

THE
 PRESENT STATE
 OF THE
 REVENUES and FORCES,
 BY
 SEA and LAND,
 OF
 FRANCE and SPAIN;
 Compared with those of
 GREAT BRITAIN.

BEING

An ESSAY to demonstrate the Disadvantages
 under which FRANCE must enter into the
 Present WAR, if the Natural Force of
 BRITAIN is vigorously exerted.

To which is added,

An APPENDIX;

Containing a VIEW of those COUNTRIES of the
 SPANISH WEST-INDIES that will
 probably be the Seat of the Present WAR.

D U B L I N :

Re-printed by and for GEORGE FAULKNER.
 M D C C X L.

Houses of the Oireachtas

INTRODUCTION.

THE following Sheets, the Substance of which were wrote at a Time when the Voice of all Britain cried out for a War with Spain, contain such a Demonstration of the Incapacity which the United Power of both France and Spain is under to distress this Nation, if our national Strength is properly exerted, that it is hoped the Publication of them at present will be no unuseful Entertainment to the Nation.

As the Conduct of the Court of France has made a Rupture with that Power apparently unavoidable, the Strength of his most Christian Majesty is now become pretty much the Subject of political Speculation. The Author of the following Sheets having made it his Business to examine the whole of that Affair to the Bottom, and from the best Authorities, will have the Pleasure of disabusing such of his Countrymen, who, from a groundless Apprehension of their Strength and our Weakness, imagine, that we ought to put up with

the most notorious Insults and Violations of Treaties, rather than resent them in such a Manner, as may give us an Opportunity of retrieving some of the most valuable Branches of Commerce which the French have invaded, and which their late ruinous Neutrality gave them an Opportunity of engrossing. Were it plain, indeed, that the French were so much our Superiors in Strength, as that the Match was unequal, perhaps a little political Forbearance might be proper; but a brave People will endeavour, if their Liberty, and, what is the Support of Liberty, their Commerce, is to be ruined, rather to have one Struggle in the Fall, than by an inglorious and tame Submission, to give their Enemy Time, not only to rivet their Chains, but Reason to insult over their Misery.

When the Injuries of the Nation made it impossible to avoid, even at the Expence of sacrificing a great Part of the National Honour and Interest, unless we gave up the Whole, our entering into a War with Spain, it was easy to be foreseen, that one of two Things must happen: Either the French would interpose in obliging Spain to a Compliance with our just Demands, that the great Interest which they have in the annual Returns of Treasure from New Spain might not be endangered by the Rupture; or that,

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as soon as we took the proper Measures of Redress, which we could only do by distressing the Spaniards in the West-Indies, and making proper Settlements there, they would for the like Reason join with Spain in hindering us. Therefore the most shallow Apprehension might easily have conceived, that it was impossible, if the War continued betwixt us and Spain, that France must not become a Party. But, contrary to the Expectation of every Party concerned, and I believe, to the Amazement of all Europe, the War was on our Part carried on in such a Manner, as put France to no Uneasiness with regard to the Property of the Spaniards in America, nor gave them any Jealousy of our Attempts: But as soon as it appeared that we designed to act in earnest, she then took the proper Precautions to prevent our Progress; and, contrary to the express Words of Treaties, repaired, or rather fortified, Dunkirk anew. This is such a Discovery of her Intention to come to a Rupture, that it did not require her sending her Squadrons to America, or the Publication of her insolent Manifesto, to make it more plain. But the following Pages will sufficiently discover her Incapacity to affect us here, if we act only as a Maritime Power, and the little Necessity we are under to have Allies to do ourselves Justice.

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As a proper Supplement, we have added to this, an Account from a good Hand of the Spanish West-Indies, which will apparently be the Scene of the most critical, and we hope the most advantageous War this Nation ever was engaged in. It being to be hoped, that it will be soon in our Power there to strike at the Root of all that supports the Haughtiness of Spain, or the Injustice of France.

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The Present State of the Revenues and Forces of France and Spain, compared with those of Great Britain.

The Land-Forces of France.

THE French have now in Pay about 100,000 Foot, and 20,000 Horse, regular Troops, besides 60,000 Militia, which in Time of War they incorporate into their regular Forces.

The Infantry are reformed since the last War, from 70 to 35 Men a Company. Every Battalion at the End of the War was of 13 Companies, but are now reduced to 10; so that in the Time of the War a Battalion consisted of 910 Men, whereas now a Battalion makes only 350 Men.

Their Horse and Dragoons are, in Time of War, 3 Troops to a Squadron, and 3 Squadrons to a Regiment, each Troop of 70 Men, which makes 630 Men to a Regiment; but the Regiments are now reduced to 2 Squadrons of 3 Troops each, 35 Men only to a Troop, whereof 15 have Horses, and 10 are on Foot; so that each Regiment consists now only of 150 Men, viz. 90 with Horses, and 60 without.

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In case of a War, the Government gives Commission to Gentlemen that are willing, to raise the Companies and Troops they want for compleating their Regiments, at their own Expence, who at the End of the War are broke, and generally ruined. The other Companies and Troops are brought up to their full Compliment, out of the Militia, by 10 or 20 at a Time, as the Militia can recruit themselves from their Parishes.

The Militia have only Cloaths in Time of Peace, but no Pay ; in Time of War they are paid the same with the regular Troops.

The Pay of the French Land-Forces.

Every Foot Soldier in France is paid according to the Advance-Money he receives at his Entrance, and according to the Number of Years he engages to serve ; viz. He that takes 10 French Pistoles, or 100 French Livres, to serve three Years, has only 2 Sols in Money, and 2 Sols in Bread, a Day, for the 3 Years ; he that takes 50 Livres to serve 3 Years, has 3 Sols in Money, and 2 in Bread ; he that takes only 24 Livres to serve 3 Years, has 4 Sols in Money, and 2 in Bread.

In Time of War they are all obliged to serve to the End of the War ; only the first Class have one Sol per Day added to their Pay ; and the same Addition is added to every Foot Soldier when he is draughted to be a Grenadier.

Therefore, to compute the Pay of the Foot, they take it in Gros, and reckon that every Foot Soldier costs the King 6 Sols a Day, the Non-commission Officers included. As each Company has a Captain, Lieutenant, and Ensign, and likewise a Captain, Lieutenant, and Ensign reformed, together with their

their Field Officers, which are double also, they compute the Pay of the Officers of each Regiment to amount to as much as that of the private Men.

NB. The Reformed Officers of each Regiment, (excepting the Field-Officers) always march in Ranks with Arms as the private Men do, and fight as they do in the Field, but not at Sieges; so that 100,000 Men, each at 6 Sols per Day, comes to 30,000 Livres per Day, and 30,000 ditto for their Officers, makes 60,000 Livres per Day, which amounts to 21,900,000 Livres per Ann. which is the annual Expence of the Foot in Time of Peace.

