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COMPUTATION

OF THE

Increase of *LONDON*,

And PARTS Adjacent;

WITH SOME

CAUSES thereof, and REMARKS thereon:

PARTICULARLY,

With Respect to the Influence such Increase of
the Capital may have on the Body of the
Nation, its Constitution and Liberties.

LONDON:

Printed in the Year 1719.

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A
COMPUTATION
OF THE
Increase of *London*,
And PARTS Adjacent.

THE Computation is made, and founded upon the Increase of the Importation of Coals into the Port of *London*, for several Years last past; and referring the Reason for the same, to their proper Place, it is as follows.

In 7 Years ending in	Chalders of Coals imported into the Port of <i>London</i> .	Medium of Chalders imported, and consumed yearly	Yearly Increase of Chalders.
1695	315,427	
1702	2,265,083	323,583	••1,165
1709	2,412,518	344,645 $\frac{1}{2}$	••3,009
1716	2,628,168	375,452 $\frac{1}{2}$	••4,401

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The Reason of beginning this Account in 1695, is, because there was a nice, and well-grounded Calculation made of Houses and People within the Bills of Mortality at that time, which stated the Number of Houses at 105,000, and the Number of People at 530,000, then

By the *Medium* is meant, the yearly Quantity of Coals which served for Consumption, one Year with another, for each of the seven Years respectively; as for Example, The *Medium* for seven Years ending in 1716, being 375,452½ Chalders, shews, that in those seven Years that Quantity was imported, and consumed yearly, one Year with another; and that less than that Quantity would not then supply *London* and its Dependencies; and the Increase of Buildings since, may shew, that a much greater Quantity is at this time necessary.

From hence may be stated a Computation of the Number of Houses, and People within the Bills of Mortality, because the Increase of the Importation is owing to the Increase of Buildings, and Inhabitants, and these will still bear a Proportion to one another, till some other sort of Fuel is more generally used instead of Coal, than is at present; nor can it be fairly urged, in Contradiction to this Assertion, that Glass-Houses, printing and damasking of Cloths and Stuffs, consume large Quantities, since those very Manufactures entirely depend on the Growth and Improvement of the City, and (if rightly consider'd) are a farther Evidence of the Position here laid down.

This then being premis'd, the Computation hereupon is as follows,

Year.

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Year.	Chalders of Coals requisite for Consumption.	Number of		Yearly Increase (in each 7 of the 21 Years) of	
		Houses.	People.	Houses.	People.
1695	315,427	105,000	530,000		
1702	323,583	107,715	543,704	388	1,257
1709	344,645½	114,726	579,094	1,001¼	5,055
1716	375,452½	124,981	630,856	1,467⅞	7,394

Which is something above five heads *per* House, and a little more than three Chalders of Coals *per Annum*, *per* House, one with another.

A Calculation may in the same manner be made for Years backward, from 1695, and for the two Years forward from 1716, (if any think it worth their while to look either of those ways) in the mean time, it may be allowed, that there has been of late Years, a vast Increase, both of Houses and People, within the Bills of Mortality; and as Coal is the general Fuel, the Increase of the Importation of it, seems to be a good Foundation for judging of, and computing the Increase of Buildings, and Inhabitants, and perhaps as equal, and just an one, and bears as near a proportion as any other, in the present Circumstances of this great, and growing City; however the applying the Importation of Coals to such a Computation, can be no prejudice to any other, nor (tis hoped) will hinder it in any one, who has any ~~plan~~ and intention for it.

