

see vol 3 x 16

A
L I S T

O F T H E

Absentees of IRELAND,

A N D

An Estimate of the Yearly Value of their Estates
and Incomes spent abroad :

W I T H

Observations on the Trade and Manufactures of IRE-
LAND, and the Means to encourage, improve, and extend
them ; with some Reasons why GREAT-BRITAIN should be
more indulgent to IRELAND in particular points of Trade.

A L S O,

Some Reasons and Observations why Absentees should be
obliged to contribute to the Support and Welfare of the
Country, they derive their Honours, Estates, and Incomes
from.

Humbly submitted to the Consideration of the
Legislature of Ireland.

said to be written by Edmund Morres Esq.

Vincit Amor Patriæ.

Si quid novisti rectius istis,

Candidus imperti ; Si non, his utere mecum.

D U B L I N :

PRINTED BY W. G. JONES,

FOR GEORGE FAULKNER IN PARLIAMENT-
STREET.

M, DCCLXVII.

LIST
OF THE
APPLICANTS OF IRELAND

A. N. D.

An Estimate of the Yearly Value of their Estates
and Income spent abroad;

W. I. T. H.

Observations on the Trade and Manufactures of Ire-
land, and the Means to encourage, improve, and extend
them; with some Remarks on Great-Britain should be
more indulgent to Ireland in particular points of Trade.

A. I. S. O.

Some Reasons and Observations why Applicants should be
obliged to contribute to the Support and Welfare of the
Country, they derive their Estates, Earnings, and Income
from.

Humbly submitted to the Consideration of the

Legislature of Ireland.

By *James O'Connell*

Author of the *Principles of Political Economy*

and of the *Principles of Political Justice*

London: Printed by *W. G. Jones*

for *George Faulkner* in Parliament Street.

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PRINTED BY *W. G. Jones*,

FOR *George Faulkner* IN PARLIAMENT STREET.

STREET.

MURRAY.



A
L I S T
O F

Lords, Gentlemen and others,

Who having Estates, Employments or Pensions in
IRELAND, spend the same abroad; together with
an Estimate of the Yearly Value of the same,

As taken in *January*, 1767.

First Class comprehends those who live constantly
abroad, and are seldom, or never, seen in *Ire-*
land.

Pensions Civill, Military and *French*.

	£.
LADY Kilmanseg	750
Lady How	500
Mrs. West	400
Executors of the Earl of Harrington	2600
Lady Cecilia Finch	400
Lady Young	600
Ann Palmer	900
Earl of Jersey	1500
Executors of A. Skutz	1200
Christopher Shroder	1000
John Cooper	500
A 2	John

John Roberts	-	-	-	800
George Hamilton	-	-	-	400
Earl of Albemarle	-	-	-	800
Lord Grantham	-	-	-	2000
Thomas Bourcheir	-	-	-	400
Earl of Cholmondeley	-	-	-	3700
Baron de Spörke	-	-	-	1200
Lord George Beauclerk	-	-	-	400
Lady Waldgrave	-	-	-	800
Princess of Hesse	-	-	-	5000
Jobt. S. Carleton	-	-	-	500
Duke of Brunswick	-	-	-	2000
Sir Edward Hawke	-	-	-	2000
Executors of Lady Yarmouth	-	-	-	4000
Lord Bathurst	-	-	-	2000
Lord Tyrawly	-	-	-	500
Ann Pitt	-	-	-	1000
Gasper Gravenhop	-	-	-	400
Lady Beauclerk	-	-	-	400
William Champney	-	-	-	1070
Frederick Ernest	-	-	-	1000
Princess Amelia	-	-	-	1000
Thomas Cumming	-	-	-	300
Philips Francis	-	-	-	600
Sir William York	-	-	-	1200
Melcher Guy Dickens	-	-	-	500
George Charles	-	-	-	1000
Children of Countess of Upper Offory	-	-	-	600
Edward Weston	-	-	-	500
Duke of Athol	-	-	-	2000
Princess Augusta	-	-	-	5000
Lady Louisa Lennox	-	-	-	500
Mrs. K. Bathurst	-	-	-	400
Duke of York	-	-	-	3000
Mrs. Mordaunt	-	-	-	450
George Whitlocke	-	-	-	2000
				Edward

Edward Willes	-	100
Cap. Lieut. Nicholas Kelloway	-	855
Lieut. Col. Robert Clerk	-	600

Above £400 yearly	Total £	62425
Under £400 yearly	-	7850
	Total	70275

Note all the Pensions Civil, Military, and *French* amount to £91217 18s. 2d.

Duke of Devonshire	-	10,000
Dorset	-	2000
Marquis of Rockingham	-	10,000
Earl of Cork	-	4000
Montrath	-	6000
Egmont	-	6000
Hartford	-	9000
Donegal	-	15,000
Abercorn	-	7000
Besborough	-	8000
Blessington	-	5000
Upper Offory	-	4000
Shelburn	-	12,000
Thomond	-	4000
Ludlow	-	4000
Stanhope	-	1000
Portsmouth	-	4000
Powis	-	3000
Catherlogh	-	2000
Lady Dowager Shelburne	-	7000
Lord Vis. Middleton	-	4000
Ashbrook	-	3000
Weymouth	-	3000
Palmerston	-	4000
	A 3	Lord

Lord Courtney	-	-	-	5000
Villars	-	-	-	4000
Digby	-	-	-	3000
Fortescue	-	-	-	1200
Bellew	-	-	-	4000
Carysfort	-	-	-	3000
Strange	-	-	-	3000
Beaulieu	-	-	-	2500
Clive	-	-	-	1700
Heirs of Lord Blunden	-	-	-	3000
Sir Robert Dundas	-	-	-	2500
Sir William York	-	-	-	1700
General Montague	-	-	-	5000
James Lennox Dutton, Esq;	-	-	-	10,000
Honble. Thomas Fitzmaurice	-	-	-	4000
Heirs of Admiral Warren	-	-	-	3000
Honble. John Barry	-	-	-	3000
Francis Bernard, Esq;	-	-	-	8000
Admiral Rawley	-	-	-	1200
Needham, Esq;	-	-	-	5000
Arthur Annesley, Esq;	-	-	-	4000
Richard Hull, Esq;	-	-	-	700
Sir George McCartney	-	-	-	1000
Edwards, Esq;	-	-	-	3000
James Whithead, Esq;	-	-	-	2000
Welbore Ellis	-	-	-	1000
Thomas Staunton	-	-	-	700
William Bernard	-	-	-	800
Francis Annesley	-	-	-	1500
Stephen Ram	-	-	-	800
Hon. Richard Barry	-	-	-	700
General Burton	-	-	-	700
Hon. Chichester	-	-	-	1000
Sir William Pens Heirs	-	-	-	1400
Henry	-	-	-	

Henry Obrian Esq;	-	-	-	2500
Thomas Taaf, Esq;	-	-	-	1500
London Society	-	-	-	8000
Several Corporations in England	-	-	-	3500
Sir Peter Leicefter	-	-	-	800
Sir Peter Dennis's Heirs	-	-	-	1000

*L. Dillon**Thos. John Medico**Murray of Broughton**Wm. Saville**Mr Basil*

£ 247,400

Second Class comprehends these who live generally abroad and visit *Ireland* occasionally, for a very short Time.

Earl of Clanrickard	-	-	-	5000
Hillsborough	-	-	-	6000
Farnham	-	-	-	6000
Anglesea	-	-	-	6000
Kerry	-	-	-	4000
Lord Vis. Fitz-Williams	-	-	-	4000
Cunningham	-	-	-	4500
Clare	-	-	-	3500
Lord Cahir	-	-	-	2500
Milton	-	-	-	4000
Sir William Mayne, Bart.	-	-	-	3000
Simon Lutterel, Esq;	-	-	-	3500
George Mathew, Esq;	-	-	-	6000
Malpas, Esq;	-	-	-	1500

£ 59,500

Third Class comprehends those who live generally in *Ireland*, but were occasionally absent in *January* 1767, for Health, Pleasure, or Business.

Note, Their Number is generally the same for if some come home, others go abroad and supply their Places.

I have now before me a List of Thirty five Lords and Gentlemen comprehended within this Class, but I forbear mentioning them as they happened to be abroad accidentally only (I may say) at that Time and they are Men that have the Interest of *Ireland* as much at Heart and lament the Injury and Loss it sustains by its Absentees as any Men. The Annual Income of whose Estates amounts to upwards of

75,000

Persons possessed of Employments and Offices, absent *January*, 1767.

Earl of Bristol, Lord Lieutenant,	16000
Principal Secretary to do.	4000
Second Secretary to do.	500
Post Office,	16000
James Oswald, James Greenville, and Isaac Barre, Esqrs. Vice-Treasurers of <i>Ireland</i> ,	9000
Hugh V. Jones, and John Milbank, Esqrs Commissioners of the Revenue	2000
Richard Rigby, Esq; Master of the Rolls, 2000 <i>l.</i> a Year, and as much more computed for 8 Places in his Gift, worth each upwards of 3000 <i>l.</i>	4000
William	

William Hamilton, Esq; Chancellor of the Exchequer	-	1600
Lord Clanbrazill, Chief Remembrancer of the Exchequer	-	2200
Richard Vernon, Esq; Clerk of the Quit- rents	-	500
Charles Fitzroy Scudamore, Esq; Curfitor in Chancery	-	300
William Cheshire, Philazer in Common Pleas		200
Sir Wm. Knatchball, Exigenter in do.		300
Hon. William Molefworth, Surveyor-General		400
Robert Wood, Master of the Revels		400
----- Hay, State Musician		400
Sir Rob. Wilmot, Solicitor in <i>England</i>		1200
Lord Harrington, Customer in <i>Dublin</i> ,		500
Henry Tilson, Craner in do.	-	400
Register Prerogative		600
Dr. Robinson, Lord Primate		6000
Jackson, Bishop of Kildare		1700
Bernard, Derry		4500
Brown, Cork		1800
Garnet, Clogher		3500
Cradock, Kilmore		1600
Gore, Elphin		2200
Oswald, Raphoe		2000
Cumberland, Clonfert		1600
Treile, Down		2000
Newcome, Dromore		1600
Andrews, Provost of Trinity College, <i>Dublin</i>	-	1500
Wilder, Senior Fellow of do.		500
Agar, Dean of Kilmore		600
Lewis, Dean of Offory		500
		Dr.