As the Agreements made with the Horse and Dragoons at their Entry, are in the same Manner as with the Foot, the French themselves likewise compute their Pay in Gros, viz. Each Man and his Horse at 15 Sols per Day, including the Non-commission Officers; and the Horse being also double officer'd, as well as the Foot, the Pay of the Officers is likewise reckoned to amount to as much as that of the private Men:

So that 20,000 Horse and Dragoons, at 15 Sols per Day each, comes to 15,000 Livres per Day, and 15,000 more to pay their Officers, makes 30,000 Livres per Day, which amounts to 10,950,000 Livres per Annum, which is the annual Expence of their Horse and Dragoons in Time of Peace.

Livres per Ann.

The Pay of 100,000 Foot is ——— 21,900,000

The Pay of 20,000 Horse and Dragoons, 10,950,000

The yearly Pay of both is ——— 32,850,000

French Livres.

In France they reckon, that Cloathing this Army, the Officers being cloathed by the King as well as the

private Men, the Charges of the Barracks for the Soldiers, the keeping in Repair their numerous Garrisons, their Artillery, &c. amount to no less than 30,000,000 French Livres per Ann.

It is to be observed, that during their last War, when their Corps were at their full Complement, the French Army consisted of 220,000 regular Foot,

60,000 Horse and Dragoons,
And 80,000 Militia,

In all 360,000 Men :

So that the Pay of this additional Number of 120,000 Foot, without Officers, comes to 13,140,000 Livres per Annum : of the additional 40,000 Horse and Dragoons, to 10,950,000 Livres per Annum ; and of the 80,000 Militia, receiving now Pay, both Officers and Soldiers, at 12 Sols per Day, each Officer included, to 17,520,000 Livres per Ann.

The additional Expence in Time of War.

	Livres per Ann.
For 120,000 Foot — — —	13,140,000
40,000 Horse and Dragoons, -	10,950,000
80,000 Militia, — — —	17,520,000
	41,610,000
Total of Livres per Annum, — — —	41,610,000

NB. The reduced Officers have only 400 Livres a Year to a Captain, and so in Proportion to the rest.

The Maritime Force of France.

Ships of the Line for Service, — — —			25
Frigates which may be fitted for Service in 8 or	}	18	
10 Months, — — —		18	
		43	Old
		In all —	43

Old Ships, which may be fitted for Service, with }
 Time and Expence, in case of need, — } 12

At Toulon, Brest, La Rochelle, St. Malo, and Havre de Grace, they are at present so poorly furnished with Stores, that in case of a Sea-War with England, they would have great Difficulty to fit out the above-mentioned Ships, as they have neither Masts, Yards, Pitch, Tar, Cordage, Spoke, nor Trennel, but what they have from the English Plantations in America, or at a much dearer Rate from the Baltick, from whence they have all their Iron.

All the Sailors for the King's Service are classed, which at present do not amount to above 11,000.

In France there are not above 600 Sail of Merchants Ships, of all Sizes, at the most; and reckoning 25 Men to each Ship, one with another, the whole Seamen of France are not above 28,000 or 30,000 Men, the above 11,000 classed Seamen included; who have Leave to serve on board the Merchants Ships till they are wanted for the King's Service, having Pay from the King only when they are in actual Service on board the Men of War, and then but 14 Livres per Month.

At Marfeilles there are 16 Gallies, with 500 Slaves, 30 Sailors, and 50 Foot Soldiers arm'd, to each Galley, which makes to the whole 8000 Slaves,

800 Soldiers,

480 Sailors,

In all — 9280 Men.

The Revenue of FRANCE.

Their Revenue consists chiefly of the Taxes called La Taille, La Capitation, and the Duties upon Salt and Tobacco.

La Taille is a Tax upon Land and Houses, every Province being taxed at a certain Sum, which the Intendants levy upon their respective Provinces, viz. so much on the Produce of the Lands of every Division, and the rest upon the walled Towns, whose Proportions are levied by their own Magistrates by a Duty upon the Houses, and upon all manner of Provisions that enter their Town. This Taille amounts to 24 Millions French per Ann.

La Capitation, which is in the Nature of our Poll-Tax, is raised at the Discretion of the several Intendants of the Provinces, upon each Family, and amounts to about 18 Millions French Livres per Annum.

The Farmers generally furnish Salt and Tobacco to the whole Kingdom, for which they pay to the King about 30 Millions French per Annum.

The Duchy of Lorrain is now farmed out at 20 Millions French per Ann.

So that the whole yearly Revenue of France is as follows:

La Taille,	—	—	24	Mill. French.
La Capitation,	—	—	18	
Le Sel & Tabac	—	—	30	
Le Duché de Lorraine,			20	

In all — 92 Mill. French.

Which is 4,181,818 l. Sterling per Ann.

In Time of War they raise one Tenth upon all Places of Profit, which is called La Dîme, and which amounts to 16 Millions French yearly; as also a Free Gift of the Clergy, in their greatest Necessity, which amounts to 20 Millions French yearly more: These two extraordinary Sums together make about 36 Millions French yearly, which is 1,636,363 l. Sterling per Ann.

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But it must be observed, that in case of a War with England, the Subjects of France cannot pay above one half of this Sum yearly, by reason that the Sale of their Wines, Brandies, Cambricks, and other Merchandize of the Growth of France, will be entirely at a Stop; and likewise their West-India and Levant Trade, and their Newfoundland Fishery, will all be very much obstructed, if not quite at a Stop too; neither can the Publick borrow one Shilling of the Subject, as there is neither Company nor private Person in all France in a Condition to lend.

It is likewise to be observed, that at present the Charge of King Stanislaus's Court in Lorraine amounts to near the whole Revenue of that Dukedom; and also, that the greatest Part of the Nobility and General Officers of France, receiving large annual Pensions and Gratifications over and above their Pay, and other Emoluments, a very large Sum is employed yearly out of the Revenue upon this Head.

NB. The Officers in France employed by the Intendants, &c. for the Collection of the above Taxes, are above four times the Number of those in England for the same Purposes, and are all paid out of the Revenue.

So that the whole Revenue of France, in case of a War with England, cannot amount to more than 5,818,181 l. Sterling, of which, after the first Year, the Subjects will not be able to pay above one Half.

Whereas the Expence of France in Time of War is as follows, viz.

For

	Livres per Ann.
For 100,000 Foot, _____	21,900,000
20,000 Horse and Dragoons, - _____	10,950,000
120,000 additional Foot, _____	13,140,000
40,000 additional Horse and } Dragoons _____	10,950,000
Cloaths, Barracks, Garrisons and } Artillery, &c. — _____	30,000,000
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	86,940,000
For the Sea Service, _____	31,800,000
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Total annual Expence in time of War, }
in French Livres, _____ } 118,740,000
Which is 6,193,636 Sterling per Annum.

By this State it appears, that the great Strength of France is by Land.