But let that be as it will, the Increase both of Buildings, and People, is too evident to be deny'd, it were rather to be wish'd, it could be said, that an Increase of Trade, contributed to the other Increase; but there seems to be much stronger

stronger reasons for beleiving, that it is chiefly owing to other causes, whereof the Union of *England*, and *Scotland*, may be reckoned one; and another (altogether as considerable) may be the *Publick Funds*, which have occasioned the erecting of several New Offices, and Societies; and (besides the supplying these with People, to execute, and manage them) have brought great Numbers of other People to live in, and about *London*; some upon the Income of their Fortunes, placed in the Exchequer, Bank, &c. to great Advantage; and others to deal in Stocks, and Funds, which being of that largeness, and extent, have furnish'd new and shining Equipages, which has increased great variety of *Town-Traffick*, and *Employment*, and these have turn'd to so good Account, as to raise up many Families, and to produce many Servants in proportion, and created many Dependants.

great variety of Town Traffick, & Employment and these have turn'd to so good account as to raise up many families and produce many new and shining Equipages, which has increased

And if continuing the Army be added here, as another cause of the Increase of People, in and about *London*; it seems not only to carry *Weight*, but *Demonstration* with it, because the *General*, and other Officers chiefly centre here, on Account of the Court, their Military Posts, or Seats in Parliament, and their Families, Equipages, and Dependants, are not the least, either for *Grandeur*, or for *Number*; all together however, seem to have added greatly to the Increase of People, that is, to bring People to *London*, of one sort, or other, tho' with respect to these last be it spoken, they may justly be reckoned such, as are of equal *Benefit*, and *Security* to the City in particular, as to *English Privileges* in general.

But at the same time, it may perhaps be found, that other parts of *England*, as well as all *North-Britain*,

Britain, are both impoverish'd, diminish'd, and that this in one effect of the Increase of *London*.

What other effects there ~~have~~ been, or may be to both Kingdoms, is left to those to calculate, and confider, who have had a hand in these changes, have already felt any of those effects, or apprehend, and foresee any other.

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In the mean time, as there have been Notions, that the Increase of People (let them come how, and from whence they will) is an addition of Riches to a Nation; so *England* has not been wanting in making some Experiments, and, not long ago, that remarkable one of bringing over a great Number of poor *Palatines*; but with what Success, or Profit to the Nation, is not yet forgot, tho' may easily be summ'd up; and the bringing them hither, maintaining them here, and sending them back again, or to some other Country better adapted for them, having cost the Nation some Money, may shew, that those Notions do not at all Times, and in all Cases hold true. And besides, to bring over People, merely for the Sake of Numbers, without Regard to useful Hands, or to disposing them properly, must be a Burthen, instead of any Advantage to a Nation.

But, if Foreigners who come hither, by Invitation, or Permission, come prepared for Manufactures, Tillage, or some other useful Business, and bring Money, and other Effects of Value along with them, whereby to have something to work upon, as well as with, it may make some Alteration in the Case, and better support the Notions mention'd, than can be done by empty Comers. But it happen'd to be quite otherwise in the Instance of the *Palatines*, who came with nothing but themselves, and some *Distempers*.

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pers. They all were *poor*, and that humble Epithet (with abundant Charities) was bestow'd upon them, and large Collections were made for them accordingly; on which Account, it can hardly be insisted on, that *England* was the richer or the better for them; or that it ever can be, by the Addition of such Hands.

And whether the Matter is mended since, by the Accession of some People from other Countries, (who are come to *England*, and seem not wholly to dislike it, or what they find here) does not yet appear by any Account, or Estimate made thereof. This however may be said, that Numbers of Forreigners are arrived among us, and by some *Aids* (of one kind or other) live in Splendor, and make a Figure here; and these again are another Increase of the Numbers of People, in and about *London*: But whether they add Wealth, or drain it, is left to those to consider, and compute, who have Talents for such Enquiries; and 'tis left to the Nation to take the Benefit thereof, with all the Consequences.

And now that a Calculation is made of the Increase of Buildings, and Inhabitants within the Bills of Mortality, and Reasons given for supporting it, together with some Causes of the Increase; the next Computation proposed, is, How much *London* and *Middlesex* may reasonably pay more to the Land-tax, than they did in 1695, by reason of such Increase; which seems to be very plain, and no more to be requisite for it, than to state the Proportion, by that of the Increase of Buildings; for which some Reasons, (as well as why *London* and *Middlesex* ought to pay higher than other Places) shall afterwards be given.

