
AN
ESSAY
ON THE
TRADE
AND
IMPROVEMENT
OF
IRELAND.

By A. RAINEY, Esq. of the Middle Temple.
Printed by J. Smith, at the Globe-Press, in Pall-mall.

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By *ARTHUR DOBBS*, Esq;



D U B L I N:

Printed by A. RHAMES, for J. SMITH and W. BRUCE
on the *Blind-Key*. MDCC XXIX.

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AN
ESSAY
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TRADE
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IRELAND.



TRADE and Commerce unites in Interest and Affection the most distant Nations. As the Soul, animating the natural Body, makes all the Members of it useful to each other, in Subservience to its Maintenance and more comfortable Subsistence: so Trade, in the Body Po-

litick, makes the several Parts of it contribute to the well-being of the whole, and also to the more comfortable and agreeable Living of every Member of the munity. Every Nation, every Climate from the Equinox almost to the very Poles, may partake of the Produce of all the rest, by means of a friendly Intercourse and mutual Exchange of what each has to

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spare.

spare. Thus every one may enjoy more or less of the Productions of different Countries, according to the Application and Industry he uses to obtain them.

WHATEVER ill and mistaken Use may be made of it by many in the World, it seems to be the Desire of all Men, to live in Affluence and Prosperity, and to have it in their Power to do Acts of Kindness, Goodness and Mercy: Nor is it prohibited by any Precept of true Religion either natural or reveal'd. A Desire to gratify our several Appetites and Inclinations, when we may do it without Harm to our selves or others, to enjoy our Friends with Pleasure in this Life, and to leave those of our Children and Friends, who survive us, in a Capacity of doing the same after us, is inherent in our Natures, and perfectly agreeable to the Ends we were made for by our good and wise Creator.

FROM the Pleasure we take in our Neighbour's Prosperity, when we are not blinded by Prejudice or mistaken Views of Interest; we are led to relieve them from the Inconveniencies and Apprehensions of Want, and to desire the Increase of their Happiness. This ought to extend to all Mankind: But more immediately, by Reason of the Divisions, Animosities and Distractions which are now in the World, to such as are more closely link'd to us for our mutual Advantage; to those who unite with us and assist us in the support of our Interest, in the Defence of our Lives and Properties, by forming a Society under an establish'd Government and Laws.

IT is then every Man's Duty, more immediately to promote the Happiness of the Nation wherein he lives, and by such Means as are honest and lawful to encrease its Power and Wealth, that it may be the better able to defend its People from Violence, to redress Injuries, to punish Crimes, to protect the Oppressed, and relieve such as are in Want and Distress.

treſs. This cannot be done without Induſtry, and the Produce of ſuch Induſtry will be but poor and mean, and its Uſefulneſs of very narrow Extent, if it be not improved by the well-order'd Aſſiſtance of many Heads and Hands in contriving and executing; and if theſe Fruits of human Labour and Induſtry be not diſpers'd over the World by the Means of Traffick and Commerce. It ought therefore more or leſs to be the Care of every Man, according to the Station he is placed in, to promote ſo general a Good to his Country, as the Trade and Commerce of it. A flouriſhing Trade gives Encouragement to the Induſtrious; employs the Poor; encreaſes the Wealth and Power of the Nation; puts it in the Power of every prudent and induſtrious Man in it, to enjoy more of the innocent Pleaſures of Life, than he otherwiſe would, and in greater Perfection; and enables him to do more Actions of Kindneſs and Charity both in his own and foreign Nations; and by theſe Means, greatly promotes the general Happineſs of Mankind.

ISLANDS, upon a double Account, are obliged to be careful of their Commerce and Navigation, without Navigation, they are cut off from the reſt of the World: And Ships and Sailors to navigate them, cannot be maintained without Trade to employ them. Without a ſuperior Fleet to repel their Enemies, they are alſo liable to be attack'd by their more powerful Neighbours, and are continually expoſed to the Ravages and Depredations of their Fleets.

As this is the Caſe of *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*, whoſe Interests are inſeparable: It is to be hoped, that whoever endeavours to promote the Trade of any Part of them; or makes any Obſervations upon it, that may occaſion its being more cloſely and uſefully examin'd by others, will be favourably receiv'd by the Publick.

I HAVE seen but little as yet written upon the Trade and Improvements of *Ireland*; by which the Publick may come to know how our Trade stands with *Great-Britain* and the Plantations, as also with the several foreign Countries with which we trade: And thinking it might be of some Advantage to my Country, I have attempted to state our Trade with Particularity and Exactness, and to make some Observations upon it as it now stands; that I might afterwards upon that Foundation propose what occurs to me, as of Advantage to *Ireland*, and that may contribute to restore the Ballance which is now visibly against us.

WITH this View, whilst in the Committee of Trade, I carefully look'd over the Ledgers in the Custom-House, and took Extracts from them for seven or eight Years, of the most material Imports, and all the Exports; in order to form proper Calculations upon them, and to set our Trade in a full and fair Light; that the Publick may not be impos'd upon, but that every Person may use his own Understanding in observing the State of the Kingdom, and contributing to its Welfare and Prosperity.

To give a more general View of our Trade, I shall first lay down some general Abstracts of our Exports and Imports, and shew how the Ballance has stood for several Years past; I will afterwards consider them particularly, according to their most material Articles, and state them separately; as also according to the several Countries we trade to, as they are distinguish'd in the Custom-House Books; and as I proceed make some Observations on each of them.

ABSTRACTS of Exports, Imports, and Ballance
for several Years, each ending at *Christmas*.

Years.	Exports.	Imports.	Ballance.	Contra Ballance.
	l.	l.	l.	l.
1681	582814	433040	149774	
1695	295592	391524		95932
1696	398237	334963	62274	
1697	525004	423182	101822	
1698	996305	576863	419442	

It is probable that our Exports, from the *Restoration* of King *Charles* the II^d, to 1688, did not exceed 600000 *l.* per *Ann.* which upon the Prohibition then laid upon our exporting Cattle and Sheep alive into *England*, chiefly consisted of Wooll, and the Produce of our Cattle. From that Time to the Year 1695, three Years after the Reduction of *Ireland*, we could have little or no Trade, until the Country began to be at Peace, and our Stock of Cattle and Sheep, which had been neglected and destroy'd in those Confusions, were again increased upon the waste Lands. Hence it was that our Imports that Year, exceeded our Exports 95932 *l.* which seems to have been a considerable Drain upon us, and much increas'd by our Imports in the Time of the Reduction of *Ireland*. But if it be consider'd that the Army employ'd here, in our favour, was paid by *England*, and the *Irish* Army by *France*; it may be easily conceived, that there was a constant Influx of Money without Trade, until the Armies were

were withdrawn, and the Establishment was paid by the Revenue of the Kingdom: It was that alone cou'd pay the Ballance of our Imports and other Draughts upon us in 1695.

It may be observ'd that our Exports increas'd in 1696, 1697, and 1698; but our Imports did not rise in Proportion, which occasion'd the Ballance in our Favour, in 1698, (being greater than ever it was in *Ireland*, except in 1715.) This Annual Increase was occasion'd by our falling into the Woollen Manufacture; the *French Refugees*, who settled with us, at the same time laying the Foundation of the Linnen Manufacture; And it being also the succeeding Year to the Peace of *Reswyck*, *Europe* began to breath after a heavy War, and Trade to revive, which occasioned a brisker Demand for *Irish* Provisions. But upon checking the Export of our Woollen Manufacture to foreign Kingdoms, and by laying on heavy Duties upon its being Exported to *England*, in 1699 and 1700, equivalent to a Prohibition; most of those, who were imbarck'd in it, were laid under a Necessity of removing elsewhere; and being piqued at the Difficulties they were laid under, many of the Protestants remov'd into *Germany*, and settled in the Protestant States there, who received them with open Arms. Several Papiests at the same time remov'd into the Northern Parts of *Spain*, where they laid the Foundation of a Manufacture highly prejudicial to *England*. Many also of the Protestants who were imbarck'd with Papiests in the Woollen Manufacture, remov'd into *France*, and settled in *Roan* and other Parts. Notwithstanding *Lewis* the XIVth had repealed the Edict of *Nantz*, and forced abroad the *French* Protestants into different Parts of *Europe*, yet these were kindly received by him, had great Encouragement given to them, and were protected in their Religion. From these Beginnings they have in many Branches so much improv'd

prov'd the Woollen Manufactures of *France*, as not only to supply themselves, but even to vye with the *English* in Foreign Markets; and by their Correspondence, they have laid the Foundation for the running of Wooll thither both from *England* and *Ireland*, highly to the Prejudice of *Britain*; which pernicious Practice is still carry'd on, in spite of all the Care and Precautions made Use of to discountenance and prevent it. Thus a Check is put to the Sale of our Woollen Manufactures abroad, which would have given full Employment to all the industrious Poor both of *Britain*, and *Ireland*, had not our Manufacturers been forced away into *France*, *Spain* and *Germany*, where they are now so improv'd, as in great Measure to supply themselves with many Sorts they formerly had from *England*. The *French* particularly are supplanting *Britain* in many of the Markets abroad; and upon the whole, those Nations may be justly said to have depriv'd *Britain* of Millions, since that Time, instead of the Thousands *Ireland* might possibly have made: which Gain, whatever it had been, must necessarily have center'd in *England* at last. For had they then allow'd us to manufacture our Woolls, and confin'd us to the *English* Markets; it is not to be imagin'd we could have undersold the Manufacturers there, by having Provisions cheaper, considering Carriage, Commission, Freight, &c. since it is observable in our great Towns, where those Manufactures must have been carry'd on, our Provisions for several Years have been dearer than in the Manufacturing Towns and Counties in *England*.

ABSTRACTS continued from 1710 to 1727, ending
Lady-Day.

Years.	Exports.			Imports.			Ballance.			Contra Bal- lance.		
	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
1710	712497	2	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	554247	12	4	158249	10	2 $\frac{1}{2}$			
1711	878237	4	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	670948	13	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	207288	11	2			
1712	889339	7	$\frac{1}{2}$	774420	12	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	114918	14	6 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1713	890437	5	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	659665		10 $\frac{1}{4}$	230772	4	5			
1714	1422227	7	5	1016122	13	7	406104	13	10			
1715	1529765	14	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	972688	9	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	557077	4	2 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1716	1255083	7	10	875565	19	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	379517	7	10 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1717	1180012	10	4	907160	10	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	272851	19	5 $\frac{3}{4}$			
1718	1115304	6	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	887758	16	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	227545	10	4 $\frac{3}{4}$			
1719	1038381	7	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	891678	5	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	146703	1	7			
1720	859581	5	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	683364	1	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	176217	3	7			
1721	986346	14	2	730558	10	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	255788	3	4 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1722	1074269	12	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	829367	17	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	244901	15				
1723	1090675	13	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	920802	11	6	169873	1	11 $\frac{3}{4}$			
1724	1053782	13	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	819761	13	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	234021	0	8 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1725	1026537	6	4	889832	18	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	136704	7	10 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1726	1017872	15	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	1030059	16	4 $\frac{1}{2}$				12187	1	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Total.	18020351	14	2	14114004	5	1	3906347	9	1	12187	1	0 $\frac{1}{4}$

Medi-
um for } 1060020 13 7 $\frac{7}{8}$ 830235 10 10 $\frac{5}{8}$ 229784 2 9 $\frac{1}{4}$
17
Years.

Total
for the } 7109066 0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5903747 9 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ 1205318 11 5 $\frac{1}{4}$
last 7
Years.

Medi-
um for } 1015580 17 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ 843392 9 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 172188 7 4 $\frac{1}{4}$
the last
7 Years.

By these Abstracts may be observ'd the gradual rise of our Exports from 1710 to 1716; from which Time they gradually fell to 1721; then rose again to 1724; and have since abated to 1727.

Our Imports gradually rose from 1710 to 1713; then abated a little but were very high the Year following, then gradually abated to 1717; when they rose a little, then fell until 1720; thence they increased to 1723, fell in 1724, and have risen considerably since, tho' the Exports abated; and in 1726 they were higher than they ever were before in *Ireland*. The Ballance being the difference between the Exports and Imports, must necessarily attend their uncertain and irregular rising and falling.

THE Causes of these irregular startings and flutterings in our Trade, I take to be these. The Linnen Manufacture has been generally speaking an increasing Export; and tho' some Years it abated a little, upon Account of bad Markets Abroad, or by the failing of our Seed at Home, and bad Seed imported from Abroad; yet generally in the succeeding Years, it increased with double Force: it is owing to that solely, that our Exports have diminish'd so little in bad Seasons, and have been generally much at a stand; tho' from bad Crops, and late Harvests, we have made considerable Demands abroad for Grain, to supply our Markets.

It was the Peace establish'd throughout *Europe* after a long and expensive War, that made the Markets quick and high every where in 1714 and 1715. There seem'd to be a new Force given to the Circulation of Trade, after so long a Stagnation. This occasion'd a great Demand for our Provisions, rais'd our Markets, and made our Exports so large. This rise and demand made us over-slaughter our Cattle, and consequently diminish our Stock; which with the Fall of Markets, by being glutted Abroad, lessen'd our Exports the following Years. At the

same Time the Goods we imported were rais'd abroad: Wine being rais'd in *France* from 20 to 36*l.* per Tun, and other Goods in Proportion: This increas'd the Value of our Imports those Years. The succeeding Disturbances by the Rebellion in *Great-Britain*, the Confusions in *France* upon calling in and new coining their Money, and raising their Coin, the *Mississipi* Bubble in *France*, and *South Sea* in *England*, were plainly the Reasons of the considerable Fall in our Exports to 1722, by the breaking of Merchants, and Fall of Markets every where upon it. Our Exports rose gradually again to 1724; which was occasion'd by two good Harvests, but especially that of 1723. Since that Time by bad Harvests and increasing Luxury, our Exports have diminish'd a little every Year, and our Imports have increas'd to that Degree, as to have a Contra-Balance in 1726 of 12187:1:0 $\frac{1}{4}$ but I must observe that Part of this Increase was occasion'd by our Merchants having Stock upon Hand of *French* Wines in the Isle of *Man*, which upon suppressing their Clandestine Trade, they were oblig'd to import in greater Quantities than formerly.

Thus stands our general Ballance in the Custom-House Books. But before I give this as a just Estimate of our Ballance upon the Produce of the Kingdom and our Demand for foreign Goods, for I can by no Means allow it to be the exact Ballance or Return of Wealth to the Kingdom; I shall remark how it is enter'd in the Custom-House Ledgers; and here I must do that Justice to the Examinators, Mr. *Foulks* and Mr. *Lill*, to say, they are kept with the greatest Care and Regularity possible. They have made it perfectly easy to any one who looks into them to see how our Trade is carried on, either in general, or with the several Nations with whom we trade; and every Branch may be examin'd with the greatest Ease and Dispatch.

IN striking this Ballance, they have consider'd the Price of our Exports and Imports without any regard to Freight, or the Merchant's Loss or Profit upon them; but have valued our Goods at the exactest Medium they could by their strictest Enquiry find out, for the Year's Export, as they are sold here in our Markets. They likewise endeavour to find out by Merchants and the best Informations they can get from other Hands, what is the *Medium* Value of the different Kinds of foreign Goods, as they are sold in the several Ports and Countries we have them from; and vary the Price according as they find them to rise or fall Abroad: Which is the utmost can be expected. They have also regular Entries of the Number of Ships and Quantity of Tunnage, employ'd in annually carrying on our Trade; Specifying from what Ports in *Ireland*, and how much Tunnage belongs to each Nation: An Abstract of this for two or three Years I give afterwards. But it is impracticable for them to give an Account of the Freight gain'd by each Nation's Ships that Trade here, the Ports they sail'd to, and the Goods they carry'd to each Place: No more than what is already mention'd, can be reasonably expected from them. Tho' this will effectually let us into the Increase and Decrease of our Exports and Imports in the several Commodities sent Abroad, which are enter'd at each Port, and in such as we have from Abroad which pay Duty, and are not imported by Stealth; yet that is all: and we may be pretty well assur'd, that our Imports exceed what are enter'd in their Books; we may even give a tolerable Guess of what Kind of Goods the Returns are exact, and what not, by the Height of the Duty and Conveniency of stealing them in, according to their Bulk and Value. As for Instance, in Bone-Lace, Cambricks, Silks, Calicoes and Hollands, the Value and small Bulk contribute to their being easily imported by Stealth; as also Tobacco and

Brandy, tho' bulky, yet the high Duty, and their not being in danger of being spoil'd by the Carriage, will occasion their being Run in upon us, notwithstanding that Bribes, Seizures, and cheap Sale, generally eat away the whole Profit; and scarce one in an Age is known to have dy'd rich of those who have follow'd so pernicious a Trade.

UPON the whole, we must Ballance Goods Imported by Stealth, with such as are so Exported; For where Prohibitions, Difficulties, or high Duties are laid upon Goods Exported; there are also People who will export by Stealth, that would not import in that Manner; contenting themselves with this *Salvo*, that the Crime is less in this Case than that of Importation, since it seems to be an Advantage to the Kingdom to export as much as possible, which, except in Exporting the *Primums* of Manufactures, will employ more Hands at Home; whereas a too great Consumption of foreign Goods and Manufactures is a certain Prejudice to the Kingdom; in this therefore we can be at no Certainty, but must Ballance the one with the other.

THE next Thing to be consider'd in striking the Ballance, is the Profit or Loss, Merchants have by our Goods Exported; whether they are Exported in foreign, or our own Ships; whether upon Commission or at Risque of our Merchants. As to the first, we are sure of the Imports, but not of the Exports; Losses at Sea are not allow'd for: If either the Exports or Imports which are lost belong to our Merchants, it is a National Loss: If carry'd on by Commission or ship'd by Foreigners, then *Ireland* is not concern'd in the Loss. If they got safe to Port, and meet with a bad Market, our *Irish* Trade will seldom afford sending them to another Port to try to better the Sale, but there they sell either for Profit or Loss as it happens; and then the Merchant makes up his Loss by the Sale of what he imports in Return

turn; and the Consumer at home must pay his Loss: sometimes Correspondents Abroad break; Ships are arrested, seiz'd or confiscated; these are heavy Charges upon Trade, yet we may reasonably hope that the Freight at least is fav'd; otherwise Merchants would deal with ready Money, and send over Bills, as is too often done with our Trade with *France*.


Thus in striking our Ballance as done in the Custom-House, we are sure if we err, it is on the right Side, and in regulating our Trade, by putting Difficulties upon the Consumption of Wasting and Luxurious Imports, and giving proper Encouragement to increase our Exports, and to plant, and manufacture at home, that we may lessen our Imports from abroad, we will find it reasonable not to depend too much upon any farther Profit made upon our Exports, but rather upon our Freight. If we consider this only in proportion to the Tunnage of our own Shipping employ'd, which is at the Medium of 37453 Tuns in 181901, not much exceeding $\frac{1}{3}$ of our Exports, we will not find a great Sum to be added to the Profit as return'd by the Ballance in the Custom-house Books.

I WILL here give an Abstract of the Number of Ships employ'd for some Years to export and import the Goods and Commodities we deal in, with their Tunnage, viz.