In case of a Sea War with England, supposing the French are not attacked by any other Power by Land, they will have no need of the additional Land Forces. So in that case, their whole Expence by Land will only amount to 32,850,000 French Livres per Ann. But then they will be obliged to augment their Fleet to what it was the last War, viz. 120 Men of War and 40 Gallies, which will more than treble the Sea Expence, computed above at 31,800,000 Livres per Ann. which multiplied by 3, amounts to _____ 95,400,000 Livres ;
to which add _____ 32,850,000

French Livres per Ann. 128,250,000
Will at least be their Expence, in case of a Sea-War only with England ; which is 7,193,181l. 18s. 4d. per Ann.

At the Beginning of the last War, France had about 300,000 Land Forces, 120 Men of War, and

40 Gallies, well manned and fitted out; but at that time they had the Revenues of Spain, Naples, Sicily, the Milanese, and Flanders, and a large Treasure from the West-Indies every Year, to pay this great Expence.

Their Arsenals at that time were well furnished with all manner of Stores for this Fleet for 7 Years.

Whereas now they have none of those Countries to help them, no Treasure from the West-Indies, nor not so much as Stores to fit out their 43 Men of War.

It is to be observed, that with all these Helps, they were so necessitated for Money, before the War had been carried on 3 Years, that they were obliged to begin to raise Money by selling their Civil Employments, and borrowing Money of the Corporations in all the Provinces of France; which two Articles, before the End of the War, amounted to above 60 Millions Sterling, which are not repaid to this Day.

The FORCE of SPAIN.

THE Spaniards have about 70,000 Land Forces, Horfe and Foot ; their Pay is about one fourth more than the French. They have few Garrisons to keep in Repair in Old Spain. They have about 36 large Men of War, and 12 Gallies. They have neither Mafts, Yards, Pitch, Tar, Cordage, Spok, nor Trennel, except what they have from the English Plantations in America, or at a much dearer Rate from the Baltick ; from whence they have all their Iron : So that now they are in a War with England, they have great Difficulty to fit out the Ships they have, and can never build any more.

They have not Sailors to half Man the above Ships, and those they have are most English, and other Foreigners. Their Sea Officers are very bad.

As to their Revenue, it depends mostly upon their yearly Treasure from the West-Indies ; which will be reduced to inconsiderable, if not totally lost by a War with England.

It is difficult to compute what Number of Land Forces they have in the West-Indies, but 'tis pretty well known, that they have at this Time in the Island of Cuba, Hispaniola, Port St. Augustine, and their other small Ports in that Neighbourhood, about 10,000 Men, the greatest Part Foot ; and about as many more disperfed over the Continent of America, particularly in New Spain, to keep the neighbouring
Indians

Indians in Awe (who are very numerous, but without Arms) and likewise their Negroes.

Their Garrison of Port St. Augustine, and their other small Forts on that Side, cannot subsist without being supplied with all sorts of Provisions from the English Plantations, not daring to stir out of their Garrisons to get Provisions in the Inland Country, for fear of the neighbouring Indians, who would overpower them if they were supplied with Arms, and who hate the Spaniards mortally.

The Inhabitants of Cuba are so indolent, although they have seven Negroes to each white Man, that they are obliged to buy from the English above half the Provisions they consume, as the Spaniards do also in divers Parts of New Spain.

The Ships that carry these Provisions to the Spaniards, either go to Jamaica for a Freight home, or down to the Bays of Mexico, Honduras, Campeachy, &c. to carry on the contraband Trade with the Spaniards, for Piaftres for such Part of their Cargoes as they have not sold at St. Augustine and Cuba, or to get Logwood, which last they generally meet with as they beat about the Coast of New Spain, being there are a Number of English Sailors, who go by threes and fours in a Company, in a Periagua from Jamaica to the small Creeks on the Continent of New Spain, where they get into different Parts of the Woods, and cut as much Logwood as will load a Ship; then they put out Signals in the Night, to give Notice to such English Ships as come that way in search of Logwood, who answer them with other Signals, upon which the Sailors from the Woods go on board, and conduct them to the Place where they can load their Ships; and after they have agreed with the Captains for a certain Share for themselves of the Profit of the Logwood when sold in Europe, they all assist in

loading the Ship, and take their Passage in her back to Jamaica; from whence those Ships always take their Departure, as if they loaded there; and if taken by the Spaniards, who wait for them in the Gulf between Cuba and St. Augustine, the Owners generally in their Complaint here, as well as to the Spaniards, set forth, that they received their Logwood or Piaftres at Jamaica, in the same Manner as Ships that do really take in their Logwood and Piaftres there.

The Spaniards alledge, as Logwood and Piaftres are the Product of New Spain, and as the People of Jamaica have them no other way but by a contraband Trade, that they have the same Right to stop them coming from Jamaica, since the English have no Right to any Trade at New Spain, except what comes by the annual South-Sea Ship, which they very well know brings all her Merchandize directly to England, and never sells any at Jamaica.

The Spaniards likewise observe, that if they were to let all English Ships pass, on pretence of coming from Jamaica, they would lose near one half of their annual Treasure that comes from New Spain, which every reasonable Man must admit to be true; because if the English were suffered to pass that way uninterrupted, they would draw away the best half of their Spanish Treasure by the contraband Trade, in spite of all that could be done by the Spanish Officers on Shore, as they can sell to the Inhabitants all such Commodities as they want, above 100 per Cent. cheaper than they can have them from Old Spain, and above 50 per Cent. cheaper than they can have them from the Assient Ships, by reason that the People of our Plantations get such Part of those Commodities as they want from England, in barter for the Commodities of their own Country, and are at

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no Charge of keeping Factors abroad, or paying Sailors at home, as the South-Sea Company do.

This is the true Reason for the present Dispute which the Court of Spain has with us, and which they set on Foot as soon as they understood the Nature of our Trade in the West Indies.

But these Pretexts on the Part of Spain, to justify the Captures she has so often and so unjustly made, are both false and frivolous. The English Right to cut Logwood in the Bay of Campeachy, published before the Treaty of 1670, appears plainly from the Report of the Lords of Trade and Plantations, when they were violently dispossessed of that Right by the Spaniards, and the Affair was remitted to the Board of Trade by his late Majesty. In the Year 1667 this Trade was by the then Governor of Jamaica put under Regulations, so that this Nation had an undoubted Right to it by the Article of *Uti possidetis*, in the American Treaty. The Spaniards, since the violent Dispossession of the English, pretended indeed a Right by the South-Sea Company owning their Claim so far, as to take a Lease of that Trade from them; but it is a great Question if the Deed of any Company can deprive the Nation of its just Rights and Privileges.

As to the Spanish Pretence of searching for Spanish Commodities, it is absolutely inconsistent with positive Treaties, which stipulate the Freedom of Navigation betwixt one Part of his Majesty's Dominions and another; and if the English carry on an illicit Trade with their Plantations, it is the Business of Spain to prevent it, which she can do consistently with Treaties, but not to break thro' all Treaties, in order to remedy an Evil which England never disputed but that she might prevent. The Treaty of 1670, and all subsequent ones, stipulate an Ex-

clusion of all Nations from trading with the Spanish West-Indies; but the Government here has no Reason to be their Guarda Costas, or to punish their Subjects for trading with the Spaniards, any more than the French are obliged to punish theirs for running over the English Wool to France.