Then, as by the Computation of Buildings, the Number of them in 1716, was 124,981,
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there wants but 19 to make the Increase 20,000, from 1695 to that time; which is an Increase of $\frac{4}{27}$ of the whole; and that is so near $\frac{1}{4}$, that considering the great Number of new Buildings from 1716, to 1718, a full fifth of the whole in 1695, (increas'd by 19) added to the Number of that Year, may reasonably enough be admitted for the Number of Houses in 1718, *viz.* 126,000, which in the two Years is but an Increase of 1,019, whereas by the Computation before mentioned, the yearly Increase for seven Years together, ending in 1716, was 1,467 $\frac{1}{2}$, which if admitted for the Increase of each of the two last Years, the present Number of Houses would be 127,916, and considering how new Buildings have been hurry'd on in that time, there seems no room for making any Objection against this last Number, or one somewhat greater, for being nearest to the present Number of Houses. But that Concessions, and Allowances on this Score, may be past dispute, and that there may be no Colour for Cavils about the same, let the present Number of Houses be supposed only to be 126,000, the Increase of the Land-Tax will be in the Proportion following; its 105 to 126. So is 100,000 to 120,000, that is, for every 100,000 which *London* and *Middlesex* paid to the Land-Tax, in 1695, they ought now to pay 120,000. Supposing them to pay to the full, according to the Rates at that time, which that they did not by a considerable deal (one with another) there are not only sufficient Reasons to be given, but a plain Calculation of what they did pay short, if the

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same

same was requisite, or that the Parties concern'd, should not more willingly wave, than insist upon it; therefore at present that Matter may easily be pass'd over, and let it be as it will, the Proportion here stated will still hold good, as well for what they did pay, as for what they ought to have paid in 1695; and for taking a more easy View of this Proportion, the following Table is presented.

For every Sum in this Column, which London and Middlesex did pay to the Land-Tax in 1695.	In 1718 they ought to pay
l.	l.
10	12
20	24
30	36
40	48
50	60
100	120
1,000	1,200
10,000	12,000
100,000	120,000
200,000	240,000
300,000	360,000
&c.	&c.

Now

Now, if it be here objected to this Purpose; That this Computation of raising London and Middlesex, in Proportion to the Increase of Buildings, is made, as if the Tax was charged, and levied on Houses only, whereas it was raised on Rents of Lands, (no small Article in Middlesex) Houses, Pensions, personal Estates, and Offices, all together; and therefore they ought to be distinguished for making a right Estimate of what ought to be added on the Score of these new Buildings.

It may be answered thus,

That the Number of Houses in 1695, being 105,000, suppose they had been rated at 3l. per House, to a Tax of four Shillings in the Pound, which is but a Rent of 15 l. per Annum per House, one with another, and at a Medium, which seems to be so moderate, as easily to be admitted; the Tax at that Rate would have amounted to 315,000, for the Tax on House-Rents only; and whether all together paid so much to the four Shillings in the Pound, need not here be mentioned, because 'tis so easy to be known; but it may serve to shew, that, by including the Land-Rents, personal Estates, Offices and Pensions, in what London and Middlesex did pay, they were so far from being over-rated, that they were much under the full Rents and Values of what was chargeable; and at the same time sufficient Allowance would have been made for empty Houses; and therefore

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fore

fore an Addition to that Sum in 1718, in Proportion to the Increase of Buildings, seems not to want either Support or Reason. Then as the Increase is computed at 21,000 Houses, supposing the Rents thereof to be only as the other, (tho' 'tis known they are much more) the Tax thereon to four Shillings in the Pound will be _____ 63,000 l.

To which adding for the
Computation in 1695, as be- } 315,000 l.
fore, viz.

The Total will be _____ 378,000 l.

for the Sum, that *London* and *Middlesex* might reasonably pay to a Tax of four Shillings in the Pound, in 1718.

But now in Case it be urged farther in the Behalf of *London* and *Middlesex*, that tho' they did not pay to the full of the Land-Tax, at a *Medium* of the Rents, yet they paid more, and higher, than other Parts of *England*, as being nearer to the Eye, and inspection of the Government: It may be answered, That at the same time it is allowed they did so, Reasons may be given why they ought to do it, and they are these.