Dr. Coote, Dean of Kilfenora
 Pullen

400
 500

£93,000

N. B. There is no Person (except the 3 Officers in Chancery and Common Pleas) mentioned in the above List, whose Income is under 400*l.* yearly in *Ireland*.

Spent abroad yearly by those whose Income is under £400 a Year, either for the most Part abroad, or go there occasionally for Pleasure or Health,

50,000

Half of these are supposed to belong to the first Class, and the other Half equally to the other two.

Traveling Expences of Merchants Dealers and Traders, who go over yearly in great Numbers from *Ireland* to *England* to buy or sell Commodities,

8000

Spent yearly in the Education of Children of Protestants, and Men of Fortune at *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, and the Schools in *England*, and of Children of Papists in Foreign Colleges, and Traveling Charges and Expences of young Gentlemen and others abroad,

26,000

Spent yearly by young Students at the several Inns of Court,

9000

Spent in Lawfuits on Appeals to the House of Lords, Courts of Delegates, Writs of Error to the

Court

Court of Kings Bench in *England*,
Opinions and Advice of Council
there on several Occasions,

11000

Spent in Attendance and Appli-
cation for Employments Ecclesiastical,
Civil and Military, and
other Occasions,

8000

It appears by the Establishment
given into Parliament for the Year
1765, that the Establishment for
General Officers, was £32,232
yearly, Three Fourths of which is
spent abroad, seldom or never more
than Three out of the Twelve Ge-
neral Officers on the Staff attending.

24,174 11 0

Troops on this Establishment,
Four Regiments of Horse, Eight of
Dragoons, and Thirty of Foot ;
of which Six Regiments of Foot are
constantly Abroad, some Times
more. The Pay to the Commissioned
Officers of all said Regiments (ex-
cept the Six abroad) amounts to
on Computation £1,48,330 12s. 6d.
yearly, one Fourth of which, at
least is spent abroad

37,082 13 0

The whole Pay of the Six Re-
giments of Foot spent abroad,
amounts to - - -

47,121 10

The Establishment for Half
Pay Officers amounted to £45,012
10s. 1d. one Third of which spent
abroad, - - -

15,004 3 4

For Officers Widows, £16,754
11s. 5d. yearly, one Third spent
abroad, - - -

5,584 17 1
Sent

Sent to *England* one Year with another, to buy Recruit Horses for Twelve Regiments, - - 3,240

Spent in *England* for raising Recruits for the Foot Service, 3000

Perquisites on Cloathing Forty two Regiments at £ 250 each, yearly comes to £10500, Two Thirds of which spent abroad, 7000

Carried off yearly by Adventurers to *America*, who may be reckoned one Year with another 4000 in Number, and to carry off each one with another £ 10 - - 40,000

Remitted yearly an Account of Ensurance of Ships, Assurance from Fire, to religious Houses abroad, Freight of Ships, for Coaches, Carriages, Toys, Cloaths, Furniture, Jewels, Haberdasheiries, and many such like Things, 30,000 0 0

Total of all the above, £ 869,382 14 9

ADDITIONAL ARTICLES.

THE above Lists shew us clearly what immense Sums are drawn out of this Kingdom Annually, but there are many other Articles to be taken into Consideration, whenever we come to make a Computation upon this Head, they will readily occur to every Gentleman, some of which we shall here mention: Indeed tho' these Articles cannot be rated at any certain Sum, yet they may well be computed to encrease the Annual drain of Money out of the Kingdom, not less than 200,000 *l.* many think they may well be rated at 300,000 *l.*

First,

FIRST, WE are to observe that a great many Estates, and Woods, have of late been sold in *Ireland*, and all the Purchase Money, at once carry'd to *England*; and, which is farther remarkable, some Estates have in the Compass of a few Years been sold again, and all the Purchase Money sent away a second Time.

SECOND, THAT great sums of Money are Yearly sent abroad to discharge old Debts, contracted by Persons now residing in *Ireland*.

THIRD, THO' some of the aforesaid Persons, may spend less abroad than here rated; yet many of them spend much more than their Yearly Income; which Debts must be paid in *England*, after they come to reside in *Ireland*.

FOURTH, THAT several Estates of *Irish* Landlords, who live abroad, have of late been much rais'd, and large Fines taken and remitted to them; and many more Estates will not fail to be raised to the Height, as the old Leases expire, and thereby encrease their Yearly Draughts upon us.

FIFTH, THAT several Persons who live abroad, have large Mortgages, on Estates in *Ireland*; the Interest Money whereof is constantly returned to them in *England*.

SIXTH, MANY of our young Lords and Gentlemen, in a few Years after the come to Age, squander in other Countries all the ready Money, which had been saved for them by their Guardians in their Minorities.

SEVENTH, GREAT Numbers live abroad whose Names or Estates for want of due Information, are here omitted.

EIGHTH, THERE is Yearly carried out of this Kingdom, about 150,000*l.* by the Colliers of *England* and *Scotland*, who take very little else but
ready

ready Money in Return for their Coals: But this Point will more properly come to be considered hereafter, upon the Article of Trade.

I SHALL now beg leave to take Notice of the Method and Caution made use of, in forming, and drawing up the said List; and to observe, that the best Endeavours have not been wanting, to procure from Receivers, Agents, and others, an exact information of the clear Yearly Income of the Estates of the Persons mentioned in the said List, and of the Sums of Money they may reasonably be suppos'd to spend abroad, and that Care has been taken in the Computation, to be always under the real Value, in Order to make Allowances for Loss to Agents, Quit-rents, and other Charges.

WE are farther to observe, that the Estates of many of the said Persons are much larger than here set down; but being subject to Jointures, Rent Charges, and Debts, which are spent at Home; we have not therefore set forth the full Value of them, but so much only as is supposed to be spent abroad.

THO' some of our Gentlemen stay abroad but a short Time, yet when we would compute how much Money is Yearly drawn out of the Kingdom, we are oblig'd to take Notice of all those Persons, who are at any one Time absent; for if some come Home others do not fail to go abroad, and supply their Places.

IF through Misinformation, the Yearly Income, or Remittances of some Persons, mentioned in the said List, should happen to be over-rated; that is amply made up by others, who will be found upon Enquiry to be undercharged.

A General Abstract of the Quantity of Money drawn out of the Kingdom.

By the Pensioners comprehended in the First Class - - -	70,275	0	0
By the other Persons of the first Class - - - -	247,400	0	0
By those of the Second Class -	59,500	0	0
By those of the Third Class -	75,000	0	0
By those who have Employments or Offices in <i>Ireland</i> - - -	93,000	0	0
By those whose Income is under £ 400 Yearly - - - -	50,000	0	0
Travelling Expences Merchants and Traders - - - -	8000	0	0
Education of Youth &c. and at Inns of Courts - - - -	35,000	0	0
Law Suits &c. and Attendance for Employments, &c. - - -	19,000	0	0
By the Eight Articles relative to the Military - - - -	142,207	14	6
By Adventures to <i>America</i> - - -	40,000	0	0
By Enforcement of Ships, &c. - - -	30,000	0	0
	£. 869382	14	6
By the Additinal Articles - - -	200000		
	£ 1,069,382	14	6

Peers of *Ireland* who are Absentees and have
no Estate in *Ireland*.

Earl of Desmond	E. E.	How
Waterford	E. E.	Chetwind
Fitz-Williams	E. E.	Grimston
Tilney	-	Barrington
Verney	-	Vane
Panmure	-	Bateman
Fife	-	Galway
Tyrconnell	-	Gage
Mexborough	-	Ligonier
Winterton	-	Fortrose
Ld. Vis. Kilmurry	-	Lord Baltimore
Lumley	-	Sherard
Wenman	-	Maynard
Mulineux	-	Hawley
Fairfax	-	Tyrawly
Cullen	-	Aylmer
Tracey	-	Fortescue
Bulkley	-	Colerane
Cholmondeley	-	Oswell
Down	-	Walcot
Lisburn	-	Pigot
Taaf	-	-

N. B. All Gentlemens Estates are intended to be rated under the real Value and only so much of them as may be supposed to be spent abroad and tho' the utmost Care and great Enquiry have been made use of to prevent Mistakes in Rating the Value of Estates and Employments and making computations and finding out who are Absentees yet no Doubt there must from the Nature of a Work of this Kind be many Errors and Mistakes, which as they are by no Means intentional, no one ought to be disoblged at them and the Publisher upon Information to the Printer will be extremely willing to set them right.

O B S E R-

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

PRECEDENT LISTS;

AND, ON THE

Trade of IRELAND, &c.

THE late *Thomas Prior*, a Man of great Knowledge and Abilities, and one who spent a long Course of Years in promoting the Welfare and Happiness of his Country, and who for many Years was a most useful and active Member of the *Dublin Society*, and in that Capacity greatly contributed to the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Husbandry in this Kingdom; wrote a Treatise upon this Subject about Thirty Years ago, and gave us a List of the Absentees of that Time, by which it appears that there then was

B

Yearly

Yearly drawn out of this Kingdom so large a Sum as upwards of £621,000 by Absentees.