Besides, if the English suffer these Ships to be visited or taken, they may as well give up all the English Plantations to the Spaniards, as they have no other Way of getting one Shilling of ready Money for their Commodities, but by this Sort of Trade to the Coast of New Spain, which plainly appears from their not having one Penny of Gold or Silver, but Spanish Money, in their Country; and as all the Trade they have to England, and all the rest of the World, besides New Spain, does not furnish them with the tenth Part of their Subsistence.

So that this Affair is brought to this Dilemma, that the Spaniards must either act consistently with Treaties, or the English must give up their Plantations, and entirely lose their West-India Trade; therefore it is clear, that this Dispute could never have been determined but by a War, by which Means the strongest will have an Opportunity of making such Conquests as are necessary for securing their Trade from being disturbed for Ages to come, and of augmenting the same; and the Nature of this Dispute appears to be such as will never bear being settled by a Treaty.

Reasons

Reasons for a War against Spain, tho' assisted by France.

THE next Thing we are to consider, is the Connexion that is betwixt France and Spain, who are both equally engaged in Interest, either to render the English Attempts upon New Spain fruitless, or procuring a Peace that may secure them in what they possess.

But the French, whatever they may pretend from their being Guarantees of the Treaty of Utrecht, can never have a justifiable Cause for taking Part with Spain in this War. The Treaty of Utrecht has been long broken on the Part of Spain, who, contrary to what is therein stipulated, robbed and plundered the English Ships upon the High Seas. We very justly thought that the Treaty of Utrecht was thereby violated, and looked upon the Spaniards as the Aggressors, therefore we declared War; but as the War on our Parts was justifiable, so no Power, however she may be a Guarantee, can have any justifiable Pretence for assisting the Enemy under that Colour. She might indeed be justified in assisting the English to reduce the Spaniards to an Observance of the Treaty of Utrecht, but every Step she takes in favour of Spain is a Violation of what she pretends to guarantee.

As to the Pretext drawn from the Interest she has in the Spanish Galleons, it is condemned upon the very Face of the Treaty of Utrecht; for by that Treaty, no Nation in Europe can have any Interest
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in the Spanish Trade; and the Court of France making that a Pretence, as she does, for limiting the Operations of this War, is an evident Breach, both of that Treaty, and her Neutrality.

But as the Spaniards, by entering into this Dispute, have brought a War upon themselves with England, we should be fond of the Opportunity to secure our West-India Trade, the Nature of which is but too well understood by Spain; especially considering the following Reasons, whereby we can't doubt of Success in a Sea War, even tho' France should take Part in their Quarrel, and then we should engage in this War upon our own Bottom, without any Allies.

I. It may be remembred, that the last War between France and the Allies, was carried on upon the sole Strength of England, altho' we were then in a very weak Condition after King William's War, our Land forces in a sad Condition, as well as our Fleet, having no Proportion of Ships or Seamen, to what we have now, Ireland and Scotland discontented, our Plantations in America but poorly inhabited, and not in a Condition to do any Thing for themselves; the French King with a numerous Fleet in our Seas, and above thirty Men of War in the West-Indies, possessed of vast Dominions, his Coffers full with Money, his Arsenals with Stores, and his powerful Armies attacking all his Neighbours: Whereas now we have above double the Number of Ships that both France and Spain have together, and Sailors at Will to man them, which will appear from the Number of Merchant Ships at present belonging to England, Ireland, and our Plantations, which by a moderate Computation, amounts to 50,000; so that reckoning 6 Men only to each Ship, there are 300,000 Sailors, one fourth Part of which will more than suffice.

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NB. By the general Computation collected from all the Ports of these Kingdoms, and the Plantations, it is found that we have above 100,000 Sail of Merchant Ships, great and small; which, admitting that one with another they carry only 6 Men, makes 600,000 Sailors; so that we compute them above, only at one half.

II. Our Plantations in America are at present so well peopled, and have such a Number of Ships and Sailors, that they are both able and willing to put out 40 or 50 large Ships of Force at their own Expence, to carry on this War against the Spaniards in America; they are likewise so well provided with all Sorts of Provisions, that they can furnish our Fleet at very reasonable Rates with all Necessaries.

They are in a Condition likewise to raise as many Land Forces as would be necessary to make Descents where the Government should think fit to attack the Spaniards: Whereas the Spaniards have no Force in the West-Indies, but what may be entirely destroyed the first Year by our Men of War, who need stay but one Year there, and leave the rest to our Plantations to do.

Gallies to be provided by the Plantations in America.

By New-England,	6	By South Carolina,	1
Rhode-Island,	2	Jamaica,	4
New York,	6	St. Christophers,	2
Pensylvania,	3	Antigua,	2
Maryland,	3	Montserrat,	1
Virginia,	6	Nevis,	1
North Carolina,	3		
		In all	— 40

If

If the Plantations furnish 40 Gallies of 500 Men each, built in the Nature of the French or Spanish Gallies, their Men exercised to Arms as our Foot are, they can easily make themselves Masters of Port St. Augustine and the small Forts near it, and afterwards they will have no Difficulty to take Cuba, Hispaniola, and Porto Rico, which will give us the Key of the whole Trade of New Spain, that nothing can go in or out without our Leave. They will be able also to ravage the whole Coast of New Spain; but this last we shall have no Occasion to do, because the People of New Spain are so tired of the grievous Oppressions of Old Spain, and so sensible of the great Benefit they would receive by a direct Trade with our Plantations, that so soon as they found themselves at Liberty, they will chuse their own Governors, drive out all the Old Spaniards, and declare for us; and our Plantations will do all this at a less Charge than they were at in furnishing Ships the last War; and they will be very well satisfied with what Plunder they get for their Labours.

Our Gallies thus manned with such brave People as the Americans are, will beat 5 French or Spanish Gallies of equal Number of Men, because their Gallies are manned with Slaves, who are kept chained to their Oars without Arms, and but 50 fighting Men on board each Galley. The West-India Seas being like that of the Mediterranean, those Sort of Vessels are most proper for that Service, many Examples of which we have from the Grecians and Romans, who in all their Conquests in the Mediterranean used Gallies of this Sort, exercising their Men to Arms, who rowed or fought as Occasion required, and could land at Will.

III. Our Men of War being thus at Leisure to watch the Motions of the French and Spaniards at home,

home, our People in America can meet with little or no Opposition, since it will be difficult for the Enemy to find Means to send Succours to their Friends in the West-Indies, when our Fleet are Masters of the Seas at home; and our Fleet being at home will likewise preserve us from any Descents upon England; so that let their Land Forces be never so numerous, or superior to ours, we can have nothing to apprehend from them, except in the narrow Seas betwixt Dover and Calais, where they may ship over in Calms; but this likewise may be prevented easily, by building 20 such Gallies in the River Thames, manned with 500 Watermen each, exercised to Arms as above. By this Method, the Land Forces which are on Foot at present, will be sufficient to protect this Kingdom against all manner of Invasions and Attempts whatsoever. The Building, Rigging, and compleatly Equipping one of these Gallies, will not cost above 3000 l. Sterling, and the Men must be put upon the same Foot as our Marines were in the Time of the last War.