1. Because of the great Advantage *London* has by Trade, above other Places, the greatest part of the Commerce of the Nation centring, and being negotiated, and transacted there, and
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consequently, as 'tis thereby the great Receptacle of the Gains resulting from such Commerce.

2. Because of the quick Circulations, and Returns of Money, not only by such Trade, but even in the Payments of the Rents, which are Quarterly in and about *London*, and in the Country but half yearly, besides their being paid better, and more punctually in *London*, than elsewhere, according to the Rent-Days agreed on for them.

3. Tho' one Reason that *London* and *Westminster* have paid higher to the Land-Tax, than remoter Places, may be, their being more immediately under the Eye of the Government, and nearest to Inspection, yet at the same time, even that Situation is so far from being a Prejudice, that 'tis a great Advantage to them; which is, by furnishing the Court, and those that belong to it, and depend thereon, with all, or most things for their Tables, Houses, Equipages, and Apparel: And in like manner, those of the other Nobility and Gentry, which Sessions of Parliament, and other Business bring to Town: And then the furnishing the many Offices of the Crown, the Revenue, the Law, &c. is also another Article of Gain to *London* and *Westminster*, by their being the Seat and Centre of those Offices: And another Advantage is, the considerable Sums paid by those Offices towards the Land-Tax.

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Therefore, for the Reasons mentioned, it seems but just and equitable, that remoter Places, which have not those, or any such Advantages, should (by way of Recompence) be eas'd in Taxes; and tho' it may be computed, in what Proportion more distant Places have paid less than *London*, yet it may not be so material to state that Matter here, as to shew, that by the same way, which that Ease has been continued to them, it may be lost, and so turn'd to the Reverse, as that remoter Places may be brought to a *par* with *London* in the Taxes, tho' they cannot be so in the Advantages which have been mentioned; nor such Ease (as 'tis call'd, and if continu'd) stand in Balance with those Advantages.

However, as there has been a seeming Ease by Disproportions and Inequalities, in the Rating of the Land-Tax, and that such Ease, or Under-rating of more distant Places, has been continued by chusing Gentlemen of Estates within, or adjacent to those Places, for Representatives in Parliament, who, by uniting in the House of Commons (*in that Particular,*) and thereby making a good Majority, they preserved that Ease in the Land-Tax to themselves, and those they represented. But by the same Rule that this Ease (*in that Respect*) has been maintained, it may be lost to them, and turn'd another way, which is by the Majority falling to other Hands; towards which, there seems not only to be some Tendency, but

but a Progress already made, and that is, by chusing *Strangers* for Representatives in remoter Burroughs, and Corporations; that is, such Persons as are neither known in the Country, nor have any Estates there, and consequently cannot be supposed to have its Interest and Ease so much at Heart, as to stand in Competition with Interests, Acquisitions, or Expectations of a different Nature, and which lie elsewhere.

And when this comes to be the Case, that either through an indifference, or inactivity in Country Gentlemen, by reason of Discouragements, and Disappointments which they meet with, or their being overborn, or out-bid in the Auctions of Burroughs, where the Electors make a Sale thereof; the remoter Parts of *England* (whence the Majority was form'd, which eas'd them in their Taxes) shall be represented to the money'd Men of *London*, and the great Societies there, by Countries, and Place-men, and by the Officers of the Fleet, and Army. One may foresee and expect a Turn in the rating of the Land-Tax, and that remoter Counties may be made to pay as high thereto, as *London*; which when once effected, will not so easily be remedied, or retrieved by those who gave their Hands and Voices to it, as maintained by this new, and far-fetch'd set of Representatives, who have the Art of saving and improving, as well as of getting Money; and probably may not want an Inclination to shew it, in favour of themselves when they get the Power, and suffer for it, who con-

by Counties

tho' they make them pay

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tributed to the Charge, and help'd them to that Power.

One effect of this is seen already in the prolonging of a *Triennial* to a *Septennial* Term, and who knows but this may be further prolong'd, in such manner as the Possessors shall think fit, or rather, as to the *Principals* of those Factors shall seem meet?