ABOUT that Time Men were so fully satisfied of the Mischiefs and Misfortunes attending so many Gentlemen living out of the Kingdom, and such an immense Sum being Yearly spent abroad, that the Legislature thought it highly necessary to remedy this great Evil in some Measure.

AND accordingly pass'd an Act of Parliament, in the Year 1715 ; whereby Persons who had any Salaries, Profits of Employments, Fees or Pensions in *Ireland*, should pay unto His Majesty Four Shillings out of every Twenty Shillings Yearly, which they were entitled unto, unless such Persons should reside within the Kingdom for Six Months in every Year, which Tax was to be deducted Yearly out of the Salaries, Employments and Fees, by the Persons who paid the same, and to be by them paid to the Vice Treasurers, to be accounted for to His Majesty, and their Deputies were to give in on Oath an Account of the neat Profit of the Employments, on Pain of being incapacitated to execute such Deputation, and of forfeiting One Hundred Pounds. The Secretary of the Commissioners of the Revenue, the Agents of Regiments and Agents of Persons entitled to receive Salaries or Pensions, were on Pain of being disabled to hold their respective Offices, to deliver in on Oath a List of the Officers of the Revenue, the Officers of Regiments above the Degree of a Field Officer, and of the Persons entitled to receive Salaries or Pensions, who shall be out of the Kingdom for Six Months.

THERE was a Saving for the Lord Lieutenant, or other Governor of this Kingdom, and their
Secre-

Secretaries, and such Persons who should be exempted by His Majesty's Sign Manual, and Officers of Regiments commanded abroad, Half-Pay Officers, Widows of Officers, and any Officer under the Degree of a Field Officer.

THIS Tax on such Absentees was continued by several Acts of Parliament, in subsequent Sessions, till the Year 1753; when it appearing that the King's Ministers prevailed on the Crown to exercise the dispensing Powers contained in the above Clause, and in the Case of Pensions frequently to grant such Addition to the Pension as might be sufficient to answer the Tax; for which see the List of Pensions.

MANY worthy Gentlemen for those Reasons, and finding very little Benefit accrued to the Public from the Tax by the above Means, I may truly say, of evading the Act of Parliament and the Intention of the Legislature, consented to the letting the Tax drop, not from any Disapprobation of the Tax, but they saw clearly that as it was then modelled, and applied, it would answer no publick Benefit.

By the above you see how sensible the Legislature and People were of this great Evil, let us now take a View what our Ancestors thought of it, and the Provisions they made in this Case.

SIR *John Davis*, Attorney General in *Ireland*, to King *James* the First, in his Historical Relations has observed that the Absence of the great Lords (who having great Estates in *Ireland*, yet kept their continual Residence in *England*) was the principal Cause of the slow Progress made in the Reduction of *Ireland*, and of the frequent Rebellions of the *Irish*, who were thereby encouraged to make Encroachments

upon the *English*, and dispossess them of their Lands, and that the Kings of *England* were thereby put to the Necessity of sending Armies over from Time to Time to reduce and reconquer several Provinces thereof.

For which Reason an Ordinance had been made in *England*, the 3d of *Richard* the Second, against such as were absent from their Lands in *Ireland*, which gave two third Parts of the Profits thereof unto the King, until they returned or placed a sufficient Number of Men to defend the same; which Ordinance was put in Execution for many Years after, as appears by fundry Seizures made thereupon, in the Time of *Richard* the 2d. and *Henry* the 4th, 5th, and 6th, whereof there remain Records in the Remembrancer's Office here. Among the rest the Duke of *Norfolk* was impleaded on this Ordinance, for two Parts of the Profits of his Lands in the County of *Wexford*, in the Time of *Henry* the 6th, and afterwards, on the same Reason of State, all the Lands of the House of *Norfolk*, of the Earl of *Sbrewsbury*, Lord *Berkely*, and others, (who having Lands in *Ireland*, yet resided continually in *England*,) were entirely resumed and vested in the Crown by the Act of Absentees, made the 28th of *Henry* the 8th.

Not only two thirds of the Profits of the Lands of Absentees were forfeited by Law, but if any in Office went out of the Kingdom, his Office became void immediately, and therefore in the 25th of *Henry* the 6th, an Act past in *Ireland*; that whereas it was in Doubt, if any Persons in Office, did pass by Sea from one Port of *Ireland* to another, whether their Offices were void, as if they had passed into *England*, or into other Lands out of *Ireland*, it was there-
by

by declared, that any Officer may pass into Ships, or Boats, from any Part of *Ireland* to another, without forfeiting his Office; and by another Act made in the same Year, entitled, an Act concerning Absentees; it was ordained, that if any of the King's Subjects, or Officers, be absent out of the Land of *Ireland*, by the Commandment of the King, or the Governor, or Council, that their Lands, Rents, or Offices, by their said Absence, shall not be seized, nor taken into the King's Hands, and their Offices shall not be void.

THESE Acts do necessarily imply and presuppose that there were then Acts in Force, (which though now not mentioned in our Statute-Books, yet possibly may be found in some of our Offices of Record) whereby the Offices, and two third Parts of the Profits of the Lands of Absentees, were forfeited to the King; and the Statute of Absentees, of the 28th of *Henry* the 8th, expressly takes Notice, that two Parts in three of the Yearly Profits of the Lands of absent Persons, did by reason of their Absence belong to the King, by Virtue of the Statutes in that Case provided.

An ACT passed the 10th Char. I. Ch. 21.

RECITING, That the King and his Progenitors out of their princely Wisdom, had thought proper to confer upon several able, worthy, and well-deserving Persons, inhabiting or dwelling in *England* and elsewhere out of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, Titles of Honor, whereby they do enjoy Place and Precedency according to their Titles respectively, so that it cannot be denied, but that in a just way of RETRIBUTION, they ought to contri-

bute to all publick Charges and Payments, taxed by Parliament in that Kingdom, from whence the Titles of their Honors are derived, and whereunto others of their Rank there Resident are liable.

It is Enacted, That all and every Person or Persons, now being or which shall hereafter be an Earl, Viscount, or Baron of that Kingdom, and have Place and Voice in the Parliament of that Realm, tho' Resident or Dwelling in *England* or elsewhere, shall be liable to all publick Payments and Charges which shall be Taxed or Assessed in this or in any other Parliament, and shall from Time to Time contribute thereunto, and pay their Rateable Parts thereof in such Manner and Form as others of their Rank are liable unto, or shall pay.

And by another ACT of the 36th of Hen. VI. Cha. I.

RECITING, That divers Persons advanced to Benefices within *Ireland*, do absent them out of the said Land in other Lands, whereby the Issues and Profits of their said Benefices are Yearly taken forth of the said Land of *Ireland*, to the great Impoverishment and Weakening of the same, diminishing of God's Service, and withdrawing of Hospitality.

It is Enacted, That all Manner of Benefices within the said Land, of whatsoever Condition that they be, shall keep Residence continually in their proper Persons in the said Land, within Twelve Months after this Parliament finished, and otherwise the Issues and Profits of the said Benefices (Divine Service and Ordinary Charges kept) shall be divided, the half to the Commodity and Profit of their Benefices, and Churches, the other half

to be expended in the King's Wars in Defence of the poor Land of *Ireland*, and any Grants of Absency made by the King to them or any of them, or to be made and granted in Time coming to the contrary thereof to be void and of no Force in Law, unless that it be by Authority of Parliament.

THESE were some of the legal Provisions which our Ancestors made to prevent our Gentlemen of Estates and Employments, and also our Clergy from living abroad, and we do not find they were ever repealed; happy had it been for the Kingdom, if they had been duly executed.

MONEY being the Measure of all Commerce, a certain Quantity thereof is necessary for carrying on the Trade of each Country, in Proportion to the Business thereof; it is generally estimated that the Current Species of *England* is about Fourteen Million *Sterling*, and that so much is necessary for its Foreign and Domestick Trade, in which it is much assisted by many Millions more in Bank Notes, Bank and South-Sea Stock and other Publick Securities, which being easily transferred from One to another, have in Effect the Use and Convenience of Money.

It is reasonable to suppose, that the Quantity of Species requisite to carry on the Trade of *Ireland* with Ease and Advantage cannot be less than £1,200,000, if we consider that the Yearly Value of our Exports is at a Medium for 7 Years, ending the 25th of *March*, 1766, £2,426,423, 19s. 4d. and of our Imports £1,936,587, 8s. 4d. That the publick Revenue and Charge of the Establishment are each upwards of £900,000, *per Annum*, and that our Rents and Domestick Commerce, amount

Yearly to the Value of several Millions, all which Articles must be paid in ready Money, especially in *Ulster* and *Connaught*, and therefore can hardly be supposed to require less than £1,200,000, for the convenient Management thereof.

OF late Years we have most sensibly felt a Scarcity of Money, and never more than this Summer, when Exchange rose up to 10 *per Cent.* and Merchants could not get their Bills at any Rate Discounted. Money which could some few Years ago be had at 4 *per Cent.* cannot now at less than 6, and Gentlemen of Estates and undeniable Land Security, cannot without the greatest Difficulty raise Money, the Bankers finding so great a Call; and it is so much their Convenience to employ most of their Cash in the Discounting Trade, which they call very emphatically a living Credit, as the Money lent that way comes back again in so short a Time.

THIS Want of Money in the Kingdom throws a Damp upon all Business. Manufacturers cannot be set to work, Materials purchased, or Credit subsist; and People who are willing to support themselves by their Industry, are left to struggle with Poverty for Want of Employment, and many Estates are left unimproved.