Years

Years commen- cing <i>Lady-</i> <i>day.</i>	Ships N ^o .	Tuns.	Tunnage of Ships. At a Me- dium.
1714	3081	161115	52 .27
1719	3341	135887	40 .67
1720	3167	187041	59 .09
1721	3334	158414	47 .51
1722	3657	286594	78 .36
1723	4012	173986	43 .36
1724	3829	170273	44 .46
Total ---	24421	1273310	
Medium.	3488 .7	181901	52 .14

I must here observe; that in the Year 1721, *Waterford* was not return'd but taking the Tunnage that Year of 7400, as the Medium of the other Years, the Amount is as above. The Ships and Tunnage 1724 is also imperfect: *Dingle*, *Donaghadee*, *Drogbeda*, and *Killibeggs* not being return'd. But allowing them at the Returns appearing in other Years, their Number and Tunnage are as above; of which the *English* Tunnage amounts to 96924, *Scotch* 17951, and *Irish* 38513.

 *Note*, These are all Decimal Fractions beyond the Point, those who don't understand them, may safely omit them, they being only $\frac{1}{10}$ $\frac{1}{100}$ or $\frac{1}{1000}$ of an Unite.

The TUNNAGE of different Nations in 1722 and 1723 was as follows:

In 1722.	Tuns.	In 1723.	Tuns.
<i>English</i>	218299		96440
<i>Scotch</i>	18355		19247
<i>Irish</i>	33312		42136
<i>Danish</i>	11201		9292
<i>Dutch</i>	2444		3915
<i>French</i>	2868		2751
<i>Spanish</i>	115		205
Total. ---	286594		173986

By these may be seen the Proportion the several Nations around us bear to ours, in the Carriage and Freight of our Goods, and Imports; by which we may observe, a great Part of the Profit of our Trade goes away in Foreign and British Freight; and 'tis a strong Presumption much also by Commission.

I THOUGHT it would not be unacceptable also to annex the Proportion of Ships and Tunnage in the several discharging Ports in *Ireland*: by which Means an Observation may be made, how our Trade at home stands among our selves, and what Proportion our trading Towns severally have in our Exports and Imports, which for the Year 1723 stood thus,

Baltimore

	Ships N ^o .	Tuns.		Ships N ^o .	Tuns.
<i>Baltimore</i>	38	1193	<i>Limerick</i>	71	3443
<i>Belfast</i>	370	9180	<i>Londonderry</i>	58	2281
<i>Colerain</i>	34	796	<i>Ross</i>	27	1591
<i>Cork</i>	690	36576	<i>Sligo</i>	18	880
<i>Dingle</i>	6	288	<i>Strangford</i>	31	1112
<i>Donaghadee</i>	53	876	<i>Waterford</i>	176	7554
<i>Dublin</i>	1834	90758	<i>Wicklow</i>	21	799
<i>Drogheda</i>	185	4715	<i>Wexford</i>	21	640
<i>Dundalk</i>	232	4302	<i>Youghall</i>	51	2153
<i>Gallway</i>	46	2280			
<i>Killibeggs</i>	6	355		474	20453
<i>Kinsale.</i>	44	2214		3538	153533
	3538	153533	Total.-----	4012	173986

HAVING thus given a short View of the Shipping and Tunnage employ'd in our Trade; I shall next subdivide our Exports, and range them under their several Heads; viz. the Produce of Cattle and Sheep, of Grain, Fish, Linnen, Rape; others not reduceable to these Heads, as Iron, Wood, &c. and Goods re-exported. Of each of these in their order. First I will give an Abstract of our Produce from our Grazing, making a Distinction betwixt Sheep and other Cattle, for eight Years ending *Lady-Day* 1727, and strike Mediums as I go along.

An ABSTRACT of the Value of the Produce of Cattle and Sheep Exported.

Years.	Produce of Cattle.			Years.	Produce of Sheep		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	530830	16	7	1719	109942	8	1
1720	445946	10	3	1720	89401	11	0
1721	485699	13	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	1721	135196	11	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1722	506337	6	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	1722	162476	3	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1723	502962	14	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1723	187284	3	4
1724	524710	11	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1724	132148	19	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1725	505769	0	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	1725	95730	13	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
1726	473937	19	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	1726	101942	7	9
Total	3976194	13	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	Total	1014122	12	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Medium	497024	6	8	Medium	126752	17	1
Medium of Cattle and Sheep					623777	3	9

The Produce of the Exports of Grain and Fish.

Years.	Grain.			Years.	Fish.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	56145	0	11	1719	15169	16	6
1720	44253	2	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1720	13669	10	9
1721	38208	15	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1721	12055	10	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
1722	17664	12	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	1722	16246	17	5
1723	42154	3	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	1723	11313	12	10
1724	47410	4	1	1724	15713	9	7
1725	18515	3	9	1725	17544	10	0
1726	27005	2	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1726	15911	16	6
Total	291356	5	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Total	117625	3	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
Medium	36419	10	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	Medium	14703	2	11

The Produce of the Exports of Linnen and Rape.

Years.	Linnen.			Years.	Rape.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	268021	13	0				
1720	214217	13	6	1720	7383	8	4
1721	259519	8	0	1721	2234	0	0
1722	312964	12	0	1722	621	10	0
1723	281549	13	6	1723	450	0	0
1724	275573	9	10	1724	1464	0	0
1725	323628	16	0	1725	10849	0	0
1726	342295	0	9	1726	2205	13	2
Total	2277170	6	7	Total	25207	11	6
Medium	284721	5	9 $\frac{7}{8}$	Medium	3601	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$

The Produce of the Exports of Iron, Wood, &c. not reducible to the former Heads.

The Produce of Goods Re-exported.

Years.				Years.			
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	16073	1	5	1719	42198	10	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
1720	27217	14	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1720	34762	8	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
1721	17904	6	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	1721	35528	9	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
1722	21381	9	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1722	36506	19	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1723	22277	1	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	1723	42684	3	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
1724	24872	9	11	1724	31889	10	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
1725	21659	2	7	1725	32840	9	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1726	14905	14	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1726	39669	0	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total	166291	1	0	Total	296079	12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Medium	20786	7	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	Medium	37009	19	0 $\frac{1}{8}$

Thus

Thus may be seen the annual Profit arising to the Nation at a Medium of 8 Years of our several Exports, viz. from Cattle and Sheep, which Includes our grazing; from Agriculture, Fish, Linnen Manufacture, other Goods not reduceable to these Heads, as Iron, Wood, &c. and from Goods re-exported.

HERE also follows for the Satisfaction of those who would more nicely observe the Profit upon our grazing Farms, an Account of the most material Articles under that Head, at the Medium of their Quantities and Values, viz.

N^o. at a Medium.

			<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Beef, Barrels, - - -	135270	120771	16	4	
Butter, Hundreds, - -	161123	161182	4	5	
Hides, { Raw, - - -	78193 $\frac{3}{7}$	44848	6	10	
{ Tann'd, - - -	66685 $\frac{5}{7}$	51678	12	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Tallow. Hundreds.	51274	64254	2	4	
Calve Skins. Dozens.	11603 $\frac{3}{4}$	13924	13	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Barrels of Pork - - -	10322 $\frac{1}{2}$	16000			
Bacon and Lard, - - -	- - -	995	10	8	
Candles, - - -	- - -	6286	19	11	
Soap, - - -	- - -	600			
Cheese, - - -	- - -	3480	9	0	
Goats and Kid Skins, - - -	- - -	1100	0	0	
Horses, - - -	- - -	3806	0	0	
Rabbit Skins, - - -	- - -	4100	0	0	
Wooll reduc'd to } the Stone of 16l.	123590	40861	16	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Woollen Yarn at } Ditto.	27240	14269	8	5	
Worsted Yarn at } Ditto.	76219	62423	10	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Sheep and Lamb Skins, - - -	- - -	6844	16	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Manufacture from Sheep, viz.					
Frize, Flannel, Glew, } Gloves, and Hats, }	- - - -	2353	5	0	

THERE are some other trifling Articles not worth mentioning, such as Horse and Cows Hair, Ox Bones, Greaves, &c.

HAVING given the clearest View I could of the Produce of our Grass, I shall next give the Proportions of our Produce upon Grass, Agriculture, &c. to the whole, and consequently to each other.

The Medium of our whole Ex-ports for 7 Years as before, be-
ing

	l.	s.	d.
1515580		17	2½

The Produce of Cattle is } 489
to the whole as

-----of Sheep to the } 124
whole as

-----of Cattle and Sheep } 613
Join'd as

-----of Grain as 35

-----of Fish as 14

To 1000

Of Linnen the last Year's
Produce may be taken at
the Medium, it being a } 337
rising Export, as

Of other Articles as Iron, } 20
Wood, &c. as

Of Goods Re-exported as 36

THE Produce of Grain if none had been Imported stands as above. But as more has been Imported of late Years than Exported, it stands for nothing: there having been before *Lady-Day* 1727, at a Medium of six Years, Imported upon 4 Articles, *viz.* Wheat, Flower, Malt, and Barley, to the Value of 39063*l.* whereas in the Exports here, all Things produced from Grain are included, *viz.* Beer, Ale, Aquavita, Bread, Oatmeal, Hair-Powder, Starch, with the several Kinds of Grain besides.

I MUST observe here that as Linnen pays no Duty outwards, the Merchants may impose upon the Officers in their Entry, and put more in their Permits than the Quantity exported, and that for these Reasons, by these Means several Merchants may make use of the same Permit to save Fees, so a Merchant enters as much more than he has to export, as he imagines he may expect from other Merchants to be shipp'd of by that Permit; which if he procures 'tis well, if not, he pays nothing on Account of it; but informs his Correspondent of the Quantity shipped and exported. Another Reason is, that Merchants love to persuade the World they have great Business, so they enter above the Truth when it costs them nothing, and appear to deal in greater Quantities, or at least to have greater Commissions than they actually have.

THIS by Order of the Commissioners of the Revenue, is better regulated than formerly; and some Difficulties put upon them if they make false Entries, by obliging them to take out new Permits, in case it exceeds the Quantity exported. So for the future we may expect more exact Entries; there being less exported in the Year ending *Lady-Day* 1728, than the foregoing Year; it is believ'd to be more owing to the rectifying that Abuse than to any Decline of the Manufacture. Upon the whole we may depend upon being rather within the Value of our Linnens and Yarn Exported than otherwise: Since at a Medium the Cloath is valued at 12 *d.* per Yard, and the Yarn at the same Price per Pound: Which if the Yarn at a Medium be 3 Dozen in the Pound, is but 4 *d.* per Dozen; a low Price, and rather below the common Medium of the Markets.

I SHALL next consider the Nature and Differences of the Profits and Benefits arising to the Kingdom from the several before mention'd Heads of Export, *viz.* Pasture, Agriculture, Fisheries, Manufactures, and

and Re-exports; in which I shall begin with Grazing, the least beneficial of our Exports, tho' it makes up the greatest Article in our present Trade.

IN considering this; I shall first divide the Profit arising from Grazing, into its two chief Articles, *viz.* our Exports upon the Produce of Cattle and Sheep, treating of each separately; and afterwards of all Pasture together.

THE Medium of our whole Exports upon Cattle being 497024*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* the Produce of black Cattle or Kine, when Horses, Swine, Goats, and Rabbits are deducted, amounts to 471023*l.* 16*s.* whilst the only Goods of their Produce, exported manufactured, are tann'd Hides, value 64254*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* Candles 6286*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* and Soap about 600*l.* of which the Profit upon Tanning as computed in the Custom-House Books, being 3*s.* *per* Hide, is 10335*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* $\frac{3}{4}$ and the Profit upon the other Articles inconsiderable.

SINCE then there are 135270 Barrells of Beef exported; if we suppose the Oxen to weigh 400 *wt.* one with another, one Ox will fill two Barrells, and consequently there are 67635 slaughter'd for Export. As they ought to be five Year old when sold for Export, I suppose every Ox will take 8 Acres of Grass and Hay, blending our rich and poor Lands together, to feed him till he is of Age ready for Slaughter, and his Dam whilst he is a Calf.

THE Number of Acres then employ'd in feeding so many, would amount to 541080. Supposing from each Cow at a Medium 100 Weight of Butter may be made annually, there being 161123 Hundred of Butter at a Medium exported, there will be the same Number of Cows to furnish it, which at an Acre and a Half *per* Cow to maintain them, will amount to 241684 Acres, employ'd that way; so that without considering how many Cows will be requisite to rear the Number of Calves, that must from time to time

time supply this Number of Milch Cows, there will be 782764 Acres employ'd in Grazing, to export the Value of 471023*l.* 16*s.* 0*d.* which will not fully amount to 12 *s.* 0*d.* $\frac{1}{4}$ per Acre Plantation Measure, of 7 Yards to the Rod; there is also 4971 weight of Cheese Exported, which at 200 weight per Cow, will reduce the above Value to 12 *s.* per Acre. But even this is not neat Profit to the Nation, for Salt and Cask must be deducted. The Value of the Wood, each Cask at one Shilling, the Cooperage, being no loss would amount to 14819*l.* 13*s.* 0*d.* Salt (Half a Bushel Value Sixpence per Cask) 7409*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* These two Articles being Subtracted from the above Sum, the neat Profit upon Cattle will amount to no more than 448794*l.* 6 *s.* 6 *d.* which will reduce the Profit per Acre to 11 *s.* 4 $\frac{1}{2}$.

If we should compute the Number of Bullocks by the Number of Hides Exported, they would amount to 144379, and the Acres employ'd would be above 1350000: but I suppose we don't make use of Half the Hides at Home of such as we kill to supply our Markets, which makes up the Number of Hides Exported. Also from the Profit allow'd by Tanning, should be taken a Proportion of the Value of Bark imported; the Value of what is imported annually at a Medium, amounting to 16116*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* which will still more abate the Profit per Acre.

I SHALL next consider the Profit to the Nation arising from Sheep, which at a Medium amounts to 126752*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* of which the Wooll being 123590 Stone, at 16 Pound to the Stone, amounts to 40861*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ the Medium Price being about 6*s.* 7*d.* $\frac{1}{4}$ per Stone. The woollen Yarn 27240 Stone, at Value 14269*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* is nearly 10*s.* 5*d.* $\frac{1}{4}$ per Stone; the worsted Yarn 76219 Stone, at Value 62423*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* $\frac{1}{4}$ is nearly 16*s.* 4*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ per Stone; the Value of the Sheep and Lamb-Skins, is computed at a Medium

Medium at 6844*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* $\frac{3}{4}$; and all the Manufacture made of Sheep, that we are allow'd to export, by Reason of high Duties, *viz.* Frize, Flannen, Gloves, Glew, and Hats, at a Medium, amounts to about 2353*l.* 05*s.*

THE Wool, worsted, and woollen Yarn exported amounting at a Medium to 227049 Stone; if three Sheep at a Medium be allow'd to produce a Stone of Wool, whereas in some Sheep-countries they allow four, there would be 681147 Sheep fed to produce that Quantity of Wooll. If four Sheep at a Medium in such Sheep-walks are allow'd to the Acre, it would take 170286 $\frac{3}{4}$ Acres to maintain them; which producing 117554*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* $\frac{1}{4}$ is nearly 13*s.* 9*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ *per* Acre, annual Profit to the Kingdom. The Value to the Farmer, is so much more as what he sells them for to supply the Market, which may be supposed at four Years old; so that once in four Years he may sell his Stock, from 6*s.* to 12*s.* each, which at 9*s.* the Medium, would come to 2*s.* 3*d.* more *per* Acre: So the Profit of the Farmer may be computed about 16*s.* *per* Acre, excepting Accidents, by Death, &c. The Lambs by their Wooll fully pay their Grass, and make no Deduction.

SUPPOSING 25805 Hogs to fill 10322 Barrels, the Number of Barrels of Pork exported, about 80 Pound weight each Hog, which at six to the Acre, considering how they are generally fed upon Trash, and Grounds otherwise of no great use, we may suppose 4300 $\frac{1}{2}$ Acres employ'd by them annually, the Profit from them arising, being at a Medium computed at *l.* 16000 : 00 : 00, and they being supposed 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Years old when kill'd, there would then be 10752 $\frac{3}{4}$ Acres to maintain them, till ready to be fatted; which would come nearly to 1*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ *per* Acre, out of which is to be deduced the Grain us'd in fatting them.

THE Horses sent Abroad, at a Medium, 475 *per An.* at 10 Acres *per* Horse to maintain him and his Dam when he is young, and to feed him till old enough for Sale, would come to 4750 Acres, which at 8*l.* for each Horse when Sold, would produce 16*s.* annual Profit *per* Acre.

THUS the whole neat Produce upon Cattle or Grazing in general, after deducting 23003*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* for the Salt and Casks made use of for the Beef, Butter, and Pork, without subtracting any Thing upon account of Bark used in Tanning; will amount to 600773*l.* 11*s.* 03*d.* and the Acres employ'd in producing it 968552½, without allowing any to Rabbits or Goats, which comes nearly to 12*s.* 5*d.* *per* Acre.

THE next Thing I propos'd to consider, was the Profit arising from Agriculture, and to shew the difference between the Profit to the Publick, of Lands employ'd that way, and that of Grazing or Pasture. Our Exports upon that Branch are shamefully small, and our Imports as large. Our Exports, Rape included, not exceeding at a Medium 40020*l.* 12*s.* 4½*d.* and our Imports upon four Articles, Wheat, Barley, Malt and Flower, as I observed before, were 39063*l.* and That before the Years 1727 and 1728, when our Imports grew considerably higher, upon account of the Scarcity in the *North*. Foreigners well may believe, we are either not thoroughly peopled, our Lands and Climate not fit for Agriculture, or that no Profit can be made by Tillage equivalent to that of Pasture.

To make this more obvious, I shall subdivide the Head of Agriculture, and consider the subdivisions separately. To begin then with the Profit upon an Acre of Wheat, Plantation Measure, which I always follow, it being our Statute Acre. This Acre has 7 Yards to the Rod, as the *English* has 5½, the

the Proportion betwixt them therefore is as 49 to $30\frac{1}{4}$, or 8 to 5 nearly: I will first compute it according to our common way of Tillage, and then according to the way propos'd by Mr. *Pearson*, by the *English* Wheel-Plows; and will Estimate the Charge upon it nearly as he has put it in his little Tract of Tillage.

AN Acre of Wheat then yielding 7 Barrels *Bristol* Measure, computed at 12 *s.* per Barrel for Exportation, would amount to 4 *l.* 4 *s.* 0 *d.* By fallowing, a Year's Crop being lost, the $\frac{1}{2}$ is the Value of the Acre *per Ann.* amounting only to 2 *l.* 2 *s.* 0 *d.* Now 'tis plain that except Seed and Repairs, all the rest is clear Gain to the Nation; for the Maintenance of so many Hands, and Cattle, is Part of the Benefit and Profit of the Publick. So the Seed and Repairs (not exceeding 20 *s.* for two Years) that is 10 *s.* *per Ann.* being deducted, there will be a national Profit of 1 *l.* 12 *s.* 0 *d.* *per Ann.* but to the Farmer, above his Labour, computed when sown at 1 *l.* 3 *s.* 2 *d.* to which add his Seed, Rent, Tythe, Weeding, Reaping, Threshing and sending to Market at 2 *l.* 3 *s.* 6 *d.* the Gain is but 0 *l.* 17 *s.* 4 *d.* which is 8 *s.* 8 *d.* *per Ann.* over and above all his Rent, Tythe, Labour, &c. If Wheat sold for 15 *s.* *per* Barrel, he would then gain 0 *l.* 17 *s.* 8 *d.* *per Ann.* thus by the worst way of Tillage, when the Markets are at the lowest, including Tythe and Rent at 9 *s.* *per* Acre, there is 0 *l.* 17 *s.* 8 *d.* annual Profit, over and above the People maintain'd, who are necessary to till and manure it.