If we have only Spain to deal with, we fear not any Descent from them; so that in this Case there will be no Occasion for this last Expence of these Gallies at home.

The Traject from Spain to England is so wide and rough at Sea, that the Spaniards can make use of no small Vessels upon any such Expedition, and our Men of War will always be able to meet with and master their large Ships. No Expedition for England can hope for Success, under 30 or 40,000 regular Troops, which must have 500 Ships at least to transport them. In all Expeditions of this Kind, Troops that cross the Seas are liable to Sickness, and so many Accidents, that they are not worth half that Number at their Landing, even in the Mediterranean, where they have a smooth Sea and a bold

Shore to land, which is a quite different Case on our Coast, the Sea having always a great Swell, and the Shore generally flat, where Boats cannot land Men but with great Difficulty, and where consequently great Numbers must be lost in landing; therefore 5000 good Troops on Shore, assisted by the Militia of the Country, will always be able to defeat an Armament of 40,000 Men: This is proved by our Expedition to La Hogue last War, the last Oran Expedition by the Spaniards, and the constant Experience in such Cases.

In case the French should join the Spaniards against us, and should intend a Descent upon England, 'tis natural to imagine, that it will be from the nearest Land to England, viz. Dunkirk, Calais, Boulogne, &c. Suppose such an Expedition be intended with 30,000 Men, these Troops cannot assemble and be in Readiness to embark under a Month's Time at least, witness the Invasion in 1708, and must employ 4 or 500 Sail; such a Number of Ships can never assemble without our having timely Notice to guard our Coasts by Sea and Land; and by the Use of such Gallies as are mentioned above, we shall be always able to prevent any small Ship that may endeavour to pass through our Fleet in Calms, Fogs, &c. because these Gallies can row from Creek to Creek, as Occasion shall require, and may land their Men to join the Troops on Shore, and oppose the Enemy's Landing.

IV. A War of this Kind, carried on upon our own Foot, must be more certain of Success to us, than if we had all the Princes in Alliance with us, who were included in the Grand Alliance last War; because as the chief Force of France and Spain is by Land, and as they are much superior to their Neighbours by Land, the entering into Engagements with
foreign

foreign Princes or States must always be of dangerous Consequence to England, upon whom the whole Expence of the War may be laid. This is fully proved by King William's and Queen Ann's Wars, which were the Occasion of the great publick Debt which has distress'd us ever since; and all this for securing and encreasing the Dominions of our Allies, being so disinterested ourselves, as to be content with the Glory of defending and encreasing their Power and Wealth; and it is evident that this Nation has been always successful when they have waged War against France and Spain upon their own Foot to defend their own Dominions, and to conquer for themselves, as in the Time of the Edwards, the Henrys, and Queen Elizabeth.

We are no sooner engaged in foreign Alliances, than we are obliged to advance great Sums of Money to be expended in foreign Countries, to furnish great Number of Troops, to keep vast Numbers of Transport Ships continually in our Service at a great Expence, and all to defend the Dominions of our Allies; and if we are successful, the Conquests are for them: We are likewise obliged, in order to consult their Interests, to neglect those Conquests that would be of use to England, as in the last War we laid aside attacking the Spanish West Indies, in Complaisance to the Emperor, who represented to us at that Time, that such an Attempt would alienate the Minds of the Spanish Nation from him.

For these Reasons a War upon our own Foot cannot cost us one fourth Part of the Money, which we are obliged to spend in a foreign War, where we tie ourselves to Engagements with several Princes in Alliance with us.

V. In the present Case France and Spain have no Pretence to attack their Neighbours, if not in Alli-

ance with us; but if they do, those Princes will better exert themselves in their own Defence, when they see that they can have no Prospect of Assistance from us; witness what the Emperor did in the last War with France: Whereas, on the other hand, if they find they can engage us in their Quarrels, they think very wisely for themselves, and leave the Burthen of the War on us, as Principals, by which our Treasures are exhausted in paying their Troops (as they will always pretend Poverty so long as we are the Dupes to find Supplies for them) while they themselves consult their own private Interest, exclusive of that of the Alliance in general; witness the clandestine Trade which the Dutch carried on with the Enemy during the last War, by which Trade the French were able to fit out their Fleets, having no Stores of their own, as their Admirals have since own'd, and as appears from what has been mention'd above.

VI. In a War upon our own Foot, our Trade can no ways suffer, having only our own Affairs to mind, and our own Interests to defend; by which Means we shall always have Men of War sufficient to convoy our Merchant-Ships, and to spare. Neither can the Loss of our Trade with Old Spain during the War be of any Prejudice to us, if duly consider'd; because when once their Treasures coming from New Spain are obstructed, and we desist from buying their Wines, they will not be in any Condition to buy any Merchandize from us; and if our trading People in the West Indies do not during the War draw off the greatest part of their Treasure by a clandestine Trade, as they did the last War, it will remain in the West Indies, and must fall into our Hands at the End of the War, which will fully make us amends for the short Time that Trade will be interrupted by this War. It

It will be well remembered, before the End of the last War, when the coming home of the Galeons was entirely obstructed, and our Ships had beat the French and Spaniards from the Coasts of New Spain, then our Merchant Ships went securely into the Bays upon the Coasts of New Spain, the Inhabitants bought our Merchandize in the same Manner as they wou'd have done in Time of a profound Peace, and as if we had had a free Liberty of Trade with them, by which our Plantations in America drew the greatest Part of the Treasure from New Spain, which will be the Case now. And as for our Trade with France, it would be well for us that we had no Trade with them, since the Balance of our Trade with them is greatly against us, and every Year growing worse. As we are so much superior by Sea to both these Nations, it would be happy for us that France would join in this War with the Spaniards.

Since it would give us very proper Occasions to destroy those great Branches of Trade they have got into since the last War, and do now too much out-do us in; viz.

The Fishery in Newfoundland,

The Sugar Trade,

The Negroe Trade, and

The Levant Trade.

And likewise we shou'd be able to possess ourselves of their Settlements in Newfoundland, Misissippi and Hispaniola, and render them incapable of pretending to cope with us in Trade.

N. B. There is a very necessary Remark to be made here; That if we suffer France to continue twenty Years longer in Peace, they will unavoidably, in the same Manner, steal into the greatest part of the Trade which the English are now in possession of; but

but if France, from an Apprehension of losing those valuable Branches of Trade which they have insensibly slippt into during the long Peace, should avoid joining with the Spaniards against us, we shall more easily conquer the Spaniards, and be in Readiness to call France to account in a proper Time.