WE are not now at a Loss to point out the principal Source of all our Misfortunes, and the chief Cause of all this Distress; it appears plainly, from the List of Absentees, and the Estimate of the Quantity of Species they may be reasonably supposed to draw yearly out of the Kingdom, that no other Country labours under so wasteful a Drain of its Treasure, as *Ireland* does at present by an Annual Remittance of above a MILLION to our Gentlemen

tllemen Abroad, without the least Consideration or Value returned for the same: This is so great a Burthen upon us, that I believe there is not in History, an Instance of any one Country paying so large a yearly Tribute to another.

COUNTRIES that abound in Mines of Gold and Silver, are enabled by the Bounty of Nature, to bear an Exportation of their Bullion; but others, which want this natural Produce, and have no other way of getting or keeping Money, but by having the Ballance of Trade in their Favour, suffer extremely, whenever they want Coin sufficient for circulating their Business.

It is believed by many, who understand our Money Affairs, that there is less Species now in the Kingdom, than was at any one Time since the Revolution, if so 'tis impossible to subsist much longer under such a Drain; for if the Quantity of Money exported vastly over-ballances any Income or Gain we have by Trade, (as plainly appears by examining the List, the Ballance of our Trade herein set forth, and a constant Course of Exchange against us) it evidently follows, that all our remaining Species, will, in a little Time, be carry'd off: the Consequence whereof will be, that we shall be utterly disabled from carrying on our Foreign and Domestick Commerce, paying Rents, or discharging the publick Establishment.

'Tis true, this Evil is of such a Nature, as in a little Time, it must cure itself; for if the Demands of our Absentees greatly exceed all our Gain by Trade, and amount to as much Yearly, as the whole current Coin of the Kingdom; there will be soon nothing left for them to draw away, and they must be forced to return to their native Country; which

which must necessarily be the Case, unless, (which can't reasonably be supposed) they shall think it a less Grievance to starve abroad.

When Things come to this Extremity, great must be the Calamity of all, even of those who are innocent, and have not had the least Share in bringing this Evil upon us; for then no Rents can be paid in Money, but all in Kind; no Sort of Trade can be carried on, but by bartering one Commodity for another: The Price of Lands must universally fall, the Army must be broke, or live on free Quarters, and the Establishment, and all Professions must sink for want of Money to support them.

WE shall be then reduced to the Condition of some of our Plantations, out of which, for the same Cause, all Money is carried off as fast as it enters, and nothing left current but Paper.

If our Gentlemen abroad, were the only Sufferers by their Conduct, we should have no Reason to complain; but it happens in this Case, that, tho' they bring this Evil upon us they will be the last that will feel the Effects of it; but, at length, must share the same Fate with ourselves.

'Tis melancholy to observe that now we are labouring under great Disadvantages in Trade, and struggling with Penury and Want, the Humour of living, and spending abroad still encreases among our Men of Distinction and Station, and has even infected our Ladies, who may be sooner found out at *London, Paris, Rome* or any foreign Place of Expence, than at Home.

If those Gentlemen, who now draw out of the Kingdom yearly upwards of a Million, could
be

he prevailed upon to spend the same at Home, the Advantages and good Effects thereof, would be soon visible in the Improvement of Lands and Houses; in the Encrease of People, Arts, and Manufactures, in a greater Produce in the Excise and Customs, and in a better Support of the Government: Whereas, now by the Means of our Nobility, and Gentry deserting their own Country, and spending all abroad, our People are left without Employment, and are forced to shift to foreign Countries, even to *America*, to get a Livelihood.

'Tis too much in Reason for these Gentlemen to expect that we shall patiently bear with the Loss of our Trade, Loss of our Money, and additional Taxes, for no other Reason but to gratify the Vanity of those, who have thus wantonly abandoned their Country, and riot abroad in its Ruin: There is no way left to save us, but by obliging them to live at Home or making them pay for living abroad.

PERHAPS some may imagine, that our Absentees, have great Encouragement to go, and spend their Fortunes abroad, that they are received with open Arms, and preferred to Places of Profit, Honour, and Power; but alas! if we examine the List, we shall find, that there are but very few therein mentioned, born and bred in *Ireland*, who have got Pensions or any Civil or Military Employment by living abroad, so little are they regarded in those Countries where they spend all their Fortunes: The Case indeed is otherwise with the *North-Britons*, who lose nothing by going into other Countries, whatever they gain there; 'tis true there are some Lords in the said List, who have Employments abroad; but these

these honourable Persons (a very few excepted) were neither bred, nor born in *Ireland*, and owe their Preferments to their Interests and Alliances abroad, and not to any Estates they happen to have in *Ireland*.

NOR can we think it strange, that our Absentees are thus served; for how can Persons, who can get no Employment in their own Country by Virtue of the Interest they have there, expect to be preferred in another, where they have no Interest at all.

WE may be soon cured of any vain Expectations of Promotion abroad, if we consider that our Countrymen are so far from being caress'd, that they are generally slighted in other Countries: It must be own'd, that the Poverty of some of our Natives, and the Extravagance of many of our Men of Fortune have brought us into Discredit and Contempt; so that of all Nations we have the Misfortune to be the least regarded by those, who get most by us: And yet such is our Folly, that many of our People, choose to spend their Estates in a mean obscure Way abroad, under the Contempt and Hatred of all about them, rather than live at Home in Plenty, Honour, and Esteem.

I WISH we could say, that these Gentlemen, by living abroad, had any way contributed to the Interest of *Ireland*, but I am afraid, they have no Merit of this Kind to plead, for except a very few Persons, who upon all Occasions have been willing, industrious, and able to serve us, (and which we shall ever with the greatest Gratitude acknowledge) we know of few Absentees, who upon Emergency wherein the Interest of *Ireland* was concerned, have had Spirit
or

or Disposition, Interest or Weight, or even a sufficient Knowledge of the Affairs of their own Country to do it Service; they are either Strangers to the Circumstances and Interests of *Ireland*, or have no Power or Qualifications to be of use to it.

IF we enquire into the Motives of this Conduct of our Gentlemen, so injurious to their own, and their Country's Interest; we shall find, that a luxurious Manner of Living, an Affectation of imitating the Nobility and Gentry of other Countries in their Expences, together with the Largeness of their Fortunes, are the principal Motives of their spending all their Estates abroad; which they seldom fail to incumber with great Debts, and frequently sell, either to gratify their present Vanity, or pay for past Follies.

'Tis a melancholy Observation, and fit to be remembered, that almost all the Estates, which of late Years, have been sold in *Ireland*, have belonged to such of our Gentlemen, as brought themselves under a Necessity of selling to discharge Debts contracted abroad; we can justly date the Ruin of several great Families from the fatal Period, of their going to live abroad; and we may now, prophetically, pronounce the like Fate of several others, who have of late, or shall hereafter follow the same Course of living, that their Lands shall pass away to Strangers, and their Names be no more heard of.

THE Extinction of such Families, may probably be no hurt to the Publick, but then the Value of their Estates spent abroad, is certainly lost to the Kingdom; an *English Prodigal*, injures none but his own Family, since whatever he squanders,
goes

goes into the Pockets of others, of the same Country; but any *Irish Spendthrift*, who commonly makes *London* or *Paris* the Scene of his Extravagance, not only deprives his Family, but his Country also, of the full Value of all he consumes.

It has been observed (as another ill Effect of living abroad) concerning such of our Gentlemen of Fortune, as happen to marry there; that they and their Posterity are for the most Part lost to this Kingdom; 'tis shocking to an *English* Lady, to think of living in such a poor, despis'd Place as *Ireland* is, and if she has not made it an Article of Marriage, as it often is the Case, she seldom fails, some other Way to prevail on an easy Husband to forsake his Country, and takes care to breed up her Children in the same Aversion; and from that Time forward, we hear no more of them, but by their constant drawing all their Rents from hence, and racking their poor Tenants: Such Deserters prove the worst Enemies to *Ireland*, by laying it under a continual yearly Pillage to their Vanity and Luxury, without contributing the least Farthing, towards the Support of the Government.

AND here I cannot but take Notice of the Conduct of some of our Gentlemen, in sending their Children to other Countries for Education; 'tis certain, if they were better appriz'd of the Manner of Living, Studying, and Performances required of them abroad, they would believe it much better to educate them in our Colleges at Home, where the Course and Method of studying are excelled by none abroad, and where the Rules require a greater Strictness and Attendance to Duties, more reading and studying, and where there are to be found generally better Scholars, in Proportion
to

to their Numbers, and less Corruption ; this Humour proceeding from a want of Judgment and Observation, is often attended with this Consequence, that the young Gentlemen educated abroad, either take a Liking to other Countries, and so are for ever lost to their own, if their Fortune will enable them to live there ; or if they return home, perhaps bring nothing with them, but the Follies and Luxuries of our Neighbours, by which we suffer too much already.

If some think it a Hardship, that most of our Employments, are given to other People ; we all have just Reasons to complain, that those Employments are served by Deputies, and of Consequence not only the greatest Part of the Profits thereof carried out of the Kingdom, and spent abroad ; but they are ill served and attended. 'Tis our Misfortune that too many of the *English*, who obtain Places in this Country seldom favour us with their Company in the Enjoyment of them. 'Tis true, we have one Visit from them when they come over to qualify themselves here, and take Possession of their Preferments ; tho' some of them, will not even be at so much Trouble, but obtain Acts of Parliament in *England* to dispence with their Qualifications, in *Ireland* ; and after this Beginning, we see no more of them but their Names in our publick Establishments.

BUT as to those who get Preferment here, and live and settle with us, we have no Cause to repine ; they become one with us, heartily espouse the Interest of the Country, and are in all Respects an Advantage to it ; we can't but remember, that a great many considerable Families now in the Kingdom, are the Descendants of such, who came hither for Preferment.