BUT if we take Tillage in a proper Light, and consider it as plow'd after the *English* and best Method; then the Expence of Plowing, Seed, Rent, Tythe, and all Charges, 'till sent to the Market, will not exceed 2 *l.* 16 *s.* 5 *d.* $\frac{3}{4}$ and the produce upon an Acre may reasonably be computed at 12 Barrels *per* Acre, which would amount to 7 *l.* 4 *s.* 0 *d.* so the neat Profit would be 4 *l.* 7 *s.* 6 *d.* $\frac{1}{4}$ and the annual

annual Profit 2*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ to the Farmer, to the Publick all the Remainder as before, except Seed and Repairs; which would be above 3*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.* *per Ann.* national Profit: An Acre of Rye in coarser and higher Grounds, may reasonably be computed at $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Wheat; tho' some account it as good, having generally more Barrels upon the Acre.

THE Expence of an Acre of white Pease, in Plowing, Rent, Tythe, &c. until fit for the Market, is about 1*l.* 14*s.* And at eight Barrels *per* Acre, and 12*s.* *per* Barrel, there would be neat Profit 3*l.* 2*s.* *per Ann.* Beans above 2*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.* Gray Pease the same; Barley at 6*s.* *per* Barrel about 2*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* and Oats about 1*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

By these Computations may be seen how much more profitable Tillage is to the Kingdom than Pasture. The Profit upon Pasture at a Medium does not exceed 0*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* *per* Acre: Whereas the lowest upon Agriculture is 1*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* neat Profit to the Farmer, the highest 3*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.* when the Markets are at the lowest, over and above all Charges. Rent, Tythe, &c. the Expence of Furniture and Repairs to be deducted. The national Profit and Power is also vastly increas'd by employing so many more Hands in the Management of it, and in making the Utenfils belonging to it; it is reasonable to believe that ten Acres in Tillage will give one Family full Employment, whereas (except where Dairys are kept) in Pasture 200 would not. Consequently 200000 Acres under Stock, would not afford Employment for above 1000 Families, and so much in Tillage would employ 20000. I may also venture to affirm, that by proper Management, in sowing Grass Seeds, &c. if a due Proportion of Land be industriously till'd, suppose $\frac{1}{3}$, the $\frac{2}{3}$ remaining in Grass, will breed and maintain as many Cattle as the whole would do without proper Tillage.

SINCE Gardening and Planting is of the same Nature with Agriculture, but in a higher Degree useful, being more profitable, and employing more Hands: The Orchards in Fruit to make Cyder, and other home made Wines, that may prevent Imports of Wine and Brandy; and the Kitchen Gardens, in supplying us with Roots and Greens, which saves so much more Grain for Export; as also Plantations of other Kinds, such as Woad, Weld, Saffron, Liquorice, Madder, Hops, Teafills, &c. each of which will yield at the lowest from 5 or 6*l.* per Acre, to near 60*l.* clear Profit: There can be no occasion to make Estimates of them here.

PLANTATIONS of barren Timber being so necessary an Article, the want of which is at least 40000*l.* per Ann. Expence to us in our Imports: By employing Grounds not so proper for other Things that way, we would at least have the Rent of the Land at compound Interest, if they thrive; and great Part of the Time there is no Loss of the Pasture. Considering the Improvement it gives other Grounds also by Shelter, it is surprising it is not much more taken notice of and fallen into. But I shall afterwards give some Reasons for our failing herein, and propose a Remedy which would effectually answer; tho' I am afraid we wont be so kind to our Country and Posterity as to follow it.

THE next Thing I propos'd to consider, was our Exports upon Fish, and the Benefit arising to a Nation from Fisheries, particularly to Islands; which I may say, by Providence are design'd to have that Advantage, from their Situation, for their better Support and the Increase of their Wealth and Power. But 'tis with Concern I must say it, that our Exports upon this Article are small to a shameful Degree, to the lasting Reproach of the Nation. Allowing to our
Indolence

Indolence and supine Negligence, in not attempting and prosecuting so beneficial a Branch of Trade, which would vastly increase our Commerce; we being as happily situated for it as any Country in the World, *Britain* excepted; and perhaps I may say nearly equal to it. The whole produce of the Fisheries would be an Addition of Wealth to this Kingdom, deducting Salt and Cask, and by planting, the latter might in Part be supply'd at Home.

OUR Exports upon this Head, don't exceed 14703 *l.* 2 *s.* 11 *d.* at a Medium of eight Years; whereof our Salmon alone amounts to from 8 to 10,000 *l.* Herrings from 3 to 4000 *l.* Hake about 2000 *l.* Ling 400 *l.* and barrell'd Cod 100 *l.* tho' we might with Reason expect 100 times as much of every Kind but Salmon. If we consider the Number of Hands and Ships employ'd in providing every Thing necessary for a Fishery, where it succeeds, as Salt, Casks, Materials for Nets, Lines, &c. and Ships to export the Fish, we will find it is the best Article in Trade for increasing our Sailors and Navigation, and it yields a very great national Profit, when an inconsiderable Gain is acquir'd by private Persons. But designing to treat of it, more at large, separately and afterwards, in another Tract; I will turn to another Article, which at present is very deservedly our Darling. 'Tis the only one we are unconfined in, and it saves us from being Bankrupts; which otherwise our Extravagance, and the Demands and Draughts upon us would have long ago brought about. It is our Hempen and Linnen Manufactures, but particularly our Linnen; our Exports upon which at a Medium of the last 8 Years amounts to 284721 *l.* 5 *s.* 9 *d.* $\frac{7}{8}$; but as it is an improving Manufacture, we may take the last Years Export as the lowest Medium, I hope, for any succeeding Years, along with these foregoing, viz. 342295 *l.* 00 *s.* 09.

IN order to make the Growth of this Manufacture and the Profit thence arising more visibly appear, I will consider how this Branch stood in 1701, at which Time there was exported

	l.	s.	d.
Linnen Cloth <i>Yards</i> 188000. Value	14112	0	0

Linnen Yarn <i>hundred weights</i> 7821 $\frac{1}{2}$	}	39106	18	4
1 q. 16 l. Value				

Total.	53218	18	4
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THIS hath gradually risen to *Lady-Day* 1727, when the *Yards* of Linnen Cloth Exported in 1726, were 4768889 $\frac{1}{4}$. Value 238444 l. 9 s. 9 d.

Linnen Yarn that Year <i>hundred wt.</i> 17287 3 q. 4 l.	
Value 103726 l. 11 s. 0 d.	

Stockings <i>Dozens</i> ,	124.	124 l. 0 s. 0 d.
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Total,	342295 l. 0 s. 9 d.
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So our Manufactures since 1701 have increas'd,	}	289076 l. 2 s. 8 d.
The Manufacture of Linnen and Stockings is increas'd,		

Notwithstanding which our Ex-	}	224456 l. 9 s. 9 d.
ports upon Yarn has encreas'd		

ports upon Yarn has encreas'd	}	64619 l. 12 s. 8 d.

THIS Manufacture, except about 24400 l. paid abroad for Flax, Flax-feed, Potash and Soap; is all clear Gain to the Nation; so we have at least 317900 l. neat Profit by it.

I OBSERV'D before that the Gross Export of Linnen was above $\frac{1}{3}$ of all our Exports, it being as 337 to 1000; to our Exports upon Cattle without including Sheep as 337 to 489, or as 668 to 1000 nearly;

nearly; to our Exports upon Pasture in general including Sheep (wherein our little Manufactures of Tann'd Leather, Spinning of Wooll, and other small Manufactures of Sheep, as Glew, Gloves, Hats, Frize, and Flannen, are included) as 337 to 613, or 548 to 1000 nearly; which is above one half. But this is not all; let us consider how much is sav'd to the Nation in lessening the Quantity of Holland and Linnens imported from abroad, and of Callicoes, by the home Consumption of our stamp'd and strip'd Linnens; I believe I shall be within Bounds if I compute them before the Rise of these Manufactures among us at 50000*l.* more than are now imported; and as our Numbers since the Reduction of *Ireland* in 1691 are increas'd about ; in the Manner we are supply'd with Linnens, 80000*l.* would not now be sufficient for us; I shall only beg Leave by a Computation in one Instance to make it highly probable I speak modestly of what we save in this Article of Importation: And that by showing how much is spent among us of our own Manufacture of this sort, in the Article of shifting. In this instance to make my Computation appear far within the Truth, I shall but allow one Shift *per Ann.* to each Person in the Kingdom, whereas I am inform'd by labouring Persons that two will scarce suffice, and most of them take three. The Linnen made use of in shifting the lowest Rank of Men, (who being the Bulk of the Kingdom, all Computations of this Kind are safest and nearest the Truth, when the Rich who are the fewest in Number, are lump'd with them in the Calculation) is Cloth of $\frac{3}{4}$ or $\frac{7}{8}$ broad, which is generally fold from 15*s.* to 17*s.* 6*d.* *per* Score, or from 9*d.* to 10*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ *per* Yard; here I shall compute it at 10*d.* *per* Yard, 3 Yards goes to a Woman's Shift, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ to a Man's; but as the Number of Persons under sixteen, are nearly equal to those above it, and much less being us'd in Children's Shifts, than in those

those of Persons grown up I; shall take a Medium of 2 Yards to each Person's Shift, (it being as I think still less than the Truth) which is 1 s. 8 d. for a Shift to each Person in *Ireland*. By the Extract of the Houses and Hearths which I took out of the Custom-House Books, Abstracts of which I give afterwards in a 2d Part; it appears that in 1725 there were at least 382,785 Houses inhabited in *Ireland*; without including Barracks, Colledges, or Hospitals: and by Returns that I have from several Country Parishes, of the Souls in each Family, I have found at a Medium 4.36 or a little more than 4; to each Family: the Families being larger in Towns, this also is rather within the Truth; there would then be at least 1668,942 Souls in *Ireland*; which at 1 s. 8 d. per Shift, the Sum would amount to 139078 l. 10 s. 0 d. Now if two Shifts be suppos'd a reasonable Allowance, considering I was within Bounds in the Quantity made use of in a Shift, even the youngest Children included; and considering how many have more than two of greater Breadth and Fineness; then the Value of shifting alone in *Ireland* would be 278157 l. which is near $\frac{1}{4}$ of all the Exports of Linnen. If to this be added the Sheeting, and Table-Linnen, Tick- ing, and other Things necessary in Womens and Childrens Wear, such as Frocks, Aprons, Caps, &c. it may be computed to amount to as much more. Over and above all this there are stamp'd Linnens, strip'd, mix'd with Cotton, Silk, and Woollen; Buckrams, Canvas, Thread, Incles, Tapes, &c. so that should I say our Linnen Manufacture by our Exports and Home Consumption amounts to 1000,000 l. *sterl.* I believe I should not far exceed the Truth.

I SHALL next consider how little of the Kingdom is taken up with this Manufacture; when I say there are not above five Counties employ'd and fully embark'd in making Linnens, viz. *Antrim, Down, Armagh, Tyrone and Derry*, I am I believe near the Truth.

Truth. Part of these which are only spinning Countries, will be more than equivalent to the Parts of other Counties wherein this Manufacture has made any Progress; there are not above five more employed in spinning, *viz.* *Donnegal, Monaghan, Cavan,* and as many Spinners dispers'd among the other Counties in *Ireland*, as may make up five spinning Counties in all; so there are not above ten Counties in Thirty Two any way embark'd in the Linnen Manufacture. If it be consider'd also how little Ground is employ'd in raising the Flax for this Manufacture, it will still appear in a better Light, and the Advantage more surprising. 3000 Hogsheads of forreign Flax Seed is somewhat above the Medium imported yearly; but for the sake of a round Number, being near it, I will choose it; if we suppose the increase of this *Communibus Annis* to be two Hogsheads for each that is sown; which I am afraid is still above the Truth, considering that many pull their Flax without saving the Seed; and that wet Seasons prevent others that would; all the Seed sav'd, together with the import of the following Year, will be but Nine Thousand Hogsheads; let us suppose that Quantity to be sowed the second Year, and the same increase in Proportion; this would amount to 18000, to which add the three Thousand imported next Season, and there would be 21000 Hogsheads sown annually; for as yet they seldom save it longer, but depend upon forreign Seed. I suppose what the Native *Irish* save and sow of *Irish* Seed, to be adulterated and impoverish'd by Mismanagement, and from thence commonly call'd short Flax Seed, will make up what in the rest is wanting of the computed increase of the Seed, *viz.* two for One sown; this Deficiency is occasion'd by bad Seasons, and not saving the Seed, and by pulling it too green in order as they pretend to make the Flax finer. Hence it is probable 21000 Hogsheads is the

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greatest

greatest Quantity sow'd annually in *Ireland*. A Plantation Acre and Rod being allow'd to every Hog-head sown, there would be 26250 Acres under Flax. And there being 11042642 computed Acres in the Kingdom, there would not be a 368th Part of the Kingdom employ'd in producing the third Part of the Exports of the Nation; and most Part of that of the lighter and less profitable Lands in the Kingdom, for Grain or Pasture: The great Out-cry there was upon the foreign Seeds being damag'd one Year, and the great Expence the Nation was at, in importing foreign Flax to employ our Spinners and Poor, make it still more probable that I am not much out in this Computation.

As I have made it highly probable that the Value of our Flax, when spun and manufactured, is by home Consumption, and export, worth a Million to the Nation; if there be in round Numbers 30000 Acres employ'd under Flax, each Acre is worth to the Nation 33 *l.* : 6 *s.* : 8 *d.* *per An.* According to the mean and poor living of the Labourers in *Ireland*, 10 *l.* *per An.* would be more than sufficient to maintain a Family; so that an Acre of Flax would be sufficient to maintain 14 $\frac{5188}{10000}$ Souls, consequently 30000 *l.* Acres under Flax, would employ and maintain 435564 Souls, besides the Husbandmen, and Tradesmen necessary to supply this Number with Provisions and other Necessaries; whereas so much in grazing would employ but 665 Souls; and at 12 *s.* *per Acre* the value of the grazing, would maintain but 1800 Families at 10 *l.* *per Family*, or 7848 Souls, which bears the Proportion to these the Flax upon the same Ground would maintain as 1 to 55.5.

By this may be seen the vast Disproportion there is between the Profit arising to a Nation, from Lands employ'd under Materials for Manufactures, and what arises from Grazing alone, as to Numbers employ'd necessarily in each, *viz.* about 664 to 1. As
a fur-

a further Confirmation of this, I will propose another way of Computation, which is not liable to so many Objections as that already us'd. By this the Disproportion appears to be nearly as great as in the former Computation. In this last way we compute the Quantity of Flax rais'd upon an Acre of Ground at a Medium, and then what Quantity of Cloth (such as is the general Manufacture of the Country) is usually made out of it. An Acre of Flax may be computed to have at least 30 Stone of Flax fit for the Heckle; each Stone of which by proper Management may be spun into 22 Dozen of Yarn, of 4 Dozen in the Pound, the rest being Tow Yarn is only fit for Sacking, and of little Value: This Yarn when wrought into Cloth, Yard wide, of 1400 Threads on each side the Woof, commonly call'd fourteen hundred Cloth, will out of 35 Dozen make 20 Yards. Such Cloth is sold when whiten'd at about 30*s.* *per* Score. Thus 22 Dozen will make 12½ Yards or a little more, and in Value is about 18*s.* 9 *d.* $\frac{15}{16}$; which being multiply'd by 30, the Number of Stones of Flax growing on an Acre, amounts to 28*l.* 4*s.* 10½*d.* consequently an Acre would maintain 12.3 Souls; and 30000 Acres 369000. So that this way, the Proportion betwixt the Linnen Manufacture and Grazing, as to Numbers employ'd in each, would be about Five Hundred and Sixty Three to One.

THE Value of our Exports upon other small Articles, such as Mettals, Wood, &c. at a Medium, not exceeding 20786*l.* 7*s.* 7½*d.* there is very little occasion to animadvert upon it, tho' it may be hop'd that by proper Application, such Improvements may be made in Manufacturing some of them, particularly Iron, as may increase our Exports in some of these Articles.

OUR Re-exports is the only Article by which we gain upon forreign Importations, by it we become

the Carriers and Brokers for other Nations; and may make a considerable Gain for Ware-house Room, and lying out of our Money, for Freight, and by the rise of Markets abroad, notwithstanding the Waste upon several Species of Goods. It is also a great Means of increasing our Ships and Navigation; this Article doth not at present exceed 37009 *l.* 19 *s.* 0 ⁸/₈ *d.* about half of which goes to *Britain*, the greatest Part in Wine and Brandy; about $\frac{1}{2}$ to *Spain*, *Portugal* and the *Straits*, $\frac{1}{2}$ to the *West-Indies*, and near $\frac{1}{7}$ to the East Country, which comprehends all Countries North of *Holland*; very little to *France*, *Holland* or *Flanders*. The chief Articles re-exported are these following, viz.

	<i>l.</i>
Brandy Value	9500
Wine French	8300
Drapery	900
Wine Spanish	800
Lead	2200
Herrings Value	1000
Brown Sugar	1800
Iron	750
Salt	1000
Train Oyl	400
Cains and Reeds	90
	<hr/>
Total	26740 0

THE remaining 10269 *l.* 19 *s.* 0 ⁸/₈ *d.* is made up of many small Articles not worth mentioning here.

HAVING thus made the Observations I propos'd upon our several Exports; and shewn the Proportion of our Trade in each Branch, and the proportional Benefit thence arising to the Kingdom, by the increase of our Numbers and Employment of our Poor;

Poor; I shall now State the Value of our imports, and give the Medium of the most considerable of them for several Years, and make some Observations upon them as I proceed.

OUR Imports at a Medium of 7 Years, ending *Lady-day* 1727, amounted to 843392*l.* 9*s.* 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* and the Values of the several Goods here mention'd at the Medium of the several Years annex'd to each Species, are the Proportions of the Parts, which Contribute to make up that Total, *viz.*

The Number of Years upon which
each Medium is struck.

Years		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
9	{ <i>French</i> Wine Valued at 20 <i>l.</i> } per Tun,	83156	5	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
4	of Ditto at Ditto,	91658	14	6
9	<i>Spanish</i> Wine at 30 <i>l.</i> per Tun,	15704	13	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
9	<i>Port</i> Wine at 30 <i>l.</i> per Tun,	3169	11	9
6	<i>Rhenish</i> at 36 <i>l.</i> per Tun,	1704	19	8 $\frac{1}{4}$

Taking the <i>French</i> at the 4 Years } Medium. Total.	112237	19	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
6 Brandy at 1 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> per Gallon,	23446	18	6

Total of Wine and Brandy, 135684 18 0 $\frac{1}{4}$

Wines Imported in 1726, 142586 8 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Brandys for said Year. 30871 13 9

Total, 173458 2 2 $\frac{1}{4}$

THIS was a vast Year's Import, but partly occasion'd by the Stop put to the Trade commonly carried on by the *Isle of Man*; however the Wines and Brandys, being lodg'd there from *France* in former Years, would have increas'd the Medium; had they been

been annually added to the Importation equally as now.

