspondent.

“ I am sorry that I miss'd making a good
 “ Market both for you and myself, which I
 “ believe we shall never have an Opportu-
 “ nity to do again; because of the great
 “ Discouragement occasion'd by the French
 “ Ships, that if one did not see it, he could
 “ not

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" not believe it; for they omit no sort of
 " Goods that you can think of. Some Days
 " past here arrived one of the *Most Christian*
 " King's Ships of Seventy Guns, which
 " came in company with another of the
 " same force, for to carry home the Dona-
 " tive that was gather'd here for our King;
 " those 3 Merchant-Ships that were at *Pisco*
 " came to the *Callao* to them; Under pre-
 " tence to *Careen*, they have put a confide-
 " rable Quantity of Goods a-shore, and
 " some of our People have bought of them,
 " to the value of a Million of Peices of Eight.
 " 'Tis publickly said, That the Viceroy
 " might remedy it, if he pleas'd; but 'tis
 " believ'd, he is concern'd in it with them.
 " Certain it is, that our King is much preju-
 " dic'd by it; for he is defrauded of his
 " Fifths. Nor is there any Money in the
 " *Mint* nor *Treasury* to pay the Ministry or
 " Garrisons; not but that the Mines yield
 " as usual; but they carry it directly to
 " the *French*. The Price of Goods falls Dai-
 " ly because of the *French*, and what comes
 " from *Panama*. I pity the poor *Peruians* that
 " have bought at the Fair, for they must be
 " ruin'd by the *French*.

IN another, from another Hand, Dated
Lima, June 12. 1708. is as follows:

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" CONCERNING News, the *Galleonists*, or
 " *Peruvian* Merchants at *Panama* will inform
 " you at large by their Letters, how the
 " Ruin of this Kingdom is now approach-
 " ing: The principal Cause being the con-
 " tinual arrival of *French* Ships into those
 " Seas; there is hardly a Month in the
 " Year but we have fresh Ships from *France*,
 " and now there are Four arriv'd in the *Cal-*
 " *lao* Two Leagues from this City, Three
 " of them came under the Charge of *Julian*
 " *Fouquet*, all full of Goods, and the other
 " is of Seventy-four Guns, belonging to the
 " *Most Christian King*, which likewise brings
 " a very considerable Cargo of bulky Goods,
 " and all with a great deal of conveniency.
 " Now consider in this Case, what Voyage
 " the poor *Galleonists* will make that went
 " down to the Fair; they will certainly be
 " ruin'd and undone for ever. But not-
 " withstanding all this, those disloyal Vil-
 " lains that Trade with them, will have no
 " pity till they see the last Ruin and Over-
 " throw of the Commerce, that cannot in
 " Natural Reason last many Years longer;
 " GOD in his Infinite Mercy look down
 " upon us, since such Disloyal Villains will
 " not enter into the knowledge of it, and
 " send us Peace.

I COULD transcribe Paragraphs out of
 many more private Letters, all to the same
 Purpose;

Purpose; which clearly prove, That the *French* by carrying on a Trade to the *South-Sea*, and selling their Goods at easier Rates to the *Spaniards* of *Peru* at their own Doors, than the *South-Sea Galleonists* can afford them at, have quite alter'd the Channel of that Trade; That they have already totally discourag'd the Trade by the way of *Porto-Bello* and *Panama*; and consequently, from *Old-Spain* and *Jamaica*: And finally, That this Great and Beneficial Trade, which the *French* now drives in these Seas, is not carry'd on by, nor founded upon any Contract or Agreement between the two Nations; but merely upon the Principles of Interest and Conveniency, which we see by Experience has induc'd the Merchants and Inhabitants of *Peru* and *Chili* to Trade with them.

AND as the *French* have thus alter'd the Course of the Trade from *Europe*; so they have likewise ruin'd the Manufactures of *Peru*: For whereas many Thousands of *Indians* were wont to be employ'd in making several sorts of coarse Cotton, and Woollen Manufactures, whereby they carry'd on a very considerable Trade from one Province to another there, and were enabled to pay their Tributes, the *French* do now carry such great Quantities of those coarse Manufactures, amongst their other more valuable Commo-