IT

It is a melancholy Thing to view the above List of Absentee Pensioners, when upwards of £71,000 of the £91,217 in the whole granted for Civil, Military and *French* Pensions is yearly spent abroad, we are always encreasing our Pension List. It is now more than double a great deal what it was when Mr. *Prior* wrote, and every Change of Ministry in a neighbouring Kingdom generally encreases it considerably. Taxes spent at Home do not impoverish us, though private Persons may suffer in the Payment of them, but whatever is spent abroad, is a general Loss to the Kingdom.

£91,000 the Sum our Pension List amounts to, would pay an Interest, at the Rate of 4 *per Cent*, for £2,275,000, so that it may well be said, we have got into a Debt equal to that Sum unknown to ourselves, and pay Interest annually for it, beside our other national Debt.

ANOTHER Thing that makes the Pensions sit heavy on every Body's Mind is, one is greatly at a Loss to find out the Merit of most of them; indeed there are some that no one ever found Fault with, others that do great Honour to the List, whose Name and Actions the People of *Ireland* most gratefully remember, such as the several Branches of the Royal Family, Sir *Edward Hawke*, and Prince *Ferdinand of Brunswick*.

NOR can we altogether excuse the Military Officers from contributing to the Impoverishment of this Country; of the many General Officers on our Establishment, very few of them are, at any Time, to be found here, tho' they are, perhaps, the only Generals in *Europe*, in full Pay in Time of Peace; and, if at any Time, any of them are ordered to review our Forces, which is the only Part of Duty required of them, they expect to be allowed for that

that Service in *Ireland*, which does not last above six Weeks or two Months, 300 *l.* or 500 *l.* over and above their Pay as General, which is as much as any Lieutenant General in the Foreign Service is allowed a Year ; and this too, tho' they happen to come over at the same Time to take Possession of a good Government ; many of our Colonels and Field Officers, by the same Example, live for the most Part abroad, to the Disabling the poor People of this Kingdom, from paying that very Establishment, by which they are maintained.

THERE was no Part of his Majesties Dominions more chearfully bore the Expences and Burthens of the last Wars than the People of *Ireland* and the Parliament of that Kingdom with a becoming Zeal and Spirit granted all that was asked of them and run themselves in Debt for that purpose, and that too, tho' two Parts in three of that Expenditure was laid out abroad, and our Kingdom left, in a great Measure, naked of Troops. Hardly 5000 Men, at a Time when we were in the greatest Danger of wanting them, and our Militia was quite useless for want of effectual Laws for Raising and Disciplining of them, viz. Sir *Edward Hawk's* Victory at Sea, and that great Admiral's delivering this Kingdom from the Miseries and Ravages of a *French* Invasion. But this Spirit and Zeal of the People of *Ireland* should meet with a suitable Return and Relaxation of Taxes and Expences, in Time of Peace in the Military Department ; and yet, instead of that, we find the Charges of the Military Establishment since the last War, within a very few Thousand Pounds equal to what it was during the War, when the whole Military Establishment and Expences were very near 600,000 *l.* annually, at a Medium. But this appears clearly to be owing,

in a great Measure, to the Troops we have now here in Time of Peace, being, in Effect, an Army of Officers, there being but 28 Men in a Company, and 19 Men in a Troop, so that the annual Pay of the Officers of the Army here, is very near half the Expence of the whole Army, about £170,610 17s. 6d. of the £348,264 15s. the whole Pay of the Army, and this Article greatly sweels our Absentee List. By all this it is manifest, that what *Ireland* pays in Time of Peace on this Head, is to be considered as a great additional Expence, and a considerable Assistance and Strength to the *British* Empire.

WE are apt to complain of the Hardships laid upon us by *England* in respect to our Trade, and when we are pinch'd, and in Distress, charge our Misfortunes to the Account of other People; but if we truly examine all Circumstances, we shall find, that to ourselves we owe most of the Misfortunes, and Inconveniencies we labour under; we owe them to our immoderate Consumption of Foreign Commodities at home, and extravagant spending abroad.

It is not to be wondered at, that we should grow poorer every Day under such an unprofitable Drain of Money, which all the Labour of the People and Produce of the Country, with every Acquisition they can make are not able to supply. This is an Evil long complained off, and in our Days is encreased to that Degree, that we shall soon be utterly exhausted, unless some effectual Stop be put thereto and as it arises principally from ourselves it is much in our Power to redress it.

I SHALL now proceed to consider the Trade of *Ireland*, in order to examine whether the Ballance arising from thence will enable us to answer these
great

great and constant Draughts upon us from abroad, and also to give such a just Representation of our Commercial Affairs, as that Gentlemen by being better apprised of the true State of their Country, may be thereby qualified to think on proper Methods and Schemes for improving the same; for surely nothing will so effectually enable Men to take right Measures for the Good of their Country, as to be rightly informed concerning the Trade and true Interest thereof.

It appears clearly from the Tables of Imports and Exports hereto annexed, which have been carefully taken from the *Custom-House* Books, and the Computation made relative to the Ballance of Trade in our Favour, that whatever Gain we have that Way, falls considerably short of what is sufficient to answer the Demands of our Gentlemen abroad.

I SHALL consider our Trade under the following Heads:

1st, I SHALL examine what *Ireland* gains or looses, both in respect of its general Trade with all the World, and of its particular Trade, with the several Countries, it has Dealings with.

2^{dly}, I SHALL particularly take Notice of the Countries we Trade with, to most Advantage, or Disadvantage.

3^{dly}, I SHALL set forth the great Benefits which accrue to *England* by the Trade of *Ireland*, and how much it is its Interest to encourage it.

4^{thly}, I SHALL offer some Hints for the better Improvement and Regulation of our Trade.

As to the first Head, we are to observe, that in order to form a right Judgment of the Trade of any Country, and whether it gains or looses in its Commerce with any particular Nation, or its Traffick

with all Countries, 'tis absolutely necessary to be well informed how much Money that Country pays for its Imports, and receives for its Exports, for the Difference of both in Value, is the true Measure of Loss or Gain ; if the Exports sell for more than is laid out in purchasing the Imports, or if the Imports cost more than the Exports amount to, the Difference will be returned in Specie, and is called the Ballance.

THO' it must be confessed to be very difficult to come to an exact Knowledge of the true Value of all Goods Imported and Exported, in a Country that has an extensive Trade, and has loaded its Imports with high Duties ; yet, I hope, we shall be thought to come very near the Truth, by the means of those Enquiries and Calculations we have made and especially by the Help of those Abstracts, which have been laid from Time to Time before the House of Commons by the Officers of the *Custom-House*, who make up yearly Accounts of the Quantity and Value of all Commodities Imported and Exported : And having made several Estimates and Observations from the said Abstracts, I shall present them to the Reader in one View for his better Information judging them the best Foundation, we can go upon, for forming a just Estimate of our Trade, compared with other Nations ; and the only Way to clear up the Mistakes and wrong Notions, which several entertain concerning our Trade with particular Countries ; and as there are several Articles, not taken Notice of by the Officers of the *Custom-House*, which ought to be taken into consideration when we are drawing up the Ballance of our respective Trades, I shall endeavour to supply them.

THUS

THUS far we are instructed by the Custom-house Books, concerning the Quantity and Value of our Commodities Imported and Exported, and their respective Ballances depending thereon, and find that the Ballance in our Favour of all our Trade in general, taken a Medium yearly, for the last seven Years ending the 25th of *March*, 1766, amounts to 489,836*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*

It is proper to take Notice of the Manner of Valuation practised by the proper Officers, who (as I am well informed) Value all our Exports at a Medium of the Price current in our Markets at Home; and all the Imports at the mean Rate we are supposed to pay for them to other Countries; and to do Justice to the Care and Skill of the Officers, we must observe, they are, for the most Part, pretty exact, and right in their Valuations, having made it their Business to be well informed by Merchants, and other Dealers, of the current Rates of Commodities both at Home and Abroad.

It must be owned that this Manner of Valuation, will not give us the true Ballances of our Trade with other Countries; for though in respect to the Imports, no Alteration is to be made in the Value of them, on the supposition that we Rate them no higher, than the prime Cost we pay for them to other Countries, yet we must add to the Value of our Exports, whatever we sell them for abroad, more than they are rated for at Home; this additional Value arises from the Duty and Charges of Exportation, the Freight, Expence and Profit of Merchants, which in long Voyages are very Considerable, and enhance the Price of Commodities to the Gain of the Nation, in whose Ships, and on whose Account these Goods are Exported.

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To adjust these Articles, that are either to be added, or subtracted from the respective Ballances as they are settled by our *Custom-House* Officers, is very difficult, and requires the Knowledge of many Particulars, not easy to be come at.

INDEED the Proportion of the Commodities exported or imported, on the Account of our Merchants is not easy to ascertain, but upon the best Enquiry I have been able make, and I have been assisted by several Merchants of great Skill and Knowledge; I judge that at a Medium the sixth Part of the Value of our whole Exports and Imports, may be the Proportion that our Merchants export and import in their own Shipping on their own Accounts, upon this Supposition the Ballance of this Part of our Trade is greatly against us, only one sixth by the Merchants and Traders of this Country, and the other Five chiefly those of *Great-Britain*, this shews us what a small Share we ourselves have in comparison of other Countries, in the Shipping employed in the Exportation and Importation of our Commodities.

THIS is not the only Branch of our Trade not taken Notice of, by the Returns in our *Custom-House* Books, that is greatly against us, there is another which upon Examination I am afraid will reduce great Part of the above suppos'd Ballance in our Favour, if not the whole, I mean the great Quantity of Goods, which are Yearly run into the Kingdom, without any Entry in the *Custom-House* Books, or Duty paid for the same, for which we pay Value abroad.