Total. 135684 18 0 $\frac{1}{4}$

Medium of the Imports
continued,
Years

6	Paper at 8s. per Ream. Value	8624	0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Wood Cent { Balks at 42l. Deals at 3l. }	40666	13	4
6	Whalebone at 17l. per Cent.	5503	13	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
6	Tobacco at 4d. per lib.	59529	7	2
6	Tea at 5s. per lib.	12263	15	0
6	{ Silk Manufacture at 3l. 10s. per lib. }	37955	12	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Raw Silk at 18s. per D $^{\circ}$.	21084	5	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	{ Silk thrown undy'd at 11s. per D $^{\circ}$. }	17613	8	4
6	Salt Foreign at 12d. per Bushel	9132	10	8
6	White Salt at 8d. per D $^{\circ}$.	8921	8	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
6	Salt Rock at 12s. per Tun,	1425	12	10
6	Flower at 1l. 10s. per Barrel,	4083	10	11
6	{ Hull'd Barley at 1l. 5s. per Cent. }	677	4	2
6	Wheat at 1l. 8s. per Quarter.	27048	4	6
5	{ Barley and Malt at 12s. per D $^{\circ}$. }	7255	2	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
6	Mullin at 2s. 6d. per Yard,	18197	17	11
6	Holland at 5s. per Ell,	5806	17	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
6	Cambricks at 7s. per Ditto	7394	18	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
3	Bone-Lace at 16s. per Yard,	6016	10	11
6	Hops at 3l. per Cent.	40681	18	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Hemp at 1l. 12s. per D $^{\circ}$.	10480	4	6
6	Incle { unwrought at 5s. per lib. wrought at 7s. per D $^{\circ}$. }	3044	5	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Sugar Candy at 6l. per Cent.	943	4	3
6	Loaf Sugar at 5l. per D $^{\circ}$.	7910	8	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
6	Muscovado Sugar at 2l. per D $^{\circ}$.	52940	7	9
	6. Powder			

Years

Imports continued.

6	{ Powder Sugar at 3 l. 10 s. }	3329	11	12
	per Cent.			
4	Gloves at 4 s. per Pair,	679	10	0
	Cases at 18 d. per D ^o .	1932	18	6
5	Glass { Drinking at 2 d. per piece }	1108	16	3
	Ware	2251	9	8½
6	Fustians at 18 s. per End,	4080	15	0
4	Flax at 1 l. 6 s. per Cent.	13888	13	3
6	Herrings at 14 s. per Barrel,	4407	5	8
5	Earthen Ware,	5242	15	2½
6	Madder at 2 l. per Cent.	5128	8	0
6	Coffee at 16 l. per Ditto,	6176	3	0
6	Coals at 14 s. per Tun,	42059	0	8
6	{ Glass Bottles at 1 s. 3 d. per }	3419	7	6½
	Dozen,			
6	Bark at 6 s. per Barrel,	16116	10	3
6	Grogam Yarn at 4 s. per lib.	6022	17	4
5	Cotton Wooll at 5 l. per Cent.	1560	18	3½
6	Salt Petre at 4 l. 4 s. per Cent.	2206	8	3
5	Potash at 1 l. 5 s. per Ditto.	2091	9	10
5	{ Linfeed at 2 l. 16 s. per }	8156	8	6¼
	Hogshead.			
5	Gunpowder at 3 l. 5 s. per Cent.	1854	13	1½
4	Liquorice at 1 l. per Cent.	207	6	11
4	Succus Liquor. at 8 d. per lib.	779	2	5½
2	Sythes at 16 s. per Dozen.	2072	9	8
2	Knives at 2 d. each	2651	4	9
3	{ Old at 15 s. per Yard,	23679	2	0
	New at 2 s. per Ditto.			
	Prunella at 3 s. 6 d. per D ^o .			
	Shag at 4 s. 6 d. per D ^o .			
3	Iron at 14 s. per Cent.	29678	16	7
2	{ Thread Gold and Silver at }	5351	2	6
	3 s. per lib.			

Imports

Imports continued.

Years

		Sisters at 12 s. per			
		lib.			
5	Thread	Whited Brown at			
		2 s. 6 d. per Do.			
			1185	8	0
			253	0	7
3	{	Needles at 5 l. per Dozen			
		Thousand.			
			337	3	6
3	Pins at 14 s. per Ditto.		61	9	2
3	Thimbles at 2 l. 10 s. per Thous.		266	0	6
3	Hatts at 15 s. each,		723	0	0
3	Sevill Oyl at 3 s. 6 d. per Gall.		4533	11	4½
3	Linseed Oyl at 2 s. 6 d. per Do.		1507	0	11¼
2	Train Oyl at 1 s. 6 d. per Do.		1873	11	3¼
	Books Value		7800	0	0
	Candle Wick at 3 l. per Cent.		640	0	0
	Wooll Cards at 12 s. per Doz.		800		
	Drugs, Value		5470		
	Allum at 15 s. per Cent.		1200		
	Cochineel at 18 s. per lib.		2800		
	Indico at 3 s. 6 d. per lib.		4200		
	Logwood at 18 s. per Cent.		2200		
	Red Wood at 2 l. per Cent.		4880		
	Steel at 1 l. 10 s. per Cent.		1500		
	Lead at 12 s. per Cent.		6600		
	Lawns at 6 s. per Ell,		1000		
	Millinary Ware,		2000		
	Slates at 8 s. per Thousand,		700		
	Snuff at 2 s. per lib.		2300		
	Stockings {	Silk at 15 s.			
		Worsted at 6 s.			
			500		
	Pitch at 15 s. per Barrel,		1330		
	Tarr at 12 s. per Ditto.		1600		
	Rozin at 18 s. per Cent.		1150		
	Cider at 8 l. per Tun.		2500		
	Toys at		1800		
	Pewter and Tin,		2700		

Imports

Imports continued.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Cork at 3 <i>s.</i> per Cent.	3300		
Oranges and Lemmons:	3000		
Wallnuts at 2 <i>l.</i> per Barrel,	2000		
Vinegar at 10 <i>l.</i> per Tun,	2500		
Pruins at 15 <i>s.</i> per Cent.	1500		
Groceries of Spice and Fruit	20600		
Iron at 2 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> per Cent.			
Wire { Steel at 12 <i>l.</i>	3300		
Latin at 7 <i>l.</i>			
Brass at 7 <i>l.</i>			
Spanish Wooll at 2 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> per Cent.	368		
Copper Plates at 6 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per Cent.	3725		
Battery and Brass Shruff at 5 <i>l.</i> and 8 <i>l.</i> per Cent.	1600		
Painting Stuff,	270		
Tin Plates at 3 <i>l.</i> per Barrel,	1000		
Garden Seeds at 2 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> per lib.	1450		
Lattin at 7 <i>l.</i> per Cent.	240		
Lamp Black at 4 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>l.</i> per lib.	740		
Iron Ore at 10 <i>s.</i> per Tun.	990		
Goats Hair at 4 <i>s.</i> per lib.	800		
Fanns at 1 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> each	860		
Apples at 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> per Busbel.	360		
Total.	862786	17	2½

The Imports at a Medium of 7 } 843392 9 10½
Years as before being

This exceeds that Medium, 19394 7 3½

SINCE besides these Mediums of our Imports
that I have here given, there are several small Par-
cels

cels and Articles I have not mentioned, as being no way material in Trade, which if added would have increas'd this Excess of the Medium, 10 or 12 thousand Pounds more: I will obviate what may be said against it, and give the Reason why it can by no means tally with the Medium of 7 Years.

I THOUGHT it would have been endless to take Extracts of all the Particulars of our imports, from the Ledgers of the Custom-House, for each Years Abstracts I took; I therefore singled out the full Extracts for the Year ending *Lady-day* 1726, in all the Species of Goods Exported and Imported; then I took out all the Exports for 8 Years, and struck my Medium upon them, and took only the Imports which appeared largest, and affected our Trade most; those I took carefully for six Years as noted here to each; Others which I thought not quite so material, I took for 5, 4, or 3 Years; and these which I have here inserted without naming any Years to them, were taken from the Extracts I took for 1725. This is the Reason why they can by no Means tally, as having been taken at a Medium of Years, some more, some less, and also the fewer Years in the Medium as our imports increas'd, so consequently must the Medium. As for Instance the Medium of our Imports taken for 6 Years amounts to 870063*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.* $\frac{2}{3}$ this exceeds the Medium of the several Species I have set down here 7277*l.* 9*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ which would be nearly equivalent to the small Parcels omitted by me, as no way material in Trade. So likewise the Medium of our Imports for the last four Years, ending *Lady-day* 1727, amounts to 915114*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* $\frac{3}{4}$ which exceeds the Medium given here 52000 nearly. Thus notwithstanding I could not make them Tally, I thought by inserting them, I would give the Publick a pretty just View of the Nature and Quantity of our Imports. I have here fairly laid down the true Reason why they can't justly Tally, notwithstanding

standing the Extracts are true. It was for the same Reason, where I did not take Mediums for several Years, as those I have last laid down here; that I would not add the Fractions as not being material.

I HAVE here for the Satisfaction of the Curious, taken such of those Imports as I could properly range under the following Heads, and divided them so, as to give the Values of those tending to promote our Luxury, separately from what are necessary or convenient, *viz.*

	l.	s.	d.
Our Imports for Drink and Mate- rials for Drinking amount to }	208134	12	0
For Meat and Medicine }	136416	14	9
For Apparel and Furniture Manu- factur'd }	157282	2	0
Unwrought Manufactures or Pri- mums, Barks included }	134964	17	8
In Mettals and their Appurtenan- ces and Manufactures }	62317	16	7
In Wood and the Appurtenances }	44486	0	0
In Tobacco and Snuff }	61929	7	2
In Firing }	42059	0	8
In Books, Toys, and other Arti- cles not easily reducable to these foremention'd }	15196	6	4½
<hr/>			
Total	862786	17	2½

THUS may be seen in what Species of Goods our Imports consist, in what Kinds we are most extravagant, what we must have from abroad, and with what we may be supply'd at home: That from hence we may be prompted to discourage as much as possible, what only feeds our Luxury, and which we can't have but from abroad; and to encourage

those we must have, to be brought to us from such Countries, as have the Ballance most in our Favour.

It will be proper here to take Notice how some of the most material Articles of our Imports may be abated by being supply'd at home; first by planting Orchards in such Countries and Lands as may be properest for them: These would not only afford Cider sufficient to prevent an Importation upon us amounting to 2500*l.* but also in some Measure check the Importation of Wine and Brandy: For Brandy may very well be extracted from such Cider, as upon tryal is found not proper for Drinking, or from what is made by the second pressing, or from the Cores when fermented with Water a very good Spirit might be Extracted not inferior to Brandy. Encouragement should also be given, to distill Spirits from Molossus, and coarse Sugar; by which Means a great Part of our Expence upon Spirits may be sav'd, exceeding now 23000*l.* by having also good Cider and Ale, with home made Wines from Honey and Sugar, half the Expence of Wines may be sav'd; and the middle and lower Ranks of Men, may very well be contented with them: By this Means 40 or 50000*l.* may be sav'd in the Article of Wine.

Hops by being planted in our rich and warm Counties of *Linrick* and *Tipperary*, and other Southern Parts, may save the Kingdom the Expence of that Article, or in case our Demands increase by having more Ale, it may prevent the increase of the Importation, or the extravagant Price they are held at sometimes in bad Seasons. The Medium now is 40000*l.*

'Tis shameful our Exports upon Grain, should be so far exceeded by our Imports; which notwithstanding the wetness of our Climate is in great Measure owing to bad Husbandry and want of Granaries. We might not only save that Article which before the Year 1727 was at least 10000*l.* annual

annual Expence to us, and hath much increas'd since that time; but we might reasonably expect to Export to the Value of 40000 *l.* had we many Gentlemen of so great Publick Spirit as the late Mr. *Edwards*, that would be at the Expence to bring over and settle upon good Farms, *English* Farmers to instruct us, and improve the Tillage of *Ireland*. The Importation of Glafs, Glafs-ware and Bottles may be lessen'd: But this will be chiefly owing to our getting Coals in sufficient Quantity in the Kingdom, upon which also our Manufacture of Salt depends. In our Firing we might save somewhat; could we get Coals near the Shore in Plenty, or within a reasonable distance for Water Carriage. But if our Numbers and Trade increase, and our Bogs be drain'd or run out, as they are doing in many Places, since our Plantations go on very slowly, tho' we use all our own, we shall import near as much Coals, as we do now from *Britain*. Most of what we would save by it, would be in our Articles of Salt and Glafs.

THE most effectual way to do this at present, until proper Laws be made for Encouragement to search for Mines to advantage, would be to promote the Navigation from *Ballycastle*, and to undertake the *Newry* Navigation, from *Lough-neak*; the Coals in *Tyrone* being daily found better and in greater Quantities near that Lough. To encourage us in the latter, the Ground through which the Canal of Communication may be made, is as easy to be dug as any in *Ireland*, and the River of *Tonragee*, as also the upper *Bann* if necessary, as well as the Water of *Lough-Brickland*, may be brought to *Lough-Shark* near *Acton*, (which is the greatest height from whence the several Locks are to be supply'd, at a moderate Expence. These are such Encouragements, as will make it highly reasonable to be undertaken either by the Publick or by private Persons.

TOBACCO and Snuff is a Debauch I am afraid we shan't easily get rid of, it is a heavy Article upon us: the Importation of the one at 4*d.* the other at 2*s.* per Pound, exceeding sixty one thousand Pounds per Ann. besides what is imported by Stealth, which is unavoidable where the Duty is so high. Whalebone, Fish, and Fish Oyl, we might have of our own, and also enough to export in great Quantity, of which I will treat when I touch upon the Improvement of our Fisheries.

OUR Silk Manufacture will I hope in some Time improve so much, as to take off our Expence upon that Article, except a few of the choicest of the *British* Silks for Birth-Days and Wedding-Suits. I am persuaded our *Irish* Ladies would appear with more Lustre in their Native Charms, when clad in *Irish* Silks, in the Eyes of their Admirers, than in the richest Brocades of Foreign Nations: The Employment of our own Poor by the Encouragement given to our Manufactures, would be more highly meritorious in them; since it would at the same time put a Check to the Vanity of their Admirers, who are solely directed by them in the Choice of their Dress, and would entirely submit to their Taste, admiring them then more for their Prudence, than formerly for any Ornaments prejudicial to their Country.

WE might save also in our Importation of Gold and Silver Lace; Twist and Thread, Lawns, Fustians and Millinary Ware amounting at present to 12000 at least; Part of which is run in upon us, as of all our fine Goods which pay a high Duty. This would be in a great Measure prevented by Cheapness of Sale, which would make the Temptation so much less. The Importation of Muslins, Cambricks, Lace, and Hollands, amounting to 37000*l.* will I hope in some Time sink by the Disuse of Lace and Muslins, and Improvement of the others at home, as well in Bleaching

Bleaching as otherwise, and this saving to the Nation, as well as in Silks, is entirely in the Power of the Ladies by their Approbation and Example either to promote or discourage the Wear of them; they are the Spring that sets the whole Machine of Dress in Motion, and to them the Praise or Blame must be owing according to the Example they give.

HEMP and Flax with their Seeds, and Incle (of which we Import to the Value of 35000 *l.*) will I am confident by the Vigilance and happy Direction of the TRUSTEES of the Linnen Manufacture, be lessen'd to a Trifle; if we consider by their Care to what a Pitch it is brought in 26 Years, that we now export above the Value of 280000 *l.* more than in 1700, besides what we consume at home, it will appear truly surprizing. It is entirely owing to that Honourable Board that the Credit of our Linnens is supported; without which *Ireland* must have sunk, considering the Drains and Draughts that are constantly upon it. For this they merit the sincere Acknowledgments of the Publick, and may justly be esteem'd true Patriots of their Country.

NOTWITHSTANDING the universal Practice in other Countries of saving their Seed not only for their own Use, but for Foreign Sale and to make Oyl of, and that their Flax is valued and much sought after, which seems to be a convincing Argument that it is good and fine; yet the Spinners here will not allow that its a Benefit to prevent the Importation of Foreign Flax Seed, by saving all at home, affirming that Flax pull'd before it's fully ripe, consequently before the Seed is fit to be sav'd, is much finer and better; that it breaks into finer and smaller Parts, and splits better upon Heckling; that it gives more Flax to be spun into fine Yarn, and better colour'd; they say this appears from daily Experience; and those who deal in buying Yarn give them a higher Price when it is spun from Flax not fully

fully ripe. They farther urge and insist upon it, that because the Frost and Blasts sometimes happen to the Flax, and often wet Seasons, it is more convenient to save only so much as to prevent the Loss occasioned by depending too much upon the Foreign Seed, which sometimes proves bad, and has more than once been highly prejudicial to us. To clear up these Difficulties, repeated Experiments should be made upon Parcels of Flax growing in the same Ground, taking Part green, watering it and trying the Quantity, Colour and Goodness of it, and stacking the Remainder when ripe, and afterwards carefully watering, breaking, and heckling it; we should see the proportionable Goodness and Quantity of each. This would effectually put a Stop to the Practice, if it be only Humour, or confirm it if true.

WE might also improve our Earthen Ware at home, and lessen the Importation, which now amounts to above 5000*l.* Madder amounting to an equal Sum, may also be rais'd in the rich Grounds of *Limerick* and *Tipperary*, not only to serve our selves, but also *England*, which takes from *Flanders* annually to the Value of 17 or 18000*l.* the Iron Manufacture amounting to 15000*l.* at least, may be lessen'd by Improvements at home, *viz.* Knives, Razors, Pots, Cifars, Sythes, Carpenters Tools, Needles, Pins, Thimbles, and other Species innumerable, as well in Brass and Copper as in Iron. Our Exportation of these not being prohibited, we might perhaps improve them so as to Export them to Advantage. Bark, if Tanning by the Root will answer in Part, as suggested; amounting now to 16000*l.* would in some Measure be sav'd, and our Hides be sent out Tann'd instead of Raw, which would make the Advantage double. Paper amounting to 8600*l.* might also be sav'd; as our Linnens improve, Implements, that is Rags, for the Mills encrease: nor do I think it amiss since the *Dutch* im-
port

port Rags for their Mills, that *Ireland* should follow their Example.

As for our Importation of Wood, I am afraid we shall not in a long Time, if ever, save in that Article, even should we plant, to which we seem generally to have so great a Disinclination: For as we encrease and improve, our Demands for it will still be encreasing: and when *Norway* and the *Baltick* fail, we must look out for another Market, to buy at a greater Expence. It would be endless to mention all the Articles, such as Gunpowder, Fans, Toys, Garden Seeds, &c. we might save in.

UPON the whole, by proper and prudent Management we might save of our Imports at least 250,000*l.* and Export in some of these very Articles at least 100000*l.* This would make a very considerable Alteration in our Commerce to the Benefit of the Kingdom. Having now laid open to the View of the Publick the several Branches of our Trade both in our Exports and Imports, and consider'd the Ballance as arising from our Estimates in the Custom-House Books, I will consider it a little further, and propose what in my Opinion may be reasonably presum'd a Ballance upon the whole Demand upon us, so as the Kingdom may not diminish in Wealth.