What gives us the greater Certainty of Success in this War, is, the great Strength and vast Trade our Plantations in America have acquired since the last War: The Province of New England alone employs above 15,000 Sailors, and build vast Numbers of large Ships, which they load with Masts, Yards, Pitch, Tar, Cordage, Spoke and Trennel, and send to the Ports of Spain, France, and Italy, where they sell Ship and Cargo at a very great Profit; so that at present three fourths of the French Merchant Ships have been bought from the English Plantations in America. New York, Pensilvania, Maryland, Virginia, and Carolina deal in the same Manner, and employ a great Number of Sailors, tho' not so many in proportion as New England.

All those Colonies will be glad to employ their whole Force against the Spaniards in the West-Indies, provided proper Encouragement be given them.

If it should be thought adviseable to send Troops from England to assist our Plantations, they may be landed at New York, and well refreshed there, which may be made the general Rendezvous of all the American Troops to join them: Our Plantations can easily furnish Transports for this Expedition with all necessary Provisions, which are very cheap and in great Plenty there. At New York they may all embark for Jamaica, from whence we should make a Descent upon Cuba, which we can do from Jamaica in 12 Hours, and from whence we can supply our
Troops

Troops in Cuba from time to time with all manner of warlike Stores and Provisions.

The Conquest of this Place, as well as any other Part of New Spain, will not be thought so difficult, when it is consider'd that the Slaves in Cuba are seven in number to every white Man (as they are all over the Spanish West Indies) who will readily come over to us upon Promise of Freedom ; and that in all other Parts the neighbouring Indians, as well as their Slaves, will always be ready to join with us, if we supply the Indians with Arms, and promise the Slaves their Liberty.

Jamaica, Barbadoes, and the Leeward Islands, being almost wore out and in great Decay, will likewise be very glad to employ all their Force to conquer Cuba, Hispaniola, and Porto Rico, in order to get Settlements in those Islands, which will be much more beneficial to them.

If at any Time it is thought necessary to employ Horse in those Expeditions, we need only send the Men from England, and mount them in New England, where good Horse are in great Numbers and very cheap.

The Conquest of Cuba has been thought difficult, ever since the Miscarriage of the Attempt upon Hispaniola in Cromwell's Time ; but it will not appear so, when it is considered, that that the 6000 Men sent thither by Cromwell had no other Resource than to live on salt Provisions, during the long Voyage from England thither, whereby they suffer'd very much ; and when they landed, being unacquainted with the Island, they were obliged to make use of such Guides as they found, who proved to be sent in their Way by the Enemy, and who deceiving them, laid them under the Cannon of their Fortresses, where being repulsed they lost all Courage, when they

they consider'd they had no Place of Refuge till they return'd to England; which cannot be our Case at present, because we have good Places of Refuge for our Troops in case of Accidents, from whence they can always be supplied with Reinforcements and fresh Provisions as Occasion shall require, which will very much contribute to their Health, and support their Courage to succeed in their Undertaking; we have also People to conduct them, who know the Country as well as the Spaniards themselves, and are perfectly well acquainted with the Force of the Enemy.

VIII. This War may be carried on for a very inconsiderable Sum, in respect of what the last War cost us, and by the certainty of our Success can be of no long Duration, because the Spaniards in the West Indies (which is most essential to us) must immediately be destroy'd by the Numbers that will fall upon them from all parts of our Dominions whenever the War is declar'd, the Merchants at home desiring nothing more ardently than an Occasion to assist their Friends in those Countries both with Ships and Money, and desire no other Recompense than the Plunder they may get, and the future Security of their Trade.

Provided always, that our Men of War may not have a Power to hinder our Merchant Ships from cruising upon the Enemy, as they had in the last War, which much discouraged our Plantations from fitting out the Ships, which otherwise they would have done.

As the Nation in general desire nothing more than this War to revenge themselves of the Spaniards for their Depredations and Cruelties for many Years last past, and to secure their Trade for the future; there will be no Difficulty in raising the necessary
Supplies,

Supplies, or in borrowing what Money may be wanted upon any Emergency; more especially as our Stocks in the City, which will naturally fall a little at first must as certainly soon rise again, when they see our whole Trade protected by our Superiority at Sea, and by strong Convoys to all Parts; and the first Success will very much raise the Spirits of the People, and consequently keep up the Credit of our publick Funds.

We must likewise observe, that the Case being as above, that the whole Nation in general cry out for this War, and that it is enter'd into intirely for the Security of our Trade, and the Advantage of all the Subjects of England, the most disaffected Person in the Kingdom cannot be so void of Thought or Reason as to enter into any Scheme or Plot for the Pretender, in order to make a Diversion at such a Time in favour of France or Spain, against whom the whole Nation is so much exasperated, which can only tend to our Success in this popular Undertaking: So that if it is possible that there is such a Creature in the Kingdom, who can have such a Thought, he must keep it to himself, otherwise he will certainly run the Risque of being stoned by his next Neighbours.

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An APPENDIX: Containing
a VIEW of those Countries
of the Spanish West Indies
that will probably be the Seat
of the present War.

THE natural born Spaniards, are solely vested with Command throughout all the Spanish Indies; they only enjoy Posts of Honour, Profit and Trust; and this it is which occasions those Draughts which have so drain'd and weaken'd their Dominions in Europe; for putting no Confidence even in the very first Generation of their Descendants, and absolutely prohibiting all Strangers from going thither in their Service, a necessity follows of sending thither continually large Supplies, that they may be still in a Condition to hold the Reins with equal Titeneſs. This Form of Government creates an irreconcilable Antipathy between the European Spaniards and the Criollo's, i. e. those born of Spanish Parents in the West Indies. These latter see, with Indignation, themselves equally shut out from all considerable Preferment either in Church or State; the most palpable Partiality shewn in all judicial Decisions between them and Spaniards; and, in a word, the whole Policy of their Governors bent to distress and to deject them. The Spaniards, on the other hand, no ways ignorant of their Sentiments, and moreover continually jealous of their desire to throw off the Spanish Yoke, entirely exert their utmost Arts to enfeeble and enslave them: They discourage, as far as they are able, all sorts of Manufactures,

tures, of which being unprovided, they must of course purchase such as are sent from Spain; they also endeavour to hinder Plantations (except Estations or Beef Farms) that they may not have it in their Power to possess rich and improv'd Settlements; the Cause why those noble Countries are so little cultivated; and lastly, they make it their Aim to encrease Luxury, Idleness, and Pusillanimity amongst them, that they more easily may be kept in Obedience: Whence it apparently follows, Buccaneers, and such like, in small Numbers are able to do the utmost Mischief. And thus throughout all these vast rich and noble Provinces, the Inhabitants seem inspired with a Spirit of Dissension, which renders them continually restless and uneasy, making almost useless those Blessings indulgent Providence has conferr'd upon them.