Commodities, and sell them so cheap there, that the Native *Indians*, who cannot afford to Work so cheap, are quite discourag'd and disabl'd either to make their usual Manufactures, or pay their customary Tributes; so that now, I am of the Opinion, That as almost every Province has Mines in it, and all the Governors make great Profits of the Tribute paid by the *Indians*, that the respective Governors will make the *Indians* that were formerly employ'd in Manufactures, apply themselves altogether to discover and Work in the Mines; which will not only greatly increase the Species of Gold and Silver, but also occasion a far greater Demand for such coarse Manufactures from *Europe* than has ever been known: The reason why Quantities of such coarse Manufactures were never sent from *Old-Spain*, is, that they were bulky and would not answer the Charge; but being directly carry'd into the *South-Sea*, and sold cheaper than the *Indians* can afford to make them, we may have double the demand for *European* Goods, and double the quantity of Gold and Silver in return, if the *Indians* be take themselves altogether to the Mines.

SUCH being the State and Condition of the *French* Trade, with regard to the *Spanish-West-Indies*, I appeal to all impartial Judges, Whether it be possible to contend with the *French*, or recover the very great Share and

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Interest we used to have in that Trade by the way of *Old-Spain* and *Jamaica* any other way, than by commencing and vigorously prosecuting a Trade to the *South-Seas*; and that such a Trade may with Safety and Advantage be carry'd on, I shall only offer three Reasons, *viz.*

First, THE Authority and Encouragement of Parliament, and all the Assistance which can reasonably be expected from Her Majesty, and those in Authority under Her, to whom this Trade has appear'd of so great Benefit and Importance, that no Encouragements or Assurances will be wanting for the Accomplishment of so great and good a Design.

Secondly, THE great Prices which we may vend our Goods and Manufactures at in those Parts: Thus *English* Cloth valu'd here at 7 s. per Yard, is sold there for 7 Pieces of Eight per Yard; Bayes at 5 Pieces of Eight, per Yard, and all other Commodities in proportion. And as *Great-Britain* abounds with most sorts of Goods and Manufactures, and can afford to under-sell the *French* in most of them, it gives us a very sure Prospect of Advantage and Success in such an Undertaking.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, THE Interest of the *Spaniards*, who are known to Trade with the *French* not out of Love to them, but because they supply them with Goods cheaper than otherwise they can get them. And if we Trade thither, and will supply them yet cheaper, or even upon equal Terms, its not to be doubted, but that we shall out-do the *French* in those Parts of the World, as we have already done in most other Parts, to the great Benefit and Advantage of the Adventurers, and the Honour and Good of *Great-Britain*.

FOR 'tis morally certain, That as Interest induc'd the *Spaniards* to Trade in *English* Manufactures from *Cadiz*, and to pay for them in Gold and Silver, contrary to the Laws of *Spain*, and as Interest brought the *West-Indies* to Trade with our Vessels from *Jamaica*, notwithstanding all the Laws and Prohibitions of the *Indies*, and as Interest has induc'd the Merchants of *Peru* and *Chili*, &c. to Trade with the *French* contrary to the ancient Constitutions of those Kingdoms, so may we rest assur'd, that the same powerful Motives of Interest and Advantage will induce the *Spaniards* to Trade with us rather than the *French*, if we can use them well, and afford them better Penny-worths.

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OTHER Reasons might be given, and Proposals made for the Incouragement and Security of a Trade to the *South-Sea*; but as it would be improper to advance any Proposals in publick, which may require Secrecy in Execution, I shall conclude with my hearty Wishes for the Success of so good an Undertaking, and shall be very glad if these Papers are found any ways Serviceable to that End.

Manufactures and Commodities proper for
the *SOUTH-SEA-TRADE*.

B Road Cloth.	Cinamon, Saffron, and all sorts of Spices.
Stuffs, Druggets, Bays, with all sorts of Wool- len Manufactures.	Wrought-Iron of sever- al sorts, and in Bars.
Stockings of all sorts.	Steel and Brass Work of several sorts.
Brocades.	Lace and fine Thread of all sorts.
Velvets and Plush.	Coral-Beads.
Hats White and Black.	Powder-Blue.
Silk wrought and Raw.	Glasses of all sorts.
Gold, Silver and Silk Ribbons.	Lead, Small-Arms.
Galloon, Gold Lace and Buttons.	Muslins, Linnens and Callicoes of all sorts.
Res-wax.	Needles

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Needles, Buckles and other Hard Ware of sundry kinds.	Cordage of all Sizes, &c.
Wrought Pewter.	Clocks and Watches, And all other Curiosi- ties.
Paper, Quills and Wax.	

F I N I S.