THE Ballance at a Medium as before mention'd was computed at 172188*l.* 7*s.* 4¹/₄, if the Freight of the Tunnage of *Irish* Shipping, amounting at a Medium to 37453 Tuns, which computed at 40*s.* per Tun, (and this I am afraid, is considerably above the Medium of Freight upon our Shipping) amounts to 74906*l.* If this I say be added to the Ballance, it will make it 247094*l.* 7*s.* 4¹/₄. Upon this it might be reasonably imagin'd that *Ireland* should improve, grow Rich, and encrease in Trade; but by Experience we find the contrary. Within these 3 or 4 Years our Stock and Money has lessen'd, notwithstanding the Markets at home are at an excessive Price, for Things con-

sum'd at home, this has in a great Measure been owing to bad Seasons, which have taken off our Exports upon Grain, and occasion'd our Imports upon that Article to be dearer, by the Rise of Markets abroad. But that is not all: our Luxury daily increases, infomuch that our Imports for the Year 1726 exceeded the Medium of last 7 Years, by the Sum of 186667*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* wherein the last Year's Import is included. But exclusive of that, taking the Medium at six Years before, *viz.* 812281*l.* 5*s.* 5½. the Increase of our Imports in 1726, amounts to 217778*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* whereof *French Wine* amounts to 26000*l.* more than formerly,

Port and Spanish Wine to	12500
Brandy to - - -	7400
Tobacco - - -	12500
Bone-Lace, - - -	2000
Wood, - - -	9000
Coals, - - -	5900
Hops, - - -	21000
Iron, - - -	5000
Callicoes, - - -	1500
Silk Manufacture, - - -	12000
Cambricks, - - -	4000
Muslin, - - -	1500
Paper - - -	2500
Salt, - - -	3000
Silk { Raw - - -	9000
{ Thrown undyed, - - -	4000
Total of the Excess - - -	138800

THE other Articles are not so material, so I need not recapitulate them here. This only shews that our Importations that Year were not totally owing to the Difficulties put upon the Trade of the *Isle of Man*, but in a great Measure to our encreasing Luxury.

UPON

UPON the whole, if our Exports, by the Profit of the Merchants upon Freight and Foreign Sale, and the Prices of our Goods at Market here, don't over-balance our Imports according to Valuation, at least 400,000*l.* I don't think *Ireland* can have any Ballance in its Favour. For if we consider the Rents return'd into *England*, of Noblemen and Gentlemen residing there, those who have Civil Employments and keep Deputies, General Officers and other Military Persons absent, Pensioners and Half-Pay Officers, Post-Office, Gentlemen who go there for Education, young Heirs who go there to spend and ruin their Fortunes; all put together can't be less than what I have mention'd.

If a Calculation I have seen of a Person lately of eminent Distinction and Learning, was taken with Accuracy, it exceeds it considerably, and amounts to 456000*l. per Ann.* 'Tis computed thus.

Rents to Noblemen and Gentlemen residing in <i>England</i> ,	} 300000
Those who have Civil Employments and keep Deputies,	} 20000
Military Officers absent,	50000
Gentlemen who go for Education, and to spend their Fortunes,	} 60000
Pensioners and Half-Pay Officers,	20000
Post-Office,	6000
	<hr/>
	456000
If to this be added the absent Troops we pay in <i>Giberalter</i> , at least	} 30000
	<hr/>
The Total amounts to	486000

To this should be added the Interest of Money paid in *England*; the Interest of Money here being higher

higher than there; as also Exchange, which partly affects us, and by Reason of these strong Draughts upon us, is generally two thirds of the Year, from 2 to 4 *per Cent.* above *Par.*

THUS may be seen how our Trade stands in relation to our general Ballance; and how careful we ought to be to retrench in Time, e're we too fatally find the Effects of our encreasing Luxury, before Idleness and Debauchery prevail too far among the middle and lower Ranks of Men: these readily follow the Examples of those of higher Station; especially in what they ought not; they think at present to glide easily with the Stream, without reflecting upon the almost insuperable Difficulty of afterwards stemming the Current to prevent sinking.

I SHALL next make particular Estimates of our Exports and Imports to, and from the several Nations with whom we Trade, as they are distinguish'd in the Custom-House Books, and observe where the Ballance lies with each of them. As I proceed I shall also remark what Advantages or Disadvantages we have (that occur to me) in our Trade with each respectively. In this *England* has and ought to have the Preference; as well upon Account of our being Embark'd upon the same Bottom, as that our Trade is but a Branch of their extended Commerce, (the Ballance of which I shall demonstrate we pour in upon them, in Return for the Protection they have from time to time afforded us) as also upon account of the Greatness of our Exports to, and Imports from them and their Plantations, which exceed considerably the Trade we have with all other Nations join'd together.

an ABSTRACT of the Exports, Imports and Ballance with *England* for 8 Years, from *Lady-Day* 1719, to *Lady-Day* 1727.

Years.	Exports			Imports.			Ballance.			Contra.Ballance.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	447659	2	11½	476187	14	1¼				28528	11	1¾
1720	363529	10	5	375803	8	8¼				12273	18	3¼
1721	440946	17	6¾	4096c5	6	6½	31341	11	0¼			
1722	544002	7	8¼	507737	10	3½	36264	17	4¾			
1723	554431	1	5½	519362	5	1	35068	16	4¼			
1724	476632	14	10½	441799	3	6½	34833	11	4			
1725	467949	2	7	501649	6	3½				33700	3	8½
1726	495497	13	3¼	558261	10	3¼				62763	17	0
Total.	3790648	10	9½	3790406	4	9¾	137508	16	1¼	137266	10	1½
Medium	473831	1	4½	473800	15	8½	30	5	7¾			

l. *s.* *d.*

the Medium of our Exports thither, consisting of Linnen and Linnen Yarn } 267000 00 00 about

Wool, Woollen and Worsted Yarn 117554 15 10¼
 384554 15 10¼

	<i>l.</i>		
Copper Oar about	-	-	1900
Feathers	-	-	1880
Hair	-	-	2000
Raw Hides	-	-	2900
Kelp	-	-	1000
Calve Skins	-	-	13924
Goat and Kid Skins	-	-	1100
Sheep and Lamb Skins	-	-	6844
Rabbit Skins	-	-	4100
Tallow	-	-	19760

l. *s.* *d.*

55408 00 00

Total of all 439962 15 10¼

THE other Articles; which make up the Remainder of our Exports amounting to about 33900*l.* are, Goods Re-exported about 15000, chiefly Wine and Brandy; Beef, Butter, Candles, Fish, Flannel, Frize, small Horses, Hogs-lard, Pork, Rape-Seed and other small Parcels, which are generally the Provisions and little Necessaries, Collyers and other Seamen carry with them, in their Portage on their return home.

By this it appears plainly, that we Export to *England* the first Principles of their Manufactures of several Kinds, viz. Wool, Oar, Skins, Hair, Feathers, Hides, and Tallow, about 172900*l.* in Linnen Yarn about 90000*l.* so there is above 262900. exported to them of such Things as are absolutely necessary for carrying on and encreasing their Commerce, and for employing their People, the Linnen Yarn being particularly useful in carrying on their *Northern* Manufactures of Linnen and Mixtures of Linnen with Wool and Cotton. And our Linnens amounting to about 177000*l.* is made a Manufacture there, by being stamp'd of stain'd, and saves a great deal of their rich Manufactures in Wool, &c. for Exportation; which is so much sav'd from Foreigners in our Hands for their use, being afterwards spent in *Britain*, where all our Redundant Cash goes. So that of all our Exports to *England*, there is not 34000*l.* Luxuriously spent in it, consequently they must be a great Benefit to their Trade and Commerce.

The Imports from *England* at a Medium, are nearly 473800*l.* per *An.* and chiefly consist of the following Articles of Value annex'd, viz.

	<i>l.</i>
Bark - - - - -	12500
Books - - - - -	7800
Bottles - - - - -	3400
Candle Wick - - - - -	640
Wool	

	l.
Wool-Cards	800
Coals	30000
Coffee	6176
Wheat and Barley	30000
Drapery	23679
Drugs	3000
Allum	1200
Cochineel	2800
Indico	4200
Log-Wood	2200
Iron and Ware	9000
Steel	1000
Lead	6600
Cambricks	3000
Hollands	2000
Lawns	1000
Muslins	18197
Flower	4000
Millenary Ware	2000
Calicoes	1000
Salt and Rock	10000
Manufacture	23000
Silk { Raw	18000
{ Thrown-undyed	12900
Pewter and Tin	2700
Whale Bone	2100
Wood and Ware	3500
Cotton and Yarn	800
Grogram Yarn	1900
Salt Petre	2000
Groceries of Fruits and Spice	10700
Small Parcells	4400
Battery and Brafs Shruff	330
Cheese	560
Camblets	140
Copper-Plates	500
Red-Wood	4880
Earthen-	

	l.
Earthen-Ware	4400
Herrings	3600
Fustians	4080
Glass and Ware	5000
Suggars	47000
Gold and Silver Thread and Lace	5350
Hops	4c680
Slates	700
Snuff	2300
Stockings	500
Pitch and Tar	2000
Cyder	2500
Tea	12260
Tobacco	59529
Toys	1800
Fanns	860
Gloves	670
Paper	1000
Hats	600
Garden Seeds	800
Hemp	3000
Apples	150

Total of Imports from *England*. 473375

THESE with some other small Articles and the Fractions of these make up the Medium as above: Of which there is of their own Produce and Manufactures 248439*l.* from the *American Colonies* and by the *East-India Company* 167536*l.* and by the *Dutch, Flemish, Baltick and Mediterranean Trades* 57400*l.* there is about 7800 Value of Tobacco imported by way of *Scotland*; but being all from the *English Plantations* I have plac'd the whole here.

THUS stands the Trade between *England* and *Ireland*; by which it plainly appears that all to a trifle, which we Export to them, are either of the greatest Use, and an immense Gain to them by encreasing their

their Trade and Commerce abroad, and employing a great Number of industrious Poor at home, or saved from Foreigners by whom they must otherwise necessarily be supply'd: Consequently this is an Addition of Power and Wealth to the *Brittish* Dominions. The Goods we import from thence, are either a redundancy of their Produce and Manufactures, which employs and maintains a great Number of industrious Farmers and Manufacturers; or such Colony and *East-India* Goods as employ a great Number of their largest and best Ships, which consequently promotes Navigation and Seamen, and employs a great many Hands in their Colonies, who in Return take off great Quantities of their richest and best Manufactures.

I shall next consider the State of our Trade with *Scotland* and *Isle of Man*, and annex an Abstract of our Exports, Imports and Ballance, with that Part of *Britain* for the like Term of eight Years, viz.

Years	Exports.			Imports			Contra-Ballance.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	13690	19	0	37868	19	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	24178	0	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
1720	10352	4	4	27706	18	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	17354	14	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
1721	11256	15	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	29151	10	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	17894	15	8 $\frac{3}{4}$
1722	14398	2	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	27468	14	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	13070	12	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
1723	23578	5	8	33497	2	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	9918	16	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
1724	21250	0	3	31003	0	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	9752	19	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
1725	10023	12	4	38938	0	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	28914	7	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
1726	9384	2	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	29762	13	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	20378	11	2
Tot.	113934	1	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	255396	19	6	141462	17	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Med.	14241	15	2 $\frac{5}{8}$	31924	12	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	17682	17	2 $\frac{7}{8}$
				H					Our

Our Exports to *Scotland* and *Isle of Man* consist of

	l.
Oatmeal about	6000
Other Grain	600
Beef and Kine	1000
Horses	1800
Hides	500
Butter, Cheese, Soap, Linnen, and Mutton	800
Small Parcels	1200
Total	11900

Some other small Articles with Wine and Brandy make up the Medium.

Our Imports from thence consist of

	l.
Coals about	11900
Tobacco	7800
Bark	1400
Brandy	840
Barley and Malt	880
Groceries	1000
Linnen and Kenting	3500
Wine	1400
Timber	2400
Linnen-Yarn	150
Small Parcels	290
Herrings	140
Total	31700

Some other trifling Articles make up the Medium.

THE Importations from *North-Britain* and *Isle of Man* vary but little, consisting chiefly of Coals and Tobacco;

Tobacco; for which our Demands are pretty constant, and nearly equal. Our Export being chiefly of Oat-meal, rises or falls as our Harvests are plentiful or otherwise. Upon this Trade there is occasion for very little Animadversion, it being very small and to be understood at first View. By deducting our small Ballance with *England*, from our Contra-Ballance with *Scotland*; we lose by *Britain* not including their Colonies 17652*l.* 11*s.* 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* I am oblig'd to state our Trade with the *British* Colonies in *America*, as an Appendage of *Britain*; our Imports from thence being all accounted for in our Importations from *Britain*, where they must all be first enter'd before they can be admitted into *Ireland*, except Lumber and Grain not being Bond Goods, which I presume might be allow'd to be landed here.

Here follows an Abstract of our *American* Exports, for the same Years with those of the last Abstract,
viz.

Years				Our Exports to <i>America</i> consist of	
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>
1719	77190	08	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Beef about	61500
1720	88980	18	9	Butter	10000
1721	68404	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Pork	8600
1722	74344	9	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	Linnen	3500
1723	82806	6	9 $\frac{1}{8}$	Fish	8890
1724	96825	8	10	Bread	1300
1725	103998	2	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Cheese and Candles	1000
1726	110313	19	7 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Total	702863	17	9 $\frac{1}{8}$	Total	86790

The Medium of which is our annual Ballance, *viz.*
87857*l.* 19*s.* 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*

Which with some other small Articles make up the Medium.

OUR Imports from *America* being already accounted for; the Contra-Ballance from *Britain* alone must be deducted from the *American*: The Ballance from *Britain* in our Favour, including the Colonies, will then amount to 70205*l.* 8 $1\frac{3}{4}$.

THUS stands our Trade at present with *Great-Britain* and their Colonies, and without farther Animadversion it might be imagin'd that they were Losers by their Trade and Intercourse with us: But when this Ballance comes to be substracted from the Draughts upon us by those who have Estates, Employments or Pensions, and reside in *Britain*; by others who go there to spend, or for Education, and by the Troops we pay abroad; which as computed before, amounted to 486000*l.* then *Britain* will be a Gainer by *Ireland* 415794*l.* 11*s.* 10 $\frac{21}{34}$ *d.* if to this be added the Monopoly of Wool, Woollen, and worsted Yarn; of which we send annually to *England* 227049 Stone, at 16 Pound to the Stone, (the computed Price at a Medium of Wool and Yarn is 10*s.* 4*d.* per Stone, and the least Profit upon that when Manufactured is computed at 2*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* for a Stone of Wool Manufactured without Dying, is at least worth 3*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* especially what we send over, that being the choicest and best we have) then they will gain by our Wool 678573*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* this is the lowest Computation can be made upon their Profit, by our Wool; for as it is computed by others it rises considerably higher, as thus; a Pound of Wool in *England* is valued at 12*d.* and our Wool and Yarn being of the best Sort may be worth 14*d.* *Irish* at least; now Mr. King's Computation is, that the Wool is the Fourth of the Value of it when Manufactured; if so, a Stone of Wool Manufactured is worth 3*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* and the Profit from *Ireland* to *England* would then amount to 730340*l.* 19*s.* 0*d.* Another ingenious Gentleman who wrote upon the Trade of *Ireland* in 1687 says, three Pounds worth of

of Wool and Oyl when Manufactur'd into white Cloths is worth 13 *l.* at this Rate the Gain to *Britain* upon our Wool, computing such as we send worth 14 *d.* *Irish* there, would be 916710 *l.* 6 *s.* 9 *d.* this Computation being made of white Cloths as Sold in *England*, before they are dyed and exported; the Profit upon Exportation after dying is to be added; which, if I should say amounts to one half more, I believe I should be within the Truth: So that the Computation I have given, is very much within Bounds.

I CAN'T but observe here how apt People are to err in Calculations, when they have not Facts to build upon. The Author of the *Atlas Maritimus et Commercialis* affirms, that 40000 Packs of Woollen Yarn are sent from hence to *England* in a Season. This he computes at 240 *l.* per Pack or 15 Stone to the Pack, which would thus amount to 600000 Stone of Woollen Yarn sent to them annually, besides the Wool; whereas what we send is but 103459 Stone, not much above one Sixth Part. This we are sure is Fact; since it can't be suppos'd we run in any to *England*, whatever is done elsewhere: But he, like others, at random runs away with the mistaken Notion that the *Irish* Trade is prejudicial to *England*, and gives this vast Importation of Woollen Yarn as an Instance, to shew how much is taken away from the Spinners there; which by a wrong Calculation of just 1, he says at 3 *d.* per Pound spinning amounts to 240000 *l.* being as he says, at 6 *l.* per Pack, which upon 40000 Packs is the above Sum; whereas at 240 *l.* per Pack, which he lays down as the weight, and at 3 *d.* per Pound spinning, it is but 3 *l.* per Pack, and consequently but 120000 *l.* gain to us by his Account: But there being really no more than 103459 Stone exported, at 3 *d.* per Pound; the Profit to *Ireland* amounts to no more than 20691 *l.* 16 *s.* 0 *d.* a small Sum to grudge to the Poor of *Ireland*, when such an
immense

immense Gain is made by our Wool and Yarn. In another Book lately publish'd; intitled, *a Plan of the English Commerce*, and probably wrote by the same Person, since his Calculations are equally wide; in our Linnens he computes we send to *England* two Millions of Yards, whereas we sent there in 1726, 3265480 Yards: In Wool and Yarn he computes we send 100000 Packs which at 15 Stone to the Pack, would amount to 1500000, instead of 227049 the true Number sent from thence, which does not much exceed $\frac{1}{7}$ of his Computation; but enough of this Digression.

THE Profit *England* gains upon other Articles being no Monopoly, I make no Observations upon it but this; That the Linnen and Linnen-Yarn as it is improv'd there by working and stamping, since we can't Export it strip'd or stain'd with Colours, or with any other Mixture, is so far a Monopoly; and since they would otherwise take it from Foreigners, it is so much fav'd as I said before, and contributes to the Power and Wealth of *Britain* by enabling us to take so many more of their rich Manufactures.

To the two Articles already mention'd, may be added the Freight and Employment given to *British* Shipping; the Tunnage of which at a Medium of three Years amounts to 155738 $\frac{1}{2}$; which at 1 *l.* 10 *s.* per Tun Freight, is 233608 *l.* This, considering how many are employ'd in the *American* Trade, I can't think without Bounds: For the Tunnage in the Coal Trade does not much exceed, being at a Medium 61081 Tuns, about one sixth of which may be computed to be *Irish*; so the *British* Tunnage employ'd will not exceed 50901, there would then be about 104700 Tun of their Shipping, employ'd upon other Freights; and the Colliers being suppos'd at least to make 10 *s.* per Tun Freight; this would raise the Freight upon others, to about 1 *l.* 19 *s.* 8 *d.* per Tun, which I suppose not much to exceed the Truth.