Power is what they seem both to make a progress in; and to understand; then, as to Policy, so little of it will serve, as if it was Calculated for their Talents; and as for Modesty, Promises, Engagements, Constitution, and the like, they are too antiquated, and threadbare to have any weight with persons thus versed in refin'd and new Schemes, and whose views are of a different nature.

This then being the *happy Case*, and the Consequence of Corporation and Burrough-Traffick, one may now see the reason why the Fate of the Government has been link'd to that of Stocks, and made so absolutely to depend upon it; as if all Judgments were to be form'd, and all Measures were to be taken from it; and that, as Stocks rose or fell, so was the Government to prosper or to sink; thereby making the Auctions of *Exchange-Alley*, the Index, Rule, and Standard of Publick Consultations, Judgments, and Decisions, and setting up a Regency there, to Prescribe, and Dictate to the *Cabinet*; which was found so easy to improve, as that from an
imaginary

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imaginary State-thing, it did in a manner become the real, and only one; and Burroughs by this means, coming to Market there, it was not difficult (*by proper Aids*) to get them into the hands of this Race of Jobbers; who then might well be for bringing the Fate of the Nation to their own, and for crying up its Security to depend on theirs; because this their Traffick, and Dominion could only be supported, and carry'd on by the Methods it was begun, which was (after the Example of *their Father Satan*) by centring and displaying all the Riches of the Kingdom, on this charming and alluring *Mountain*, and then (as well for enlarging of the Capital, fortifying the same, and adding Strength to Strength, as for widening the Channel for Supplies) monopolizing Burroughs, and Corporations; which has so well succeeded, and such a Progress hath been made therein, as that a great part is wrested by it from other hands; and they (*viz.* these Managers, and Factors) plac'd in the Election-Chair, which is so artfully contriv'd, as (*like Winstanley's*) to be waded by an Engine to any place, and for any turn the Service may require, so that in the next place who do's not know but that those who have thus bought their Seats, may sell their Votes, and their Country too into the bargain? While such as are merely Factors, transfer theirs at bare Commission-price, and by both together, the Power, Priviledges, and Right of Parliament, as well as its Fence to the Constitution, seem to be brought to so small a compass, as to become an easy Purchase, and to
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be laid aside, or render'd useles all at once, both as to Name and Effence, (somewhat like the State of the *Convocation*?) Or, if the Name be left for Old Custom-sake, or for the sake of any Form, or Show, or for the Pomp, and Grandeur of the Purchaser, in the passing and enforcing Edicts; with the Attendance of his *Vassals*, so far this Band of *Property-mongers*, and *Traffickers of Liberty* may be honour'd, and distinguish'd, while at the same time the *Corporation and Burrough-Traders*, and *Retailers* may reflect on the *Wise* bargains they have made for themselves, and for their Country, which they may look upon as their *last Will and Testament*, and that they have nothing more to do, nor to dispose of; neither after this need Knights of Shires have the trouble of preparing Lists of Commissioners for the Land-Tax, because there may be particular, and *Short* Commissions for examining, and surveying of Estates, and for rating them at full Value, or indeed, at *Pleasure*.

And whether such may be favour'd, or how they may be rewarded, who have forwarded the Scheme, is more a Question, than that they merit *Something*, which when they receive *It*, may be put upon their *Monuments*, in all the Languages of *Europe*, that all People may read the Acts they did, and the Ends they made, together with this Maxim, "*That even those who may love a Treason, yet hate the Traitor*"; And 'tis no new thing to apply each

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each of these to a Country, as well as to a Prince.