As to the Religion of the Spanish Americans, it is universally Popish; and if there be any degree in Bigottry amongst them, it is among the Natives, who almost adore the Priests; and are severely fleec'd by them, paying them out of all they have much more than the Tythe. Amongst the Clergy, there are great Divisions, occasioned, chiefly by the national Quarrels, between the Criolo's and the Spaniards, which subsisted long and seem rather to encrease than diminish; the several Orders of Friars, as in Europe, are exceedingly jealous of one another, tho' they all find Ways to gain so much upon the Minds of the People, that there is not perhaps in the World finer and more costly Monasteries and Religious Houses than are here; the Power, Riches, and Grandeur of the Church, rising no where higher.

The Inhabitants of Spanish America, are [1.] Natural born Spaniards. [2.] Criolians, of Spanish Parents born in America. [3.] Mesteeze, born of

Indian and Spanish Parents. [4.] Indians, properly Natives. [5.] Negro's brought hither from Africk. As for the Spaniards, they differ little from those in Europe, except they are more high and lofty than in Spain; as they are Lords, here possessing every Thing, and living on the Labour of others. The Criols falls not a bit short of them in Vanity and Haughtiness; but, as I have said, are kept much under, never allowed any considerable Preferment, and are even worse used than the Indians themselves; they are ignorant, lazy and pusillanimous in general, tho' here and there, especially amongst the Churchmen, some deserve a better Character. The Indians are a simple, well natur'd, industrious People, much lessen'd in their Numbers by the excessive Cruelty us'd at first by their Conquerors; they are yet sufficiently pressed by the Yoke of Bondage, but wherever they are allow'd a Relaxation, they build convenient Cities, and soon make themselves rich and flourishing. The Negroes here, as elsewhere, are made use of as Slaves.

As to the Commodities of this Country, I shall speak more particularly, under the Description I shall give of its several Parts. In respect of its Trade, it is wholly Domestick, except what is carried on with Spain, a yearly Ship from Acapulco to the East Indies, and the prohibited Commerce they used to carry on with the English. The Spaniards who, as I have said, own no other Maxim in their Indian Politicks, than to keep the Americans in absolute Subjection, are in nothing more careful than what relates to Traffick; having taken every Precaution they were able to hinder their Intercourse with other Nations, both by heavy Fines, and severe Punishments, which sometimes have extended even to Death itself; and by maintaining Vessels of Force in pay
under

under the Name of Guard du Costa's, in order to cruise about and make Prize of whatever Ship they find within the limits of their Seas; they likewise suppress some, and carefully discourage all Manufactures from being carried on there; tho' for all that, some very tolerable Cloth is made in Quito; for it is here, as in some other polite Countries, a handsome Present to those in the Administration is a certain Method to strike Justice, or at least the Ministers of Justice, both blind and dumb. The Shipping here are neither numerous nor convenient; what there are continually pass to and fro between the two vast Divisions of this Empire, which as they were before the only Parts of the World known to the Indians, so they are now the only Places which have any Commerce together under the Government of the Spaniards: But as all is of late fallen under the Direction of the French, it is highly probable they soon may be altered.

Having thus, in general, mentioned what alike concerns all the Spanish America, which from the morose Gravity of the People, differ as little in their Manners as in Spain; we shall now descend to a kind of Geographical Description of its several Provinces, both of Peru and Mexico, as they lie along the Coast North, and of the South Sea; in which we shall consider their Extent, their Soil, their Climate, their Produce, their Trade, their Cities, Ports and Towns, with whatever else we find remarkable, in order to the giving a clear and distinct View of the Territory, Force and Riches of the Spaniards in this Climate.

This first great Province of the Catholick King's Dominion here, is called Mexico or North-Spain, and, as the Spaniards reckon them, is divided into Mexico, Quivera, Nicaragua, Jucatan, Florida, Virginia, Norembega, Nova-Francia, Corterialis, and Estotilandia. The other Vice-Royalty of Peru,
they

they divide thus; Castella Aurea, Guinea, Peru (properly so called) Brasil and Chili. I shall consider them as they lie North and South under modern Names, and afterwards mention the Islands.

Florida, is the Northern Country in the Spanish Dominion; it lies on the North Sea, and makes one Side of the Bay of Mexico; the Spaniards consider it as a Country of vast Extent, but then they take in a great deal of what is already settled by the English and French; the latter had some Possession of that Part of it now in the Hand of Spain, but the Spaniards, by continual Wars, at last wearied them out. The true Reason why the Spaniards are so careful of this Country, is, because should any other Nation fully settle in it, they would have an open Road to the Spanish Territories, and in such a Case, the Criolians would, as I have said, make a very indifferent Defence. The Soil and Air of Florida are both exceedingly good, and the Country plentiful, and covered with a pleasant Verdure: the chief Spanish Garrison is that of St. Augustin, besides which they have but one or two more, and those not very considerable. The Natives are an ingenious, brave and honest People, who live in Clans, like the Scots Highlanders, under their Heads or Princes, call'd Caciques, who have found all who have attempted to conquer them, hard Work. Its Commodities for Trade, (I mean that Part in the Spaniards Hands) are little besides Furs; but if it were possessed by an industrious People, it might be greatly improv'd.

Quivira, as the Spaniards call it, or New Mexico, is still far from being discovered; some suppose it to border upon Tartary; and it is reported that Vasquez di Coronado, who went thither in 1540, saw in the farther Sea Vessels, which he took to be Cathayan or Chinese. The Soil here is good, the Air and
Climate

Climate excellent, the Country full of Inhabitants: but because there are no Mines there, 'tis in a great measure neglected by the Spaniards; however, there are some Towns. Amongst those of chief Note, are Cibola, Totontaa and Tinguez; the Riches of the Inhabitants consist in Cattle. Near this Country (which passes under several Names) lies, as is supposed, the Kingdom of Anian, giving Denomination to the Streights which have California on one Side, and this Part of the Continent on the other.

Next in its Order lies the Province of Mexico or New Spain, properly so called, formerly the Seat of the famous Mexican Empire, to which Hernando Cortez put an End the 13th of August 1521, by the Conquest of Mexico their Capital, and taking their last Emperor Quahuçtimoc. This noble Country is the Flower of the Spanish Dominion here, abounding with all Things necessary for the Life or Conveniency of Man. Mexico itself is a large and magnificent City, situated like Venice, amongst the Waters of her famous Lake; it is the Place where resides the Spanish Governor for the Northern Province, an Archbishop, the Court of Chancery, and the other Offices belonging to the Crown of Spain in these Countries. Proper Mexico is divided into four Parts, viz. Themisteitan, Nova Galicia, Mechooacan and Guastacan; in the first of these lies the City of Mexico itself, and the City De los Angelos, with some others of lesser Note. It was a very populous Country when in the Power of the Indians, who were a very wise and industrious People, well skill'd in melting and making Vessels of their Metals, and in the composing Feather-works, the most beautiful that could be imagined. As it stands at present in the Hands of the Spaniards, they draw
from

from it immense Riches ; for the Mines here, tho' they do not contain as great a Quantity of Metal in Proportion to the Ore, as those in Peru, yet the Metal is finer, and extracted with far less Trouble than theirs. Mexico is even yet populous ; the City of Angels is also very rich, the Town of La Vera Cruz is the Port ; and the Sums extracted from this Province are very large ; the Spanish Officers also making much Money by their Perquisites, i. e. by their Extortions. The Vice-Roy alone, notwithstanding his noble Allowance of 100000 Ducats per Annum, squeezing them to the Amount of a Million ; in which laudable Practice his Under-Governors, Presidents, Alcades and Judges, are sure to follow him ; by which tho' the poor People suffer much, yet 'tis the poorest suffer most. Amongst those that are of any Rank, the highest Luxury in all Kinds is visible, twenty thousand Coaches being kept in the City of Mexico alone. The fine Situation, Fertility of Soil, the Seat of Government, and Conveniency of Living, has attracted hither such a Concourse of People, as may make it vye with any European City, both for Populoufness and for Splendor.