Truth. Since also a great Quantity of our Goods, is sent abroad by Commission from *England*, they have the Benefit of the Sale of these Goods in Foreign Markets.

The Benefit then accruing to *Britain* from *Ireland* will appear thus,

Money spent in <i>England</i> over and above the Ballance subtracted as before, and by Payments of Troops abroad	415794	11	10	$\frac{21}{64}$
By the Monopoly of <i>Irish</i> Wool and Yarn	678573	15	6	
By Freight of <i>British</i> Shipping,	233608			
Total <i>Irish</i> Money	1327976	7	4	$\frac{21}{64}$

Which amounts to in *English* Money about

1225730

BUT least it might be thought that 30 s. per Tun is more than the *English* gain by the Freight of Shipping; I shall deduct 10 s. per Tun from the Freight, which comes to 77869 l. 6 s. 8 d. and then they will be Gainers by the Trade and Rents of *Ireland* 1250107 l. 0 s. 8 d. *Irish* Money.

To this may be added the Profit they make upon the *Irish* Linnens that they stamp or stain, which at 12 d. per Yard exported, amounts at a Medium to the Value of 177000 l. upon this they make 10 d. per Yard at least Profit when stain'd or stamp'd, their Gain upon it then is,

	l.	s.	d.
	147500	0	0

The

The Linnen Yarn, at a Medium
exported at 12*d.* per Pound,
amounts to about 90000*l.* and
the Profit upon it Manufactur'd
being at least 150 per Cent, when
sold in the *English* Market, with-
out computing the Profit when
exported from thence, comes to

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
135000	0	0

Their Profit upon Skins, Oar,
Tallow, Kelp, &c. when ma-
nufactur'd, may be reasonably
suppos'd double of the Value
when exported from *Ireland*;
which being above 55000 their
Profit may be computed the
same, *viz.*

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
55000	0	0

As all this is neat Gain above the
Value of the Goods we export
to *Britain* (and the profitable
Goods we send to them, upon
which the above Profit is made,
amount to 440000*l.*) with which
we pay for the *British* Commo-
dities imported to us, we may
add at least so much more to the
Gain *Britain* makes of *Ireland*;
since if there was no such King-
dom they would want a vent
for so many of their profitable
Exports, no other Kingdom
having a demand for them; by
this their Profit is from *Ireland*
at least

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
440000	0	0

This

This being added to the foregoing Sum of 1250107*l.* 0 *s.* 8 *d.* then the total Benefit *Britain* reaps from the Neighbourhood, Trade and Commerce of *Ireland*, (in which is not included the Profit made upon our Goods, when exported by *Britain* to Forreign Countries) amounts to

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
2027607	0	8

To this also may be added the great Advantage arising to *Britain*, in their Transactions with foreign Princes and States, by having 12000 *Veteran* Troops maintain'd in *Ireland*, without any Expence or Trouble, ready to assist them upon any Emergency, either at home or abroad; the Pay of which amounts to 362668*l.* 11 *s.* 3½ *d.* as also the Benefit they have in providing for many of their Cadets, or younger Children, by the beneficial Livings and Employments here. If such and so many are the Advantages which *Britain* Reaps from the Neighbourhood of *Ireland*, by their Rents, Wooll and Trade, How grossly ignorant must those be, who maintain it, would be better for *Britain* that *Ireland* was sunk, or not to have had it in their Neighbourhood. This Set of People are fill'd with a Notion, that it has been a perpetual Charge and Expence to *England*, and a drain of their Men and Money, by the frequent Rebellions of the *Irish*; whereas it is manifest except the Conquest by *Henry* the II^d. and the Armies brought over by King *John* and *Richard* the II^d. *Ireland* was no Expence to them from the first Landing of the *English* under *Strongbow*, until the latter end of Queen *Elizabeth*'s Reign, but was serviceable in several of their Wars with *France* and *Scotland*; and during that whole Time they gain'd by the Rents and Trade

Trade of Ireland. And tho' the Crown of *England*, in the latter End of Queen *Elizabeth's* Reign by her, Parsimony, and after the *Irish* Rebellion in 1641, was at a considerable Expence, yet the Body of the People of *England* gain'd vastly more by the *Irish* Rents and Trade, than the Money expended and sent over to pay the Troops that reduced the Rebels here: as to the late Reduction of *Ireland* after 1688, tho' for three Campaigns it was very expensive to *England*, yet from the Year 1660 to that Time, they reap'd by the Rents, &c. of *Ireland* three times the Sum which was expended by them upon the last Reduction; and since that time until now, they may justly acknowledge they have gain'd a Million and $\frac{1}{2}$ annually by *Ireland*, in all about 39 Millions *sterl.* All which would have been lost to them, had there been no such Country, or had it been in the Hands of Foreigners.

It is plain then that *Ireland* instead of being a Charge to *Britain*, is of the greatest Benefit, and may be term'd the choicest Jewel and Acquisition of the Crown and People of *England*: a Country whilst in the Hands of Protestants of *British* Extraction, protected and look'd upon with a favourable Eye by them, in the Possession of their Properties, Rights, and Privileges, consistant with the good of its Mother Country, that will be of the greatest Moment to them, in contributing to support the Honour and Dignity of the Crown, and the Power, Wealth and Naval Strength of *Britain*. We will always, when well treated, with chearful and willing Hearts spend among them, the surplusage of our Rents and Balance gain'd by Trade, as a tribute due to our Protector and elder Brother. We will by our Industry and Labours provide them with many Necessaries to carry on their Trade, and for their home Consumption, which they must now necessarily have from Foreigners: By this means we would have Returns
to

to give them, for the many and choice Commodities we take from them. In this Commerce they are liable to no Interruption from the Chicane of Foreign Princes and States: And what the poor industrious Inhabitants of *Ireland* gain that way, is certainly by other Channels poured back into *Britain* as has been shewn already; whereas whatever is taken from Foreigners which *Ireland* can supply them with, of equal Goodness and Cheapness, is plainly encreasing and employing the People of a foreign Prince instead of those under the *British* Government, and whatever they gain by that Trade centers with themselves and has no other Channels by which it returns to *Britain*.

By this we may see the Falsity of Dr. *Davenant's* Argument, when we were depriv'd of the Benefit of the woollen Manufacture here, he reasons against setting up the Linnen and Hempen Manufactures in *Ireland*; alledging, if we supply'd *England* with Linnens, the *Hamburg* Trade would be lost in great Measure by their having no sufficient Returns to make to them for the Goods they took from *England*, their Linnens being the only Returns they could make. Now it is plain from this way of Reasoning, that he must mean that either that Trade must always be against *Britain* upon the Ballance, or that they could not expect to Trade with them if they receiv'd a Ballance from *Hamburg*; and consequently that Trade, as then carried on, was of no Benefit to *Britain*; for if *England* consumed at home as many *Hamburg* Linnens or more than the Value of the Goods carried there, then we were either barely Savers or lost by that Trade, and *Hamburg* must have a Ballance in return from *England*, which would not be poured back again any other way as it would from *Ireland*; thus the Benefit would redound to *Hamburg* instead of *England*, and the foreign Poor be employ'd instead of those under our Government; whereas by the estab-

bliss'd Maxims of Trade, a wise and prudent Nation should endeavour to procure fewer Importations than Exportations, that a Ballance in Cash might be brought into it. But tho' this lessening of the Vent of *Hamburg* Linnens was of Consequence when in distinction with setting up the Linnen Manufacture in *Ireland*, yet it was not once mention'd when in competition with the *East India* Callicoes and Muslins, which he owns lessen'd as well as lower'd the *Hamburg* Linnens; but the common prevailing opinion of *Ireland's* being a dangerous Rival to *England* in Trade, and a perpetual Expence, made all Objections against it go down easily, which at other Times would not have been advanc'd.

Thus having plainly shewn of what Consequence *Ireland* is to *Britain*, whilst encreasing in Wealth and Numbers, and protected in the Enjoyment of our Religious and Civil Liberties; I shall here, more fully to convince those in *Britain*, who have run away with a contrary Notion, shew the Danger they must be in from *Ireland*, and the Expence they must necessarily be at, in case at any time hereafter such dangerous Politicks should prevail there, as to foment Jealousies and Misunderstandings between us, or oppress us in our Taxes and Trade, to make us poor and dispirited. By such Methods our numerous Poor must encrease, for Want of Money and Trade to employ them, and become a Burthen to the remainder; the Value and Rents of Lands must fall, and the whole Community be turbulent and uneasy, wishing for any Change to alter their Condition; the Returns to *Britain* would annually lessen, as also our Demand for their Goods by having no sufficient Returns to make them; by our Indolence and Dispiritedness our Revenue would decrease, and yet the Taxes seem more burthensome by the People's becoming poorer and the Numbers less: We would not then be able to keep up the Establishment,

ment, and yet a greater Force would be requisite to keep us in Subjection. Thus we should become a perpetual Charge to *England*, or otherwise be oppress'd with greater Taxes than our Circumstances could bear, and be so weak and dispirited, as not to be either capable or willing to defend our selves against a Foreign Enemy were we invaded, or so turbulent as to be apt to join with any who should invade us; or in case any future Prince should ever incline to be arbitrary in *Britain*, the Army which would be deem'd necessary to keep *Ireland* in Subjection, would be the Means made use of to bring it about. These would be the necessary Consequences upon following such unhappy Maxims in Politicks; how far different from the present Harmony! which I hope by the Disposition of those in Power will daily increase; and all the Favours they shew us in concurring with and assisting us in the Improvement of *Ireland*, and enabling us to become more wealthy and easy, we will gratefully repay by the Millions we will throw in upon them from the Surplusage of our Industry at home and Commerce abroad. This I am confident in Time will increase the Naval Power and Wealth of *Britain* to that Degree, by the Increase of its Colonies and Trade abroad, and by the Protection of its Fleets, that they will think it convenient to enlarge the Bottom at home and incorporate us with them, there being Trade and Commerce abroad sufficient to employ and maintain all the Hands in *Britain* and *Ireland* were they double what they are. As *London* is now opulent and rich by being the Seat of Empire, and Residence of the Court, where all the Men of Fortune and greatest Expence do generally reside; so upon such an Union, *Britain* as being the Seat of Empire, would still almost engross all the Wealth perpetually flowing from the distant Members and Colonies, as from the distant Counties now into *London*. This is demonstrably certain,

certain, that upon an Union with *England* and Inlargement of the Trade of *Ireland*, all the acquired Wealth that *Ireland* would have from a constant and regular Employment of their industrious Poor, would be pour'd into *England* by the Rich; and *Ireland* could never be richer or have more Money, than what would be sufficient to employ the Poor and circulate their Trade: For as the Blood in the natural Body circulates through the Heart in greater Quantity and with greater Velocity than through the Extrems, so all the Wealth of a Nation through the Capital and Centre of Empire and Trade.

Thus should *Ireland* encrease upon an Union in their Numbers and Industry, and acquire two Millions from abroad more than was sufficient for their home Consumption, at least $\frac{1}{4}$ of this would be carry'd into *Britain* by various and many Channels. It can then only proceed from a narrow and selfish Way of thinking, that *Ireland* can ever be suppos'd to rival *England* in Trade, whilst a Member of their Empire. Were it in the Hands of a Foreign Nation, or had it Extent and Numbers sufficient to be a State of it self, it would then be a dangerous Rival; But the last of these is impossible from its Situation and little Extent, and the first can never happen whilst the *British* Protestant Interest prevails in *Ireland*, and we are protected and regarded as their Brethren and Friends: nothing but Violence and Oppression can ever give *Ireland* the least Tendency that Way, which I have shewn can never happen while Reason prevails in the *British* Government. What Reason can then be given for not admitting *Ireland* into a stricter Union and greater Privileges in Trade, but would have equally held against the admitting of *Scotland* and *Wales*: and yet we find that *London*, in being the Metropolis, reaps all the Benefit and acquir'd Wealth of those distant Members, as it did before of the *Northern* and *Western* Counties of *England*:

land: It would be accounted a very narrow and limited way of thinking, and highly prejudicial to the Wealth and Power of the Publick, to allow that a few Merchants should monopolize a Trade, and deprive others of it, who being admitted, would add vastly to the Wealth and Power of the whole Community: or should the City of *London* say, by depriving the Outports of Trade, the City would grow immensely rich and all their Poor be employ'd, and they would gain more than now, when Trade is dispers'd in so many Parts of the Kingdom, would that be esteem'd good Reasoning? when the Outports could shew, that by their being admitted, greater Numbers would be maintain'd and employ'd, and a greater Wealth acquir'd annually to the Publick, tho' it would be dispers'd among more Hands, and some particular Persons would not reap so great a Benefit as when confin'd to themselves: Yet is it not from a parallel way of Reasoning, that *Ireland* is depriv'd of an Union with *Britain*, and of having several Privileges of Trade allow'd them, which they could shew would add vastly to the Power and Wealth of the *British* Empire in general? Were we admitted into the same Privileges of Trade and incorporated with them, would we not be liable to the same Taxes with *England*? which we could bear in proportion as the distant Counties in *England* do, and the Enlargement of our Trade would procure us a Fund to bear it. Would not that ease the Publick in *England*, and make us more formidable abroad? Would not the Encrease of our Riches and Numbers upon it, procure us greater Privileges in our Foreign Traffick, and enlarge our Commerce as we enlarg'd our Foundation at home, so that we should have full Employment? are we not of the same Religion and Lineage, and entitled to have these Privileges, since by them we would encrease the Riches, Power, and Security of *Britain*?

Britain? No unprejudic'd Man who has the real Security and Strength of the *British* Empire at Heart; but must own that the encouraging *Ireland* in all the Improvements it is capable of, by adding to its Trade and Wealth, and uniting its Affections to *Britain*, is doing the greatest Service to the Publick; and the closer such Union is made, and the more powerful we grow in *Ireland*, just so much the more is added to the Security, Wealth, Power, and Fame of *Britain*.

I HOPE it won't be judg'd improper here a little to observe the Proportion our Trade bears to the extended Commerce of *Britain*; which will also shew how much we contribute to them upon their general Ballance, and the Proportion of their Shipping we employ in our Trade.

THE Exports of *England* upon their whole Trade in 1710, amounted to 6690828*l.* 15*s.* 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ their Ballance then was 2389872*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.* $\frac{11}{16}$; in 1715 their Exports were 7379409*l.* 3*s.* and Ballance 2256253*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$. If we suppose they have encreased since to 8000000*l.* and the Ballance to 2500000*l.* which would be a considerable Addition to the Trade and Wealth of *Britain*; near $\frac{2}{3}$ as much, if not $\frac{4}{5}$ is gain'd by the Rents, Trade, Wooll, and Fraights of *Ireland*.

THE Tunnage of Shipping employ'd in *England*, at a Medium of 6 Years ending *Christmas* 1727, amounts to 859305; the Tunnage of the Trade of *Ireland* to 181901; which is to the *English* as about 1 to 4.7 the *British* Tunnage employ'd in *Ireland* is 155378 $\frac{2}{3}$; so the Proportion we employ of *British* Shipping, is to their whole Tunnage as 1 to 5.4; it may also be observ'd, that the Total of our Exports is to theirs, as 1 to 7.3; and our Imports as 1 to 6; but their Ballance exceeds ours as 14 to 1; without taking Notice of the Draughts upon us otherwise.

THUS

Thus stands at present our Trade with *Britain* and their Colonies. 'Tis highly necessary for us to consider how we may increase our Exports and lessen our Imports, that we may not sink through the vast Draughts upon us from thence. It is plain since the Court must be there, all the Savings we can have in our Trade with them, and Superlucration by the Trade with our Foreign Neighbours, will be spent there. The Great, the Rich, the Gay and Young who are easy in their Circumstances, will always crowd to the Circle of Pleasure. However that those, who have a prudent Regard for the Welfare of their Country, may know in what Imports we may save to best Advantage, I shall insert some of the most material, *viz*

	l.			
Bottles	-	-	-	3400
Grain,	-	-	-	30000
Drapery	-	-	-	23679
Earthen-Ware	-	-	-	4400
Herrings	-	-	-	3600
Fustians	-	-	-	4080
Glass Ware	-	-	-	5000
Gold and Silver Thread and Lace,	-	-	-	5350
Hops	-	-	-	40680
Iron Ware,	-	-	-	9000
Cambricks	-	-	-	3000
Hollands	-	-	-	2000
Lawns	-	-	-	1000
Muslins	-	-	-	18197
Calicoes	-	-	-	1000
Flower	-	-	-	4000
Millenary Ware	-	-	-	2000
Silk Manufacture,	-	-	-	23600
Whale Bone	-	-	-	2100
Cyder	-	-	-	2500
Total,	-	-	-	188586
		K		IN

IN some of these Articles we might save all, but upon the whole we might reasonably save $\frac{2}{3}$ amounting to 125724*l*.

THE Monopoly of Wool and Woollen-Yarn has been the greatest occasion of Complaint in *Ireland*, of Hardship laid upon it by *England's* ingrossing so valuable a Branch of Trade to its self. This the *English* claim as due to them, upon Account of the Charges from Time to Time they have been at in reducing the Natives of *Ireland*, as also in protecting and restoring the *British* Interest, when outed or disturbed by the frequent Rebellions of the *Irish*. On the other side we reply, that the Hardship is laid equally upon the Conquerors and conquer'd, without regard to their own Off-spring, and of those that bore the brunt of the War. Also by being confin'd to one Market, the Profit made by our Sheep is too small, we being only allow'd to spin it at the lowest Wages possible: For by computing the Proportion of Wool and Yarn exported, the whole does not exceed at a Medium 10*s*. 4*d*. per Stone; which certainly must destroy our Sheep-walks, and put us upon other ways of employing and improving our Lands. This Difficulty I would willingly consider as a Friend to the *British* Commerce, without any View of its being a Hardship to *Ireland*, since in my Opinion they have given us a full Equivalent for it, in the Manufacture of Linnen and Hemp; in which they have so much encourag'd us, that I hope they will in a little Time be fully supply'd from us, together with what they make in *Britain*, and by that Means save from Foreigners 800000*l*. at least, if not a Million, in Linnens they formerly had from them before the rise of our Manufacture. I believe in this Computation, I am within Bounds; for Dr. *Davenant* allows that in 1703, the *Dutch* imported Linnens into *England* to the Value of 213701*l*. 19*s*. 11*d*. and says that by the Report made to the late King *William* in

1697, the *French* imported Linnens to the Value of 500700*l.* By a Computation made in *France* in 1676, and laid before the King of *France*, they computed 400000*l.* gain'd by Linnens sent by them annually into *England*; if to this be added the great Quantity of *Hamburg* Linnens imported, which is the bulk of the Linnens sold in *England*, the whole cannot be less than a Million *sterl.* Whilst they continue then to encourage us so far, as to supply them, and preserve so much Money in the Dominions of *Britain*, by giving us the Preference to Foreigners; we ought willingly to acquiesce in the Monopoly of Wool. However as the *Irish* Wool is now disposed of, I shall consider whether it is so beneficial an Article to *Britain* as it might be.