'Tis impossible to ascertain the Value of this clandestine Importation, but the fair Trader complains of the great Quantities of all Sorts of *East-India* Commodities, Silks, Tabacco, Wine, Spirits,

&c. imported by Stealth ; which no Trusts, Oaths, Penalties, or Number of Officers are sufficient Checks to prevent, if it is difficult to prevent this Sort of Traffick in *Dublin*, what Quantities must we suppose to be privately imported into the other Parts of the Kingdom, in a Compass of near 800 Miles in Circuit, abounding in Harbours and Creeks, where neither the Number or Care of Officers can be sufficient, to prevent these clandestine Conveyances ; and tho' such Sort of People, are by a late Act of Parliament deprived of the Use of the *Isle-of-Man* for carrying on this Traffick, yet how easy is it to shift the Scene of this pernicious Dealing, when the Profit shall countervail all Hazards, as it always does where the Duties are high ; but whatever is the Yearly Ballance on our Side by Trade, yet all this falls very much short of answering that immoderate and unprofitable Drain of Money, we labour under, to support our Gentry abroad, whatever Gain we make in any Part of the World is immediately carry'd off by this Flux, which has already consumed the greatest Part of our Capital Stock, as appears by that universal Face of Poverty amongst the lower People that is spread over the Nation.

I SHALL close this Head, with an Observation which may pass for a Political Axiom, that one of the greatest Evils which can befall any Country, is to have the Gentlemen of Estate and Employment desert it, and spend the Profit thereof abroad.

UNDER the Second Head, I shall take Notice of the Countries we Trade with, to most Advantage or Disadvantage.

BEFORE I enter upon this Head I must beg leave to mention the Reasons that induced me to give the Publick the two Tables of the Abstracts, of

Part of the Exports and Imports for the Years, ending the 25th of *March*, 1764 and 1765, as returned to Parliament the last Session, from the Examinators-Office of the *Custom-House*, tho' I cannot help saying they would be much more useful if the Returns gave us the Value of the Totals of each Commodity exported and imported : By these Tables you will see at one View not only the particular Countries we trade with, but each particular Commodity we Export to them, and Import from them ; what Branches of Trade are beneficial and what prejudicial to us, and the Countries we deal with for each, what Countries take from us our Commodities and Manufactures in greatest Abundance, and highest worked up and manufactured, whether we may not upon such a View of so many of our Commodities and Manufactures, some exported quite Raw, totally Unmanufactured, and very many not half Manufactured, to the great Benefit of the Countries we Export them to, and our great Loss and Dishonour, whether I say we may not thereby stir up some Spirit and Industry amongst our Merchants and Manufacturers, when the Benefit and Profit must be apparently so great : By these Tables it appears many of our Exports may be encreased to our great Benefit, and many of our Imports entirely prevented, at least much lessen'd and diminished, but above all the People of *Great-Britain* will see how many great and valuable Articles in Trade, Merchandize, and Manufactures we send them, that they Work up and Manufacture to the highest Perfection, and obtain great Gain thereby, and send them abroad so manufactured, and even some of them back again to ourselves, and we see thereby many more Articles that we take from them, not only of their own Produce and Manufactures,

tures, but that they obtain by their Trade and Commerce with other Countries, and by which they have great Emoluments and Benefit; by all these Articles and the constant drain of our Absentees, I am very sure *Great-Britain* gains by *Ireland* above Two Million Yearly.

I WOULD not by any means be understood to repine at, or envy the People of *Britain*, the great Benefit that accrues to them by *Ireland*, or be the means of stirring up any Jealousy in the People of *Ireland*, there is no Man on Earth has a greater Respect and Regard for the present Royal Family than I have, under whom alone, I am certain this Country as well as *Great-Britain* can only be happy and free, nor has a higher Sense of the Benefits *Ireland* has formerly received, and now enjoys by the Protection of *England*, a Protection and Support, which has in Times past cost her a great deal of Blood and Treasure.

BUT I should hope from these Considerations, the Legislature and People of *Great-Britain* would think we deserve the Favour of having our Trade in some Measure enlarged, and the Indulgence of permitting us a free Exportation of some of our Course and low priced Woollen Goods, and the more so as they have been in a great Measure beat out of that Trade by other Countries; which I am sure if they would coolly and dispassionately consider, must in the End turn out instead of an Injury a great Advantage to them, as what ever Profit or Riches may accrue to *Ireland* thereby, would most certainly at long run center in *England*, either by means of our Absentees, or enabling us case of a War, the more effectually to assist *Great-Britain*.

INDEED I was inclined to set forth in these Tables the Exports and Imports for the Years ending the 25th of *March*, 1766 and 1767, but I found

found there was very little Enfight or Occasion for it, as they were pretty much the same as the Two former Years, except in the Articles of Wine and Spirits, which have greatly encreased, and all the Observations and Reasoning would as justly hold, and may be made on the Two former Years.

BEFORE I enter further upon this Head, of the Countries we trade with to most Advantage or Disadvantage;

I SHALL lay down the following Rules, as a Foundation to judge by.

FIRST. THAT is the most advantageous Trade, which takes off the greatest Quantity of the Produce of a Country, and especially of it's Manufactures, and which Imports fewest Commodities, and those capable of farther Improvement; in which Case there will be the greatest Return in Specie to make up the Ballance.

SECOND. On the contrary, that is the most disadvantageous Trade, which takes off the smallest Quantity of the Produce of a Country, and that unmanufactured, and in return Imports the greatest Quantity of Commodities for Luxury, and fully wrought up, in which Case the Imports will most exceed the Exports in Value.

ACCORDING to this Rule we shall find the Trade of *England* of great Importance to us, since it takes off upwards of £1,659,000, which is nearly equal to two thirds of all our Exports, and amongst the rest the greatest Part of our Linen Manufacture.

BUT at the same Time we must observe, that it falls under the second Rule of being disadvantageous to us, in taking from us many Commodities quite raw and unmanufactured, and others not near half worked, to that Height or Pitch they do, and we might bring them too, to their great Profit

Profit and Advantage, and our Loss, viz. raw Wool, untann'd Hides 33,600, Tallow 388,000 Ct. Linen Yarn 31,715 Ct. Woollen Yarn 13,450 Stones, and Worsted 149,900 Stones and many other Articles, and again we take of several of their Commodities, either for Luxury or that we could Manufacture ourselves.

As Beer and Ale near 30,000 Barrels, Bottles 44,000 Dozen, Coles if we consider the Quantities imported in Creeks and Havens not entered in the *Custom-House* upward of 230,000 Tun, Barley 48,000 Barrels, large Quantities of new and old Drapery, great Quantities of Earthen Ware, and to our Shame above 23,000 Barrels of Herrings, two thirds of which come from *England*, and one from *Holland*, near 30,000 Yards of Bone Lace, upwards of 180,000 Yards of Kentings, 900,000 Yards of Muslin, above 18,000 of Linen, Cotton, and Silk, *British* Manufacture; Silk Manufactures, and several Articles of Tobacco, Sugar, Rum, and *East-India* Goods to a great Amount.

OUR Trade to *Spain*, *Portugat*, and the *Mediterranean* is very beneficial to us, as they take from us many Articles of the Produce of own Country, and otherwise manufactured, and in return we have large Remittances in Specie; for instance, we send to *Spain* great Quantities of Butter, Salmon, upwards of 98,000 tann'd Hides, some Pork, upwards of 10,000 pair of Shoes; indeed we have from them Wine, Juice of Liquorish, a great Quantity which we could raise here.

Holland and *Flanders* take from us some Butter, untann'd Hides, and upwards of 2,200 Quarters of Rape-seed, some Tallow; and send us upwards of 30,000 Gallons of Linseed Oyl, Linen, Paper, some Rum, Earthen-Ware, Herrings, Flax, and

and a great Quantity of Cambrick, for though we have exported in one Year upwards of 10,000 Yards of our own Manufacture, yet we have the same Year imported upwards of 136,000 Yards of that same Commodity, some from *England*, but chiefly from *Holland*, which shew how far that Manufacture falls short of our own Consumption, so that upon the whole, its difficult to say how the Ballance stands with respect to our Trade to *Holland* and *Flanders*, but it is clear we could manufacture higher, some of our Exports to that Country, and manufacture ourselves most of the Imports; so that in this Light we may judge it to be a disadvantageous Trade to us.

WE send to *Hamburg*, *Norway*, and the *Baltick*, but very few Articles; and we have many Things from thence, principally Deal Boards, Timber of all Sorts, Iron, near 24,000 Hundred of undressed Hemp, and several other Articles of Naval Stores, which we cannot be without, or supply ourselves cheaper elsewhere, here we must be content with the Ballance of Trade being against us, as we have an Advantage by it another way.

OUR Trade to *France* is extensive, we send them Beef, (but not so much as we did formerly, for our own Plantations takes from us now the greatest Quantity, which is considered as a very happy Circumstance) untann'd Hides, and some other Articles, but we take from thence, immense Quantities of Wines and Brandy, and if we make Allowance for great Quantities of Spirits, Silk Manufacture, and some other expensive Articles clandestinely Imported from thence, we shall find I am sure a considerable Ballance against us, as appears plainly from a constant Course of Exchange in Favour of *France*.

MANY

MANY are of an Opinion that the *French* Trade is very detrimental to this Country: 1st. Because our Importations from thence consist principally of Wine and Brandy, which are Materials for Luxury, and not for Use: 2dly, Because the *French* will take no Manufacture from us, not even a tann'd Hide, nor any other Produce of our Country but what is useful for their Manufactures at home, or necessary for the Support of their *American* Plantations abroad; indeed there is great Truth in these Observations, and more so now than formerly; for it appears by the *Custom-House* Books some Time ago, they took great Quantities of Butter and Tallow from us, now very little, and less Beef than formerly; but we should consider we have been long used to the drinking their Wines, and in all likelihood will not fail to continue the Use of them, especially as the *Portuguese* have treated us so very ill lately in many particulars, that we cannot have Wines so cheap from other Countries, and that the Duty laid thereon, is a great Support to our Establishment, it could be wished indeed, that proper Representations were made to the *French*, that we shew them great Favour in this particular, and that instead of raising the Price of Wine upon us, as they have done of late years, they should rather lower it.