But whatever becomes of these, or howsoever, they may be recorded, or remember'd, who have been the Instruments of so deeply wounding the Constitution, and letting out its Blood so profusely; or whatever be the Fate of such, who give the last, and mortal stab, and complete it's ruin; their Annals will be of as little use, or comfort to the poor remnant of the Nation, as to make these, or the like reflections, *viz.* That a Nation which hath stood its ground, and kept its privileges and freedoms for Hundreds of Years, is in less than a Third of a Century, quite undone; hath lavishly spent above 160 Millions in that time, made Hecatombs of *British* Lives, stockjobb'd (or canonaded) away its Trade, perverted, and then jested away its Honour, Law, and Justice; burlesqu'd its Religion; disavow'd the Divinity of its Author, then banish'd it, and in the Room thereof, offer'd Sacrifice to an *Idol* of the *People's* setting up, which has produced Swarms of others, of monstrous Shapes, and Forms; compounded of the Dregs of all former Heresies, Sects, Schisms, and Rebellions; hatch'd from Incest, Whoredom, and Adultery; and all centring in Atheism, Anarchy, and Confusion.

And tho' the third part of a Century is mention'd for effecting all this havock, and destruction, yet on a strict Computation, it may

may be found, that the greatest part of that time has been taken up, in paving the way for the final Stroke, and that this last part has been brought about in little more than one Tenth of that Third of time; however, in the whole, an *imaginary* Slavery is become a *real* one, and with this we may sit down, and each of us tamely mutter to our selves; *Oh Liberty! Oh Property! Oh my Country!* without expecting the least regard for any of them, from those whose chains, and fetters we have put upon our selves.

This then being our condition, and it having been observ'd before, how, and in what manner there hath been some ease in the Land-Tax, to places at a distance from the Centre, and Seat of Government; It may be added here (besides the way already mention'd, by which it may be lost) That as to such ease, or any other of that kind, 'tis only to be understood to be so, while the People were in a State of freedom; for in arbitrary, and despotic Governments it may be found to be wholly the Reverse, and that they who are nearest to the Eye, and Centre, fare the best, and freest from Oppression, because the People there, can apply sooner and more easily for redress of Grievances, and Abuses; and Officers are also kept in better awe, and more strictly to their duty, as well as to the Rules, and Limitations of it; but Intendants, and other Officers who are Commission'd to

remoter

remoter places, to levy Taxes, may be represented by a *Burning-Glass*, and be said to resemble the Nature of it, which is to contract the Rays of the Sun (compared here to the Authority of the Prince committed to them) with that force, and to that degree, as to burn, and scorch in the severest manner, where 'tis pointed, and directed; And whether such Officers increase the Revenues of the Prince by it, or not, yet they are sure to squeeze and oppress the People, with all manner of exactions, and extortions.

And now that both States (that is, of *Freedom* and of *Slavery*) have been represented in some Measure, as to the Article of Taxes; one may easily imagine that all things, else which can affect a People, will take the same Turn; and both together, set before us, what we of this Nation have been, and what we are; what we enjoy'd, and what we have lost and thrown away; and that all this is chiefly owing to the being grown so wanton, giddy, and intoxicated with the Name of Liberty, as to prostitute all Virtue, Principle, and Honour; which brought on so great a Degeneracy, so general a Pravity and Corruption, and such a Feebleness and Decay, and even Loss of Courage and Spirit thro' the Nation, as not only subjected and enslav'd it to the *Idol-worship* before-mention'd, but have ripen'd it for the Judgments which justly attend such mad Proceedings, and which are already at our Doors; and then the general Indolence and Supineness, and then the general

Obduracy

Obduracy and Stupidity, which are too observable, are farther Symptoms of impending Ruine, as both aggravating the Guilt, and sealing the Misery past Redemption.

There seems then little to be said after this, but only to observe, That as bad as the State of Slavery is in some absolute and despotick Governments, yet that of *England* is become much worse, and far more grating, intollerable, and tormenting, by having the severest Yoke put upon it, and suffering all the Effects of Bondage, under the Name, Shew, and Shadow of Free Pepple; as if *Liberty* was now for nothing more, than for being plac'd on high, and ridicul'd in Effigie, like the Devil and the Pope; nor to be remember'd any farther than by way of Insult, and the Mock-Aclamations of a *Hireling-Mob*, and other Attendants, on *Contribution-Bonfires*, huzzaing the Procession with the Downfal and Extirpation of poor *lifeless Liberty*, thus dress'd! thus triumph'd over! and thus thrown into the Flames!

F I N I S.