The Trade of this Province is almost altogether Inland, except what is carried yearly to Vera Cruz, in order to be transported to Old Spain, and what is sent to Acapulco, its Port on the South Seas, from which the famous annual Ship goes to the Philipines ; by these two Sea-Ports the whole Commerce of the Spanish North America is sent and brought home.

Jucatan is the next Province, a Peninsula, one Side of which bounds the famous Bay of Mexico ; 'tis about 900 Miles in Compass, a fruitful pleasant Country, abounding with Indian Corn or Maiz, Fruits, Physical Shrubs and Herbs, such as Sarsaparilla,

parilla, &c. Fowls of all Sorts, and great Numbers of Cattle, whose Hides are the chief Commodity. It is divided into three Parts, Yucatan proper, Guatamala and the Island of Santa Cruz. The most known Places in Yucatan are Merida, Campeachy, &c. In Guatamala, much the richest Province, are St. Jago, or the City of Guatamala, Chiapa, &c. finely built, large and well inhabited, both by Spaniards and Indians. The last Division of it is the Island of St. Cruz, so called from its chief City. The whole Peninsula points directly to the Island of Cuba; and tho' it furnishes all Conveniencies of Life, yet as no Mines are found in it, the Spaniards think but poorly of it; however it is populous, and very full of Indians.

Honduras is the Province adjoining to Yucatan, lying along the North Sea; a noble Country, indifferently inhabited, tho' rich, pleasant and fruitful; its chief Cities are Valladolid, situated exactly between the two Seas, Gracias a Dos, near the Gold Mines, and the famous City of Truxillo. Nicaragua lies close on the back Side of Honduras, and extends itself in like manner along the South Sea, as the other doth along the North; this is beyond compare the finest Country of all Mexico, full of rich Mines, and yet fruitful in Corn and Fruits, which are sometimes prefer'd to Gold. Adjacent to it lies Costa Rica and Veragua, which in some Degree resembles it, and adjoining the Isthmus of Darien, which divides this Country from Peruana or South America. On the South Sea, in this Isthmus, is Panama, a famous City, whither the Riches of the Southern Coast of Mexicana and Peruana are brought, and thence transported to Porto Bello, on the other Side of the Isthmus, on the North Sea; it goes on
F
board

board the Galleons, who proceed to their Rendezvous at the Havana in the Island of Cuba, and thence sail to Old Spain.

We are now come to speak of South America or Peruana, which is still richer than Mexico, and is above all rendered famous for that immense Quantity of Wealth which Spain has drawn from her Mines of Potosi. Lima is the Seat of the Vice-Roy of South America; who hath also as much Power, and acquires yet greater Riches, than he of the Northern Province. We will examine this in the same Order we have done the former. The first Province then bordering upon the Isthmus, is the Castella del Oro; or, as it is usually call'd by the Spaniards, Terra Firma; in this, as we now reckon it, Panama and all on the South Side is contain'd. The Country is very watery and unwholsome, but valuable for its Mines of Gold, the most famous of which is St. Maria, near the Isthmus. The chief Place here is the celebrated Carthagena, where the Galleons from Spain make their first Stay. Guyana lies next, which is not thoroughly in the power of the Spaniards, tho' much coveted for the vast Quantity of Gold found here, as it is for ever rendered famous for the unfortunate Expedition of Sir Walter Raleigh against Fort St. Thomas in 1595. To this adjoins Peru itself, whose Soil and Climate were not to be boasted of, if it did not abound, as it doth, with Gold and Silver, in respect of which it may be justly called one of the richest Countries in the World. Lima is the Place of the Vice-Roy's Residence, and is a neat, beautiful and compact City; its Port is that of Callao, as the Port of Potosi, and its adjacent City Imperiali, is Arica, famous in our Journals at Sea. Chili lies next to the Province of Peru, and is absolutely the finest Country and richest in all America, whether
North

North or South ; the Inhabitants are a hardy, valiant and stubborn People, who having been ill used by the Spaniards, drove them out of their Country, kill'd their Governor, and are their inveterate Enemies to this Day ; however, the Spaniards have now recover'd Baldivia, and some other Places on the Sea Coast. Paraguay, or rather La Plata, is at the Back of Chili, in which the Catholick King hath the valuable Settlement of Buyenos Ayres, one of the finest in America ; the true Paraguay is entirely subject to, and form'd by the Jesuits. Terra Magellanica is the last Spanish Settlement I have to mention, and, to say truth, is difficult enough to determine, whether it be settled or no ; however they claim it, and as they reckon it part of their Possessions, so shall I. As to the Islands which they have under their Dominions, the most remarkable in the North Sea are Cuba, in which lies the famous Harbour of Havana, the largest and most commodious in the whole American Territories ; Hispaniola, whose Capital, St. Domingo, was built by Columbus, and Porto Rico ; all of considerable Bigness, and of Importance, with several others of lesser Note. In the South Sea, there is only California of any great Extent ; and it is, as yet, not half discovered ; however, there are many small ones, some of which are valuable, in their Possession ; for tho', with respect had to the Compass of Land, the Spaniards are few, yet there are a vast Number of them in America ; and were they under a politick Government there, which intended the strengthening and extending them, they would quickly grow a more formidable Empire than ever they are now like to be.

Perhaps it may be proper to observe that I have not so much as mentioned either the Northern Extremities of America or Brasil, justly esteem'd one of

the most excellent Provinces of this New World. As to the first, tho' the Spaniards do still claim them, yet as they are in a great Part unknown, and as the greatest part of what is known, belongs now to other Nations, they do not fall naturally within the Compass of my Design, which was to speak only of the Dominions of the Spanish Crown. The latter is in the Hands totally of the Portugese, tho' they once lost a great part of it to the Dutch. As to the Extent of these vast Territories, the Northern Province, or Mexicana, is reckon'd 13000 Miles, and the Southern or Peruana 17000 in Circumference; tho' these are but round Numbers, and I suspect the first especially, is not very exact. As to the Number of People, tho' it must be allowed vast Multitudes were killed in the Conquest by Pizaro Cortez Almagro, and other Spanish Captains, yet it may be easily proved, that America was never populous, tho' the Causes of that Thinness are not so easily to be found out.

F I N I S.

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