By their own Observations in Trade they know, that where high Duties or Prohibitions are laid upon any Species of Goods, either Exported or Imported, there a smuggling and running Trade will be carry'd on; whilst there are Men in the World who will Risque any Thing for Profit, it is unavoidable: They must hence conclude, that in *Ireland* such Persons finding a better Price in *France* and *Holland* for their Wool than in *England*, do carry on such a stolen Trade, in spite of all the Care taken to prevent it: If this is Fact, it ought to be carefully weigh'd whether the giving so material an Article as *Irish* Wool to Foreigners in their Manufactures, and that in considerable Quantities be not more prejudicial to the Sale of *English* Woollen Manufactures abroad, than prohibiting *Ireland* from sending over to *Britain* any of our Wool manufactur'd, permitting only our Wool and Woollen-Yarn, can at present be of Benefit to them.

As the Case now stands, the Consequence will unavoidably be this, either this smuggling prejudicial Trade will be carry'd on to the sole Advantage of Foreigners, and lessening the Sale and Consumption

of our *British* Manufacture abroad, or in Case a stop could be put to it, the Sheep-walks and Flocks of Sheep in *Ireland* would be lessen'd, and in a little Time no more would be kept than were sufficient to supply the Markets with Flesh, and what Wool would be wanting to make up Cloaths for our home Consumption. This last I am apt to believe will soon be the Case, since our Exports of Wool and Yarn to *England* are considerably lessen'd. By looking back some time ago, I find in 1687 our Export of Wool to *Britain* amounted to 285125 small Stones; in 1698, to 377520 $\frac{3}{4}$; and at a Medium of last eight Years to *Lady-day* 1728, it was only 227049, which is above 58000 Stone less than in 1687, and 148000 nearly less than in 1698, tho' our woollen Manufacture was not prohibited 'till the Year following. Would it not then be highly proper for the Legislature in *Britain* to consider, as the Case now stands, whether 'tis better to be in this Dilemma, or to remove it quite? that is, whether we should by carrying on the smuggling Trade or lessening our Sheep-walks, give them no more Wool on the one Hand, or on the other, be put upon such a footing as to work our Wool to advantage, and employ our poor in *Ireland*, whilst at the same time *England* should reap the same advantage by our Manufactures as *France* now does by our Wool. On either side of the Dilemma *England* is a great Loser. For suppose 100000 Stone of Wool is convey'd from *Ireland* to *France* or *Holland* annually, it is plain (that in such foreign Markets as they supply by it) at 4*l.* per Stone Manufactur'd, which is now considerably within the Profit they make; *England* loses 400000*l.* which they might have sav'd had they got the Wool: if that were stop'd and our Sheep-walks reduc'd by reason of the small Profit we could honestly make by our Sheep, then the Profit *England* now makes by Manufacturing our Wool would be lost, which I have

have already shewn amounts to 678573 *l.* 15 *s.* 6 *d.* if *England* either by our giving it too much Wool, or by our supplying Foreigners, has more Manufactures upon Hand, than it can get vent for abroad, 'its undoubtedly its Interest that our Flocks of Sheep should be lessened, and our Lands be put to a better use; but if this be not the Case, and the *English* have a sufficient vent, and want Wool to supply the World with their Manufactures, which considering the increase of our own and the *Portuguese* Colonies, as well as of other Nations, by a Probability of a lasting Peace, and by the concurring Evidence of those who write upon the *English* Commerce, seems to be evident; for 'tis affirm'd there is no Wool left upon the Farmers Hands in *England*, and the Exports of the *English* woollen Manufactures at a Medium of last four Years, exceeded their Exportations about 16 or 18 Years ago about 200000 *l.* per Annum. If these be Facts, the principal Thing to be consider'd is, whether a way may'nt be found for *Britain* to gain as much as what it now does by *Irish* Wool, and perhaps considerably more, by increasing our Sheep-walks, at the same Time that *Ireland* may gain that Proportion for its Poor which is now given to Foreigners by running of Wool abroad. This I think not difficult to accomplish: It would at once ease us in *Ireland* of the seeming Hardship put upon us by the Monopoly of our Wool, and want of Employment for our Poor here; and all the Wealth accruing to *Ireland* by it, would be sav'd from Foreigners and greatly for the Benefit of *Britain*, enabling us to take off more of their valuable Manufactures, and by increasing the Number of such as would go over to reside and spend their Fortunes in *England*, where all our Superlucration by Trade will certainly Center.

LET the actual Prohibition of *Ireland*'s exporting any woollen Manufactures to foreign Markets remain

main as now, The Prohibition of sending it to *England* being only by laying on high Duties equal to or exceeding the Value of the Manufactures in most kinds, with a draw back of Part of the Value upon Re-exportation, which is so small, that more remains than any possible Profit that can be made by the Merchant exporting them: So that nothing will bear Exportation but Flannel and Frizes.

Now should the *British* Legislature think it proper to make the draw-back effectual, or to lessen the Duties upon such Sorts as the *French* and *Dutch* export, in which they under-sell the *English* abroad, or of such coarse Cloths as don't interfere with their foreign Markets, by which Means their Poor might be supply'd with coarse Cloaths at home at the cheapest Rate, and their Manufacturers be employ'd more in making the richer and finer Sort for foreign Sale: Or should they think it proper to allow us to Export to *Britain* white Cloths Duty free; so that the Profit made by Dressing and Dying and Exportation would be entirely *English*, and the Benefit of the weaving would be added to our spinning here, and of Course more of our Poor be employ'd: Such Numbers in *Ireland* would exert themselves against the Smugglers, upon obtaining so considerable a Favour, as must entirely put an End to this Clandestine-Trade of running our Wool, so prejudicial to *Britain*, and so much to the Advantage of foreign Princes and States. Thus as more Hands would be employ'd, and the Sale of our Wool become regular and profitable, our Sheep-walks would not be less'n'd, as now they must be by the little Benefit arising from them: But, as I observ'd before, this being chiefly design'd for the Benefit of *Britain*, the Parliament and Merchants there are the best Judges, whether it be for their Interest or not.

THE next particular Trade I am to consider, as distinguish'd in the Custom-House Books, is the *Eastland*,

Westland, which comprehends all the Countries *Northward* *Holland*, upon the Continent from *Emden* to *Archangel*, the *Sound* and *Baltick* consequently included; an Abstract which for Eight Years ending *Lady-day* 1727 is here given, viz.

Years.	Exports.			Imports.			Ballance.			Contra Ballance.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	81514	9	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	70395	16	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	11118	12	2 $\frac{3}{4}$			
1720	100337		3 $\frac{1}{2}$	61011	8	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	39325	11	7			
1721	80700	1	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	49742	7	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	30957	13	7 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1722	46531	4	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	54292	0	11 $\frac{1}{4}$				7760	16	3
1723	44951	1	9 $\frac{1}{8}$	67000	9	9 $\frac{1}{4}$				22049	7	11 $\frac{3}{8}$
1724	42049	10	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	74300	8	11				32250	18	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
1725	39574	17	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	59400	3	11 $\frac{1}{4}$				19825	6	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
1726	53211	9	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	67193	7	6 $\frac{1}{2}$				13981	17	9
Total.	488869	14	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	503336	4	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	81401	17	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	95868	7	1 $\frac{3}{8}$
of	61108	14	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	62917	0	6 $\frac{2}{3}$				1808	6	2 $\frac{1}{64}$
of	45263	12	9 $\frac{2}{5}$	64437	6	5 $\frac{1}{2}$				19173	13	6 $\frac{1}{2}$

Our Exports are made up of

	<i>l.</i>
Beef about	2800
Butter	17000
Grain	1300
Hides { Tan'd	1480
{ Raw	3277
Oatmeal	3800
Calve-Skins	1800
Tallow	1100
Re-exports	5000
Total	37557

The

The Remainder is made up of several small Articles, not material in Trade. Our Imports from thence consist of

				l.
Copper Plates about	-	-	-	2000
Flax and Seed	-	-	-	6000
Sugar	-	-	-	1600
Hemp	-	-	-	3800
Iron	-	-	-	7000
Lamp Black	-	-	-	600
Train Oyl	-	-	-	700
Tin Plates	-	-	-	760
Tar	-	-	-	800
Wood	-	-	-	35000
Total				58260

The remainder is made up of Linnen-Yarn, Potash, Lattin Wyre, and other small Articles.

IN considering our Trade to these Countries, it may be observ'd, what a great Disproportion there is between the Ballances taken at the Medium of eight Years, and of the last Five; during which last the Ballance was constantly against us, as it was for us the first Three of the Eight: The latter Ballance exceeding the former 17365 *l.* 7 *s.* 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* our Exports thither have diminish'd above the Value of 16000 *l.* and our Imports increased about 1500 *l.* Our Exports increasing at the same Time to *France*, as may be seen afterwards, shews that either our Trade to *Hamburg* and *Bremen* increas'd for the first three Years (occasion'd by the *French* breaking their Credit with us upon the Alteration of their Coin, and loss of Trade by the *Mississipi* Bubble) or the last four Years Trade took a different Channel, and remov'd to *France*; not I am afraid, from our having better

better Markets there for our Goods; but our Demands for *French* Wines increasing, requir'd greater Exports there to Ballance them.

As this Trade is divided among a great many different Kingdoms and Cities, which in the Custom-House Ledgers are all enter'd under one Head; I can't pretend to state the Ballance with each Nation in the East Country, we trade to separately; but it may appear upon the View of the Particulars of our gross Exports, that little or nothing, except Grain and Oatmeal, goes to *Norway*; tho' the Tar, Timber and Deals imported from thence, and a very little from *Gottenburgh* and the *Baltick*, amount to 35000 *l.* Value.

It may be taken for granted, that the Beef, Butter, Hides, Tallow and Calf-Skins we export, go generally to *Hamburgh* and *Bremen*, very little to *Sweden* or the *Baltick*, and nothing to *Denmark*: Our Imports from thence are Copper Plates and Iron, part of which we take from *Sweden* immediately our selves, Tin Plates, Train Oyl, Flax and Hemp; the two last Articles we import in part from *Livonia* and *Conningsburgh*; our *Russian* Trade for Hemp to *Archangel*, having taken a different Channel by *Petersburgh*, upon the late Czar's Acquisition of that Port and *Livonia*.

HENCE we may conclude that our Trade to *Hamburgh* and *Bremen* is most advantageous to us; from whence we have our Returns chiefly by Bills, and our Goods are carry'd there in our own or *British* Shipping: Whereas our Trade to *Norway* is mostly carry'd on by *Danish* or *Norwegian* Ships, with Returns in our ready Money; which they can do to a greater Profit, by reason of the Largeness of their Ships, and Cheapness of building and sailing them: This Trade tho' highly necessary to us for Want of Timber at home, is a great Drain upon us; and we brought it upon our selves by the vast Destruction
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and Havock we made of our Woods; of which we thought we could never see an End, till all were cut down. Yet notwithstanding this Demand, and the annual Expence we are at, few there are who consider the Good of our Posterity or Country in helping it, because they don't immediately reap the full Benefit themselves.

Thus stands at present our Trade with those Countries. Whilst our Demands upon them are so great, we can never expect a Ballance from thence, unless we are able to carry on a Herring Fishery to Advantage: But in Time somewhat may be done by Planting at home, or by being render'd capable to furnish our selves with Timber and other Naval Stores from *America*: yet the Distance of *America* is so great, I am afraid it will never answer the Expence of Freight, whilst the Woods in *Norway* last; unless our Linnens come to have such a Vent there, that upon the Profit of them we could purchase Ships from thence, and bring back Cargoes of Timber; but instead of that, our Exports thither at present, are Protestants, the Manufacturers of our Linnen; and our Imports from thence, Grain, both to our Eternal Reproach.

THE next particular Trade to be consider'd, going *Southwardly*, is *Holland* and *Flanders*; an Abstract of which for 8 Years, I shall here subjoin, ending *Lady-Day* 1727; with the Medium of the Ballance taken for those 8 Years, as also for the last 4 Years, when, as in the Trade to the *Eastland*, it here also seem'd to take a different Channel.

Years

Years.	Exports.			Imports.			Ballance.			ContraBallance		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	140726	11	$\frac{1}{2}$	87957	19	$10\frac{1}{4}$	52768	11	$2\frac{1}{4}$			
1720	113107	3	$9\frac{1}{2}$	71162	14	$7\frac{1}{2}$	41944	9	2			
1721	87032	19	11	51187	3	$4\frac{1}{4}$	35845	16	$6\frac{3}{4}$			
1722	89327	4	1	65624	16	$9\frac{1}{4}$	23702	7	$3\frac{1}{4}$			
1723	60866	7	$7\frac{1}{2}$	82224	17	$2\frac{1}{4}$				21358	9	$7\frac{3}{4}$
1724	52618	1	$12\frac{1}{2}$	70048	14	$3\frac{1}{4}$				17430	13	$2\frac{1}{4}$
1725	63922	15	$3\frac{1}{4}$	69206	2	$2\frac{1}{4}$				5283	6	11
1726	93713	15	$6\frac{1}{4}$	84048	6	$2\frac{1}{4}$	9665	9	$3\frac{1}{2}$			
Total.	701314	18	4	581460	14	$7\frac{1}{4}$	163926	13	$5\frac{3}{4}$	44072	9	9
Medi- um of 8	87664	7	$3\frac{1}{2}$	72682	11	$9\frac{29}{32}$	14981	15	$5\frac{15}{32}$			
Medi- um of 4	67780	4	$10\frac{1}{2}$	76381	19	$11\frac{7}{8}$				8601	15	$1\frac{3}{8}$

Our Exports thither chiefly consist of

Beef value about	-	-	5300
Butter	-	-	18400
Feathers	-	-	700
Salmon,	-	-	340
Raw Hides,	-	-	20000
Pork,	-	-	700
Rape Seed,	-	-	900
Tallow	-	-	4000

Total - - - 50340

With several others not material.

THIS falls short of the Medium of last 4 Years; which is occasion'd by my having taken the Exports from 1724, that Year's Exports being about 15000*l.* below the Medium here taken. Our Imports from thence consist of,

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Bark,

Bark, value about	-	-	2000
Battery	-	-	700
Brafs Shruff	-	-	530
Books unbound	-	-	330
Drugs	-	-	1250
Madder	-	-	5128
Other dying Stuffs	-	-	580
Earthen Ware	-	-	1150
Flax	-	-	3000
Groceries	-	-	4600
Gunpowder	-	-	1080
Inkles	-	-	4500
Thread	-	-	1000
Hemp	-	-	2700
Iron	-	-	2500
Bone-Lace	-	-	4200
Cambricks	-	-	1500
Hollands	-	-	3200
Flax-Seed	-	-	8000
Linseed Oyl	-	-	1200
Paper	-	-	1800
Potash,	-	-	1300
Garden Seeds	-	-	600
Silk Manufacture	-	-	4000
Steel	-	-	400
Whalebone	-	-	3100
<i>Rhenish</i> Wine	-	-	1700
Wood and Ware	-	-	2400
Wyre { Iron Lattin Steel }	-	-	1800
Total	-	-	66248

This with other small Parcels make up the Medinm.

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By comparing these Abstracts with the next I give from *France*, may be found the Reason why the Balance changes in the different Years of this Abstract; for as our Exports to *France* increas'd, those to *Holland* and *Flanders* decreas'd in Proportion. We may observe that our Demands from *Holland* and *Flanders* being generally the same, our Imports from thence don't vary so much as our Exports; they never falling so low as 50000*l.* or rising so high as 90000*l.* this with the great Decrease of our Exports, was the Reason of the Balance's being against us at a Medium of the last 4 Years, tho' upon the whole it was in our Favour.

It may also be observ'd that our Exports are made up entirely of the Produce of our Lands without Tillage, except in the two small Articles of Rape-Seed and Salmon; in all the other Articles nothing valuable is taken from us, that either Sea or Land yields to us by the Labour and Industry of the Inhabitants.

THE Goods we import from thence are either such as are rais'd and manufactur'd among themselves, or Returns made, by their Trade, of the Growth of other Countries, which they can afford as cheap, or cheaper than we could import them from the Countries whence they had them; this is owing entirely to the Lowness of Interest, Cheapness of Freight, and the easy Duties upon the Export and Import of their Goods; by which Means that Country becomes the general Magazine of all Commodities beneficial in Trade, and they have such a Variety, that they can at once, sort out a Cargo advantageous to any Country; also their Plenty of Money enables them to lay in Stores, and preserve them at small Expence, when by their general Correspondence they learn that Markets are low and glutted abroad, and to make their Profit when Markets rise again; nay often they sell them back again to that very Nation

tion from whence they had them; thus quick Returns and light Gain make a heavy Purse.

We might save of our Imports from thence by proper Industry at Home, Madder above 5000*l.* to supply our selves, and also to supply *England*, which takes from them to the Value of 20000*l.* annually; Earthen-Ware, Flax, Gun-Powder, Inkles, Thread, Hemp, Lace, Cambrick, Holland, wrought Silks, Paper, Whalebone, and Garden-Seeds, which amount to 35930*l.*

THE next particular Trade that falls regularly in my Way to be observ'd, is that with *France*: Abstracts of this I here give, with a small Ballance seemingly in our Favour, yet when carefully enquir'd into it appears, to be much otherwise.

Years.	Exports.			Imports.			Ballance.			Contra Ballance.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	165859	16	11½	179597	12	1¾				13737	15	2¾
1720	58012	12	11	111000	15	¾				52988	2	¾
1721	121237	10	9¾	132908	2	¾				11670	11	6¾
1722	122426	10	5	117881	13	3	4544	17	2			
1723	176777	8	2¾	150563	18	3	26213	9	11¾			
1724	214422	17	6½	141650	9	5¾	72772	8	¾			
1725	205317	7	7	159055	5	2¾	46262	2	4¾			
1726	137702	10	7½	193954	12	6¾				56252	1	11½
Total.	1201756	15	0¾	1186612	8	5¾	149792	17	7¾	134648	11	
Medi- um of 8 Years	150219	11	10¾	148326	11	0¾	1893	0	9¾			
Medi- um of 4 Years	183555	0	11¾	161306	1	4¾	22248	19	7¾			

Our Exports for 1724, which were by much the greatest in this Abstract, consisted of

	l.
Beef about - - -	50000
Butter - - -	80000
Raw Hides - - -	10000
Tallow - - -	40000
Total - - -	<u>180000</u>

The other Articles of small Value in Trade are not worth inserting.