THE Trade to the Plantations is a new one, and ought greatly to be encouraged, and if we were permitted to Trade directly there, it would be much more advantageous to us, and in the End I am certain to *Great-Britain*, for the Delay and Expence of being obliged to touch in some Part of *Great-Britain* upon many Occasions is very great, they take from us now a great Quantity of our Beef,

Beef, Butter, Pork, Linen, and other Articles, and we get from them, through *Great-Britain*, Tobacco, Sugars, Rum, to a great Amount, and many Particulars mentioned in the above Tables, ; in Truth this Trade is greatly beneficial to us, not only as it takes off a great Share of the Produce of our Country, which formerly in a great Measure we were obliged to the Courtesy of *France* for, but it adds greatly by the Shipping made use of in it to the Naval Strength of *Great-Britain*.

3dly, I shall now consider the great Benefit which accrues to *England* by the Trade of *Ireland*, and how much it is its Interest to encourage it, which I shall endeavour to make appear in these Particulars.

1st, It appears from the *Custom-House* Books, that the Value of our Importations from all Countries at a Medium, yearly for the last Seven Years, ending the 25th of *March*, 1766, amounts to 1,936,587*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* and that the Imports from *Great-Britain* alone, amount to 1,346,432*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* which is near three Parts in four of our whole Imports, and they consist chiefly of Woollen and Silken Manufactures, Coffee, Tea, Callicoes, Muslins, Tobacco, Rum, Sugar, Coals, Hops, Bark, Iron-Ware, and Glass-Ware, and Beer, &c. all which are Commodities worked up to the Height, and I believe that upon Examination, it will be found that we take off a much greater Quantity of the several Manufactures of *England*, except their Woollen, than any other Country in *Europe*.

2dly, WHEREAS 'tis commonly judged, that the Importation of Foreign Goods is a Loss to the Nation that receives them; since otherwise Bullion would be returned in Lieu thereof; we shall find on the contrary, that *England* receives a vast Benefit

fit by most of the Goods we send them, as appears by what has been said above, and that Benefit would otherwise accrue to *Ireland*, and this more particularly in the Wool, Woollen-Yarn, and Worstedes, and also in the Raw Hides, Tallow, and Linen-Yarn.

3dly, It has been said before, that not above one Sixth of the Tunage of Shipping employed yearly in the Trade of *Ireland*, belonged to the *Irish*, the other Five to the *English* and *Scotch*; and a very considerable Profit arises on this Article, many compute upwards of 80,000*l.* Yearly.

4thly, To all these Advantages, we are to add the greatest of all, which arises from our Lords and Gentlemen of Estates and Employments, living and spending their Incomes Abroad, to the Value of upwards of a Million yearly, whereof the greatest Part is consumed in *England*, and may be reckoned as so much clear Gain to it, without the least Value returned for the same.

THIS plainly appears from the List of Absentees, hereunto prefixed, wherein the Names of the Persons, and the yearly Value of their Estates, Employments, and Pensions spent abroad, are particularly mentioned, and for this Reason, because it would be impossible to convince the World, that so much of our Substance is carried off by this Channel, by any other Method, than by pointing out the Persons to whom, and the Estates from whence those Drains are made; but now every one, on examining the Particulars contained in the said List, which have been collected with great Pains into one View, may satisfy himself, whether they are truly set forth or not, 'tis but enquiring whether such and such Persons do not generally live

live abroad, or were out of the Kingdom, at the Time mentioned; and whether they have not Estates or Employments to the Value set forth, and spend the same abroad; and I am confident, that tho' in some few Particulars, I might be misinformed, and over-rate some Articles, yet it will be found, that I have under-rated others much more, having it always in my Intention, to be rather under, than over; and that I have omitted several, which will occur upon reading, to every one's Observation, and that upon the whole, those Drains we labour under, are much more than I have estimated them.

AND notwithstanding *Ireland* has parted with all its Substance, and reduced itself to the greatest Poverty, to enrich England, yet there are some *Englishmen*, who being ignorant of the Case of *Ireland*, and of the Advantages it brings to them, upon all Occasions represent us, as having Interests incompatible with theirs, and carrying on Trades, destructive of the *English* Commerce; whereas 'tis evident to all, considering impartial Persons, that there is no Country in *Europe*, that brings so much Profit to another, as *Ireland* does to *England*, and therefore 'tis the real Interest and Policy of *England* to cherish, and encourage this her youngest Sister, all whose Acquisitions are sure to flow into her Bosom, for tho' our People were more fully employed, and our Exports enlarged, tho' our gains from other Nations by a greater Liberty of Trade should be much more considerable than they are, yet we should not thereby be one Jot the richer, since no Part of this Wealth would stay with us, but would run off in the great Drain of Remittances to our Absentees to enrich *England*.

THE necessary and luxurious Importations of *England* are excessive.

Table 3.

Continued.

Denominations.			Great-Britain.	East Country.	Holland and Flanders.	France.	Spain and Portugal.	Plantations.	Totals.
1764	Silk	Manufacture	lb. oz.	23099 3 $\frac{1}{2}$			410	2 12	23511 15 $\frac{1}{2}$
1765		Ditto	lb. oz.	21576 14	1 6	4 10			21582 14
		Raw	lb. oz.	35832 8					36581 16
		Ditto	lb. oz.	51275 2			749 8		54655 18
		Thrown dyed	lb. oz.	519 14			3380 16		519 14
		Ditto	lb. oz.	7 8					7 8
		Thrown undyed	lb. oz.	29112 14					29582 14
		Ditto	lb. oz.	42301			470		46189
		Brandy	Gallons	9		25505 $\frac{1}{10}$	3888		657037 $\frac{4}{10}$
		Ditto	Gallons	117 $\frac{1}{2}$		286 $\frac{1}{2}$	4937 $\frac{1}{2}$		757105 $\frac{3}{10}$
	Spirits	Geneva	Gallons		1512 $\frac{6}{10}$	170656 $\frac{6}{10}$	739864 $\frac{1}{10}$	16826 $\frac{1}{2}$	172169 $\frac{2}{10}$
		Ditto	Gallons		153 $\frac{6}{10}$	152816 $\frac{1}{2}$	500		153470 $\frac{1}{10}$
		Rum	Gallons	459432 $\frac{8}{10}$					913120 $\frac{8}{10}$
		Ditto	Gallons	894760 $\frac{8}{10}$				453688	1230840
								336079 $\frac{2}{10}$	46 21
	Starch	C. qrs. lb.			46 21				94 2 14
	Ditto	C. qrs. lb.		7 1 21	87 21				3022 2 14
	Steel	C. qrs. lb.	1101 2 7	20 3 21	1900 14				1958 1 14
	Ditto	C. qrs. lb.	757 2 14	11 3	1189				204891 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Tea	Pounds	204891 $\frac{1}{2}$						236908 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Pounds	236908 $\frac{1}{2}$						5725777
	Tobacco	Pounds	5725777						4431801 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Pounds	4431801 $\frac{1}{2}$						9036
	Bees Wax	Pounds	8616		420				3097
	Ditto	Pounds	426		20		635	2016	3762 2 47 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Wine	French	T. H. G.	15		51 3 52 $\frac{1}{2}$	3664 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	29 3 52 $\frac{1}{2}$	4968 3 31 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Ditto	T. H. G.	2	1 2	20 42	4941 52 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	923 2 31 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Port	T. H. G.	9 2 31 $\frac{1}{2}$				903 31 $\frac{1}{2}$	1448 1 21
		Ditto	T. H. G.	12 1				1404 3 31 $\frac{1}{2}$	80 2 31 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Rhenish	T. H. G.	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 3 31 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 2 31 $\frac{1}{2}$			58 2 17 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Ditto	T. H. G.	1 21	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	56 49			445 42
		Spanish	T. H. G.	31 $\frac{1}{2}$		2 1 21	3 2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	435 3 42	576 38 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Ditto	T. H. G.	3 3 31 $\frac{1}{2}$		1 3 52 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 7	568 3 21	1739 2 21
	Wool	Cotton	C. qrs. lb.	527 2 21			33 3 21	1178 7	2868 2 21
		Ditto	C. qrs. lb.	1716 2			40	1112 21	622 2
		Spanish	C. qrs. lb.	532 2 7			2 7	87 3 14	333 1 7
		Ditto	C. qrs. lb.	141 3 21				191 1 14	8386 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Cotton	Pounds	8386 $\frac{1}{2}$					15430
	Yarn	Ditto	Pounds	15430					6669
		Linen	Pounds	6669		590			4598
		Ditto	Pounds	4598	1188	256			31608
		Mohair	Pounds	31608					35831 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Ditto	Pounds	35831 $\frac{1}{2}$					718
		Worsted	Pounds	718					735 $\frac{3}{4}$
	Ditto	Pounds	735 $\frac{3}{4}$						

Note. The first Line of each Commodity relates to the Year 1764, the second to 1765.

Table 1.