Our Imports from thence,

	l.	s.	d.
Wine at a Medium of 9 Years	83156	5	10½
At a Medium of 4 Years	91658	14	6
Brandy at a Medium of 6 Years	23446	18	6

The rest taken in the Year 1724, viz.

	l.
Playing Cards about - - -	100
Cork - - -	1400
Flints - - -	50
Pruins - - -	1500
Succus Liquor. - - -	1500
Sugar - - -	10000
Iron and Iron Ware - - -	600
Cambricks - - -	2000
Train Oyl - - -	500
Paper - - -	3500
Rozin - - -	1150
Salt - - -	2650
Silk Manufacture - - -	6500
Vinegar - - -	2500
Other Groceries - - -	500
Wood and Ware - - -	2500

Total including the Wine at four
Years Medium and Brandy at
fix

	l.	s.	d.
	150705	13	00

The

The other Articles are not Material.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The Import of Wine 1726	109417	17	1½
Brandy for the said Year	30871	13	9
Total	140289	10	10½

HERE you see the Ballance at a Medium of eight and of four Years; as also the increase of our Exports thither from 1720, at which Time they had not overcome their Difficulties occasion'd by the raising their Coin, and their *Mississipi* Bubble. We may also observe that our Imports from thence have risen from that Time, and how the Importation of *French* Wine has increas'd upon us; the Medium of last four Years exceeding that of the last eight, 8502 *l.* 8 *s.* 7½ *d.*

OUR whole Exports for the Year ending *Lady-day* 1727, were 137702 *l.* 10 *s.* 7½ *d.* and the Wine and Brandy imported that Year amounted to 140289 *l.* 10 *s.* 10½ *d.* so in those two Articles, we exceeded the Years Exports 2587 *l.* 0 *s.* 3 *d.* Thus we find our Madnes increasing in drinking *French* Wine; for tho' Part of this was lodg'd in the *Isle of Man* for some Time, yet it was all imported from *France* in less than a Year before. Of the Wine as computed at 20 *l.* per Tun, there were 5470½ Tuns, and 1929½ Tuns of Brandy; in all above 7400 Tuns of Wine and Brandy imported that Year. As the Value of Wine and Brandy re-exported does not exceed 20700 *l.* Wine computed when exported at 40 *l.* per Tun, and Brandy at 2 *s.* 4 *d.* per Gallon (near double the Price as when Imported, being then valued at 1 *s.* 3 *d.*) we spent at home of Wine and Brandy that Year, near to the Value of 130000 *l.* amounting to 6800 Tuns. These are the Observations we may make from the Returns in the Custom-House Books; but I am afraid

fraild we can't depend upon our Exports to *France* from these Returns; for 'tis plain, where no Bonds are given by the Merchants upon their Entries, they may make them for one Kingdom when they go for another, of which the Custom-House can take no Notice; and this is frequently the Case in our Exports to *France*; for which Kingdom the Merchants make their Entries, when they design for *Hamburg*, *Bremen* or *Holland*, and that for this Reason, there are several Light-Houses in their Way to *Holland*, *Hamburg*, &c. in the *British* Channel, &c. towards the Maintenance of which all Shipping pay in the first Port they put in at, and are charg'd with so many as they have Benefit in their Voyage; now if it appear by their Cocket that they are bound for these Ports through the Channel, they pay towards the Maintenance of them all; if for *France*, and they are suppos'd to be blown there out of their Way, they pay for no more than they are presum'd to receive Benefit by: Thus the Merchants finding so many Charges upon Trade, and little and uncertain Profit, are tempted to make use of any Shift to save their Money; and by this Means we must be impos'd upon, in our Accounts from the Custom-House, without their being any otherwise capable of setting us right, than by shewing what may be computed from the Reason of the Thing, founded upon some certainty of Facts. The next Thing to be observ'd is, that the Price at which we buy our Wines in *France*, computed at the Medium of 20*l.* per Tun, is too low; if the Quantity of white Wines bore any Proportion to the Claret, their Observation might be just; but as they do not, I can't think but 24*l.* per Tun is nearer the Truth, and still a little within it, the Duty and Prisage not exceeding 13*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.* per Tun, and the Freight within 3*l.* (the Freight home not being 40*s.* or much above 1*l.* 10*s.* per Tun) so that Wine landed in *Ireland*, allowing all Charges upon it, does not at the

20*l.* Value exceed 35*l.* *per Tun*, even allowing Leakage, not above 36*l.* which does not exceed 9*l.* *per Hogshead*; now as the Wine Merchants sell these again from 14 to 20 Pistoles *per Hogshead*, they would have from 50 to *Cent per Cent* Profit upon their Wines, for lying out of their Money two or three Years, Cooperage and Cellarage; an immense Profit! To avoid the Censure of imposing upon us, they pretend our Demand has increas'd the Price in *France*; if so, we may reasonably allow 4*l.* more *per Tun*; so they would import them still under 10*l.* *per Hogshead* landed here, and the Merchants have still 50 or 60 *per Cent* Profit, over and above the Interest of their Money, &c. This would add to our Imports from *France* 20000*l.* upon the Article of Wine alone.

THE great Profit given to the Wine Merchants, by the increase of our *Luxury*, has tempted many more to follow that Trade; this has also increas'd the Importation of Wine, which to get rid of, they are oblig'd to force a Trade with Taverns and Inn-Keepers, and to give them Presents for their Custom. Thus every Country Town and Village is crowded with Retailers of Wine and Brandy, to the Ruin of the middle and lower Ranks of Men, who frequent them. The Merchants dispose of their Wines ready to perish, at all Risques, to the Country Inn-Keepers upon Trust; they for the like Reason to get them off their Hands, sell the same Way to such as frequent their Houses, who being generally of the extravagant Part of the Kingdom, and such as being in low Circumstances resort thither, to drown their Cares, make not very prompt Payment: These break the Taverns, and the Taverns would do the same to the Merchants, if they did not make up their Loss by selling to the Men of Condition and Fortune at double Price; the same Wines cooper'd up by different Mixtures to nice Palates, under Mock Names of this or 'tother Vintage, *Hermitage*, *Pontack*, *Chateau*

Chateau Margoux, Haut-Brian, &c. all made out of *Vin de Grave*; some cook'd up in the Cellars of *Bordeaux*, the rest here, according to Palates in Vogue; the Merchant importing a chance Hogshead at 600,800 or 1000 Livers *per Tun*, that they may have it to say their Wines cost them to such a Price, and cover their extravagant Profit the more neatly. It may be consider'd, whether to prevent our Destruction by Luxury, Idleness and Debaucheries daily increasing among the middle and lower Ranks of Men; Publick Houses which sell Wine and Brandy should not be limited, and lessen'd in Number, and Instructions given to the Officers of the Excise to require greater Sums for Licence: This would prevent a great many smuggling Houses, and oblige those who took out Licence, to sell their Wines at a dearer Rate. Thus would several House-Keepers be employ'd in more useful Employments to the Publick, and those who took out Licence be more fully employ'd. This would also abate the Extravagance of those who ought to be industrious and better employ'd, and would raise our Excise upon our home Produce, and encourage Tillage.

In considering our Ballance with *France*, we may allow full as much Brandy to be stolen into the Country, or more than all our re-exports amount to; beside Linnens, Silks, and Cambricks from *France*; which will Ballance every Thing we run in our Exports to them. If we consider how much is run into this Kingdom of *French* Lutestrings, we will find it very considerable: Those only us'd for Scarves at Funerals, will rise to a considerable Sum; which I shall here make a Computation of, considerably below the Truth, and yet it will appear no trifling Article. I will suppose only two Persons to die, annually in each Parish, and that ten Scarves are us'd at the Funeral; the whole Number of Funerals would then be 4590, and the Scarves us'd

45900, which if computed but at 5s. per Scarf, or 2s. per Yard, would amount to 11475l. per Ann. in *French* Lutestrings for the Article of Scarves at Funerals. If we consider how many Funerals there are at which many more are given, the Computation will not appear too large. If we consider how many other ways *French* Lutestrings are worn, we may modestly suppose above 20000l. Value of these only come into *Ireland* annually, which are all imported by Stealth, besides many more of different Kinds. In this very Article we might save considerably, if either a disuse was brought about of these at Funerals, or if a Custom should take place that was lately propos'd and begun at *Belfast*, by the *Cambrick* Company, upon the Motion of a worthy Gentleman there Mr. *Smith*; which is to bury with *Holland* Scarves or fine *Linnen*, according as they would have them more or less Expensive; this would put a considerable Damp upon the Importation of *French* Lutestrings, and by making the *Holland* Scarves of such a breadth as to be useful, they would not be lost to the Publick, and would be a considerable Encouragement to the *Linnen* Manufacture. But this I hope is now sufficiently establish'd, by being us'd at the Funeral of a late great Man of the first Distinction. It may be said now without Suspicion of Flattery; that it was well judg'd to bury him in Character, as a Friend to his Country and a Benefactor to Multitudes.

THE bringing Sugars from thence to about 10000l. Value, is a considerable Advantage to their Colonies, and a Prejudice to our own. This is entirely owing to the Discouragement we lie under in our Plantation Trade, by being oblig'd to give Bonds to enter our Ships in *Britain*. But as the Remediying this Inconveniency is only in the Power of the *British* Legislature; I shall take some further Notice of it in another Place, and shew that *Britain* and its Colonies equally suffer with *Ireland*, in the rigorous Interpretation

terpretation of that Act of Parliament, contrary to the original Intention of the Law-makers.

AFTER these Allowances let us fix the Ballance, and we shall find the Reason for sending Money and Bills to *France*, and for Exchange being generally against us. Upon the whole I cannot see, notwithstanding the appearing Ballance in our Favour, upon railing after a reasonable Manner the prime Cost of our Wine and Brandy, and giving reasonable Allowances for our Exports thither upon Account of false Entries, and running in of Brandy, Silks, &c. but we must be Losers by our present Trade with *France*, from 30*l.* to 40000 *per Ann.* at least.

LET us next consider the Articles of our Exports to *France*, which consist but of Four any way material, *viz.* Beef, Butter, Tallow and Hides. Exports, it is true, under our Circumstances, highly necessary, being all perishable except Tallow; but as I have already shewn, the very worst for Profit; there being no Labour but the Butchers and Dairy Maids in them, and few People maintain'd in Proportion to what Agriculture, Gardening or Manufactures would do. On the other Hand to that Country, where imported, they are of the greatest Benefit; for there it must be to feed and give other Necessaries to a Number of People employ'd in Manufactures, or in such Produce of Land, as is much more valuable than breeding and grazing of Cattle. And this is plainly the Case, where we Import them to *France*, *Holland*, *Hamburgh* or *America*, and every where, except what is sent to the indolent *Spaniard*, which is only so much as is spent in *Sevil* and *Cales*, or in Victualing out their Galleons; and even there, the only industry of *Spain* is carry'd on in Wines, Oyl, and Silk.

COULD the *French* supply themselves or their Colonies any other way, so cheap, without employing their Lands to a worse Use than at present; we should

should have no vent there for our Provisions: But 'tis plainly the Increase of their Numbers in *Martinico*, *Guadaloupe*, and *Petit Guaves* in *St. Domingo*; where since the Peace of *Utrecht*, they have vastly increas'd their Plantations, and Number of Negroes employ'd in their Sugar Works, Indico, Cotton, Anetto, Cacao and Tobacco, that prevents their being supply'd from the Islands, with as many Provisions as formerly. *Canada* cannot supply them with any Thing considerable: *Mississipi* is yet in its Infancy, and in a Latitude too warm for Salting: Our *American* Colonies have a sufficient Demand to furnish our own Islands; and the *French* having no Trade with them, would lose in going thither the Benefit of their Freight outwards, and consequently their Ships go for the most Part empty to their Islands.

P E R E Labat says, a Breast of *Irish* Beef is the greatest Regale in their Islands; this and the increase of their Numbers in *Nants*, *St. Martins*, *Rockel* and *Bourdeaux*, by that and their Wine Trade, is the occasion of the rise of their Demands upon us.

THUS our Exports to them, tho' perishable, are still more necessary for them than for us. We had *Holland*, *Hamburgh* and *America* to go to, when they had not much above; what we now Export to them, which we might have again, or employ our Lands at home to a better Use. But should we prohibit our Exports to *France*, their Islands would be distress'd, or their Lands put to a worse Use: Nay, were we to Import nothing from *France*, but have the Ballance of our Exports in Specie, it would still be Beneficial to them to have our Provisions, for they make three Times more Profit of their Lands in *France* and in their Islands, than they would do, were they to raise Provisions among themselves, Equivalent to the Quantity we send them.

THUS if we were prudent, or by having Sump-
 tuary Laws, and being less Luxurious in our Wines;
 we might make considerably by the *French* Trade,
 and have a great Ballance in our Favour: *Louis*
D'ors would then come here, as fast as now our
 Guineas and Bills go there. We might save also in
 other Articles, viz. Silks, Cambricks, Hollands,
 Paper, Train Oyl, &c. a considerable Sum, by pro-
 per Application at Home. Thus stands our Trade
 at present in a destructive Way with *France*, when it
 is capable of being made highly Beneficial to us.

THE last in Order, and I may say greatest Branch
 of our Trade with Foreigners, since by it we have
 the greatest Ballance in our Favour, is with *Spain*,
Portugal, and the *Streights*; which take off the great-
 est Part of any Manufactur'd Commodities we Ex-
 port, except Linnen. An Abstract of this for Eight
 Years I here give, as it stands in the Custom-House
 Books, to *Lady-Day* 1727, with the Medium of Ex-
 ports, Imports and Ballance, by which may be seen
 how much we ought to Countenance this Trade.

Years.	Exports.			Imports.			Ballance.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	111739	19	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	39670	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	72069	16	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
1720	125261	14	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	36678	15	10	88582	18	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
1721	176768	6	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	57963	19	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	118804	6	2
1722	183239	13	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	56363	1	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	126876	11	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
1723	147265	1	11 $\frac{3}{8}$	68153	18	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	79111	3	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
1724	149984	1	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	60959	16	11	89024	4	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
1725	135751	8	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	61584	0	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	74167	8	2
1726	118049	4	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	96839	6	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	21209	17	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Total.	1148059	9	2 $\frac{7}{8}$	478213	2	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	669846	6	3 $\frac{5}{8}$
Medium of eight Years	143507	8	7 $\frac{55}{64}$	59776	12	10 $\frac{1}{3}$	83730	15	9 $\frac{39}{64}$

By the Ballance struck here, we find we have received more from those Countries than from *France*, *Holland*, and *Flanders* together by 534847*l.* 15*s.* 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* we have a Ballance from no other Countries except *America*; *Britain* and *America* are so blended together by their Importations, that we can't justly distinguish the Ballance. We find our Imports from *Spain*, &c. last Year so much increas'd, that our Ballance from thence in 1726 was inconsiderable, very little exceeding the fourth Part of the Medium.

Our Exports thither are

	<i>l.</i>
Beef about	10000
Butter	35600
Candles	3000
Cheese	1600
Barley	

Barley	- - -	9000
Wheat	- - -	3000
Hake	- - -	2500
Herrings	- - -	800
Salmon	- - -	8000
Hair	- - -	400
Hides	{ Raw - - -	4000
	{ Tann'd - - -	50000
Linnen	- - -	1300
Pork	- - -	2000
Calve-Skins	- - -	3000
Starch	- - -	400
Tallow	- - -	2500
Goods Re-exported	- - -	6000
Total	- - -	143100

Our Importations from thence are, viz.

Capers about	- - -	170
Cork	- - -	1860
Dying Stuffs	- - -	4000
Sugar and Fruit	- - -	6000
Oranges and Lemons	- - -	3000
Iron	- - -	9400
Oyl	- - -	3600
Salt	- - -	4600
Silk Manufacture	- - -	3000
Raw Silk	- - -	430
Thrown Silk undyed	- - -	670
Succus Liquor.	- - -	629
Walnutts	- - -	2000
Port Wine	- - -	3169
Spanish Wine	- - -	15704
Hoops, Cane, Reeds, and Plank	- - -	700
Wool	- - -	368

Total - - - 59300

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HERE we may observe that they take from us (over and above those Articles which arise from grazing) Grain and Fish, and would take them in greater Quantities if we had them to spare; as also Tann'd Hides, Linnen, &c. except some Silk manufactur'd from the Streights, and Fruit, Wine and Oyl, in moderate Quantities; our Imports from thence are highly useful to us in working at home, as Iron, raw and thrown Silks, and Wooll, as also Salt, for our home Consumption, and Fisheries if we are so prudent as to undertake them, and a great Ballance in Specie.

THERE is this also to be consider'd, that great Part of this Trade is carry'd on, by our own Merchants in *Irish* Ships, and not by Commission; by which means our Ballance and the Profit of the Merchant upon our Exports, will be much more considerable.

It is highly prudent then in us to encourage and enlarge this Trade as much as possible, instead of that other at present pernicious Trade to *France*. By turning the Stream of our Trade a little from the *French* Channel, we should also have a better Price for our Provisions; for since their Numbers at home, and in their Colonies want our Provisions, by feeding them sparingly, they would give us a better Price; whereas now we glut their Market. We ought also to encourage the *Spanish* and *Portuguese* Trades, in order to their taking off greater Quantities of such Goods and Manufactures as we are allow'd to deal in; as Shoes, Linnen, Stockings, Hats and Iron-Ware; but Fish above all, which we lie so conveniently for, and is so certain a Benefit, if we can propose to take, cure, and carry them as well, and with as little Expence as our Neighbours. Would it not also be highly prudent in our Legislature, to consider whether the putting the *Spanish* and *Port* Wines upon the same Level with the *French*, in the Duties upon them, would not be a suitable Encouragement for that Trade, and acting justly both to
our

our selves and the *Spaniards*, since their Trade is so Beneficial to us. The Duties upon their Wines are now about 4*l.* per Tun higher than that upon the *French*; for what Reason I could never learn, were it not that the *French* Wine being weaker, People might drink a greater Quantity, and Cheaper than the other, and so have a longer Time to sit to get their Dose, and consequently lose more of their Time in sipping, to the Prejudice of both their private Fortunes and the Publick. If we would put them upon the same Level in the Customs, notwithstanding the prime Cost is something dearer, yet a Bottle of the one would go as far as two of the other; and those at least of the middle and lower Ranks of Men, who must be finish'd compleatly once a Day, might do it in less Time, and at less Expence; and by having more Time to rest, if they are any way capable of doing themselves or their Country any Service, the next Day they would be fitter for it than at present, when they turn the Night into Day. Neither do I think the sinking the additional Duties upon *Spanish* and *Port* Wines, would be any lessening of the Revenue, or at least so inconsiderable as might be easily made up another way. The Quantity imported at a Medium being valued at 30*l.* per Tun, amounts to 629⁸/₁₅ Tuns; the Additional Duty of which at 4*l.* per Tun, amounts to 2516⁸/₁₅; out of which Sum is to be deducted 10 per Cent for Leakage, and 10 per Cent prompt Payment; which would be ballanc'd by putting ten Shillings more Duty upon the *French* Wine per Tun; this would be an inconsiderable difference in the Price of *French* Wine, so that nicer Palates might still drink it near as cheap as now; for the less demand we had for them, the Cheaper would the *French* afford them.

The rest of this Discourse shall be given in a second
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 important to us. The Duties upon their Wines are
 now about 4s per Tun higher than, that upon the
 French Wine, which I could never learn, were
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 Men, who must be supplied completely once a Day,
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 by having more Time to rest, if they are any way
 capable of doing themselves or their Country any
 Service, the next Day they would be fitter for it
 than at present, when they turn the Night into
 Day. Neither do I think the making the addi-
 tional Duties upon Spanish and Port Wines, would
 be any lessening of the Revenue, or at least to incon-
 siderable as might be easily made up another way.
 The Quantity imported at a Medium being valued
 at 300,000 Tun, amounts to 600,000 Tons; the Addi-
 tional Duty of which at 4s per Tun, amounts to
 2,400,000; out of which Sum is to be deducted 10 per
 Cent for Leakage, and 10 per Cent prompt Payment;
 which would be ballanced by putting 20 Shillings
 more Duty upon the French Wine per Tun; this
 would be an inconsiderable difference in the Price of
 French Wine, so that most Palaces might still drink
 it near as cheap as now; for the less demand we had
 for them, the Cheaper would the French afford them.

The rest of this Discourse shall be given in a second

P A R T.