Year ending 25th of March.	An Account of the Value of the Exports and Imports of <i>Ireland</i> for seven Years, ending the 25th of <i>March</i> , 1766.						What the Exports exceed the Im- ports to all Coun- tries during that Time, or the Ba- lance of Trade in favour of <i>Ireland</i> .			An Account of the Value of the Exports and Imports from <i>Great- Britain</i> to <i>Ireland</i> for seven Years, ending the 25th of <i>March</i> , 1766.						What the Exports exceed the Im- ports to <i>Great- Britain</i> during that Time, or the Balance of Trade in favour of <i>Ire- land</i> .		
	EXPORTS.			IMPORTS.						EXPORTS.			IMPORTS.					
	<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>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1760	21393	88	1 0	16475	92	1 3	4917	95	19 9	14507	57	8 6	10947	52	12 11	35600	4 15	7
1761	22449	51	17 10	15279	03	2 2	7170	48	15 8	14944	99	8 2	10969	89	9 2	39750	9 19	0
1762	24389	26	2 0	19147	98	6 11	5241	27	15 1	16492	95	4 5	13383	25	8 9	31096	9 15	8
1763	22799	26	4 5	18184	33	6 4	4614	92	18 1	15624	00	9 11	12848	91	2 8	27750	9 7	3
1764	25952	29	5 4	22162	74	7 10	3789	54	17 6	16821	96	2 3	15676	83	1 1	11451	3 1	2
1765	24920	64	18 1	21398	10	7 1	3522	54	11 0	16931	97	5 6	14399	69	4 8	25322	8 0	10
1766	27944	81	6 9	22913	00	7 2	5031	80	19 7	28831	08	3 9	16024	13	5 7	48069	4 18	2
Totals.	16984	967 15 5		13556	111 18 9		34288	55 16 8		11615	454 2 6		94250	24 4 10		21904	29 17 8	

At a Medium for above Seven Years :

<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>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
24264	23	19 4	19365	87	8 4	48983	36	10 11	16593	50	11 9	13464	32	0 8	31291	8 11	1

N. B. It appears that the supposed Balance in favour of *Ireland* is greatly lessened, if not overbalanced, by the clandestine Importation and running of Brandies, Rum, Tobacco, Teas, and other Goods, and taking in some other Articles not mentioned in the Custom-house Books; but even admitting the Balance, if you take into Consideration the great Drain by the Absentees, the Balance is against *Ireland* upwards of 600,000*l.*

As Account of
Imports and Exports
from 1760 to 1766

EXPORTS

Year	ending	2 nd of	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760
1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761
1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762
1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763
1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764
1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765
1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766
																Total

Y. 1760 to 1766

Year	ending	2 nd of	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760	1760
1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761
1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762
1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763
1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764
1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765	1765
1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766	1766
																Total

M. B. R. appears that
the balance is

Table 2.

An ABSTRACT of Part of the EXPORTS of IRELAND, ending the 25th of March.

	Denominations.		Great-Britain.	East Country.	Holland and Flanders.	France.	Spain and Portugal.	Plantations.	Totals.
1764	Beef Barrels	No.	5857	4260 $\frac{3}{8}$	12678	72353	16452 $\frac{7}{8}$	106618 $\frac{3}{8}$	2 8220 $\frac{1}{4}$
1765	Ditto	No.	20108	1700 $\frac{3}{8}$	10362 $\frac{1}{2}$	86047	17680 $\frac{7}{8}$	6410 $\frac{1}{2}$	199993 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Butter	C. qrs. lb.	6076 $\frac{1}{2}$	97266 $\frac{1}{2}$	39419 3 14	19105 1 7	47057 2 7	49050 2 14	257976 1 14
	Ditto	C. qrs. lb.	38026 3 7	98535 1 21	52251 1 14	26413 2 7	50084 2	35797 1 7	301109
	Cheese	C. qrs. lb.	27 3	422 3	102 2	63 3 21	1496 1 14	1352 3 21	3466 1
	Ditto	C. qrs. lb.	59 1 7	626 2	53 21	538 1 14	1439 2 7	1210 1 21	3927 1 14
	Hake	C. qrs. No.			3		6088 20	53	6144 20
	Ditto	C. qrs. No.			3	20	3930		3950 3
	Herrings	Barrels			1	3	282 $\frac{1}{2}$	5167 $\frac{1}{2}$	5454
	Ditto	Barrels	3		33		704	3294	4034
	Ling	C. qrs. No.			2 1 20		9 15	43 20	54 2 25
	Ditto	C. qrs. No.	2 3	15	1 10		12 2 10	26 3 5	42 2 10
	Salmon	Tuns, Trs.		2 $\frac{5}{8}$	2 5	3 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	334 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	362 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Tuns, Trs.	1		25 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	417 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	41 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	503 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ox	C. qrs. No.	303		5	85 2 20	10		403 2 20
	Ditto	C. qrs. No.	279		8	130		7	424
	Tips	C. qrs. No.		704					704
	Ditto	C. qrs. No.		745					745
	Tanned	No.	492	608 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	1000	96102	24	98232 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	No.	499 $\frac{1}{2}$	538	155		43243	34	44469 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Untanned	No.	33038	2715	16027	10282	3518		65580
	Ditto	No.	34960	2699	12040	12166	1		61866
	Kelp	Tuns	954 $\frac{1}{2}$		17			50	1021 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Tuns	1444 $\frac{3}{8}$						1444 $\frac{3}{8}$
	Cambrick	Yards	4085						4085
	Ditto	Yards	10332						10332
	Cloth	Yards	14823480	21047	4662	483	68081	283328 $\frac{1}{2}$	15201081 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Yards	13997014 $\frac{1}{2}$	16617	6432		36608 $\frac{1}{2}$	298533	14355205
	Oat	Barrels	13453	326 $\frac{1}{2}$	2		14 $\frac{3}{4}$	907 $\frac{1}{2}$	14703 $\frac{3}{8}$
	Ditto	Barrels	12747 $\frac{1}{2}$	3995		3	68 $\frac{1}{2}$	854	17668
	Ox Bones	M.	37		251 $\frac{1}{2}$	4			292 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	M.	62		201				263
1764	Guts	Barrels					421		421
	Oyl Rape	T. H. G.		61 2 42		16			77 2 42
	Ditto	T. H. G.			45				45
	Pork	Barrels	941 $\frac{1}{2}$	417 $\frac{3}{8}$	1875 $\frac{1}{4}$	334 $\frac{5}{8}$	4870 $\frac{3}{8}$	26567	35006 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Barrels	7383 $\frac{1}{2}$	324	1121 $\frac{1}{2}$	1142 $\frac{1}{2}$	3696 $\frac{1}{8}$	30693 $\frac{1}{2}$	44361 $\frac{5}{8}$
	Rapefeed	Qrs. Bush.			2269 4				2269 4
	Ditto	Qrs. Bush.			230 4				230 4
	Salt	Bush.	860	3476				120	4456
1765	Ditto	Bush.	708	2004				45	2757
	Shoes	lb.	28		478		4985	4564	10055
	Ditto	lb.	603	3	1103		2750	296	4755
	Skins Calf	Doz. No.	10937 8	706 11	6		390	33 6	12074 1
	Ditto	Doz. No.	12334 1	1684 6	200		432 8	17	14668 3
	Soap	C. qrs. lb.	672 2	308 2 14	277 21	23 1 14	543 2 14	1368 3	3194 7
	Ditto	C. qrs. lb.	440 1 21	234 1 14	31 3 7	23 14	189 1 14	548 2 7	1477 2 21
	Starch	C. qrs. lb.	38 1 7			4	75 3 14		118 21
	Ditto	C. qrs. lb.	33 3	22 1			47		103
	Tallow	C. qrs. lb.	36308 1 21	627 1	8911 2 21	3300 7	631 1	722 2 21	50501 1 14
	Ditto	C. qrs. lb.	38858 1 7	34 2	10513 21	2277 2 7	566 21	457 7	52706 3 7
	Tongues	Doz. No.	219	25	154	662 6	487	4574	6121 6
	Ditto	Doz. No.	736 2	18	290	902 3	472	2973 6	5391 11
	Wool	Stones	10128 6						10128 6
	Ditto	Stones	17316						17316
	Linen	C. qrs. lb.	31715 1 25						31715 1 25
	Ditto	C. qrs. lb.	26127						26127
	Woollen	St. lb.	9991 14						9991 14
	Ditto	St. lb.	13450 12						13450 12
	Worsted	St. lb.	139412 12						139412 12
	Ditto	St. lb.	149915 9						149915 9

Note. The first Line of each Commodity relates to the Year 1764, the second to 1765.

ABSTRACT OF PART OF THE

Year	Item	Quantity	Value
1857	Beef	100	25.00
1858	Ditto	100	20.00
1859	Butter	100	10.00
1860	Ditto	100	10.00
1861	Cheese	100	10.00
1862	Ditto	100	10.00
1863	Wheat	100	10.00
1864	Corn	100	10.00
1865	Barley	100	10.00
1866	Ditto	100	10.00
1867	Flour	100	10.00
1868	Ditto	100	10.00
1869	Wheat	100	10.00
1870	Corn	100	10.00
1871	Barley	100	10.00
1872	Ditto	100	10.00
1873	Flour	100	10.00
1874	Ditto	100	10.00
1875	Wheat	100	10.00
1876	Corn	100	10.00
1877	Barley	100	10.00
1878	Ditto	100	10.00
1879	Flour	100	10.00
1880	Ditto	100	10.00
1881	Wheat	100	10.00
1882	Corn	100	10.00
1883	Barley	100	10.00
1884	Ditto	100	10.00
1885	Flour	100	10.00
1886	Ditto	100	10.00
1887	Wheat	100	10.00
1888	Corn	100	10.00
1889	Barley	100	10.00
1890	Ditto	100	10.00
1891	Flour	100	10.00
1892	Ditto	100	10.00
1893	Wheat	100	10.00
1894	Corn	100	10.00
1895	Barley	100	10.00
1896	Ditto	100	10.00
1897	Flour	100	10.00
1898	Ditto	100	10.00
1899	Wheat	100	10.00
1900	Corn	100	10.00
1901	Barley	100	10.00
1902	Ditto	100	10.00
1903	Flour	100	10.00
1904	Ditto	100	10.00
1905	Wheat	100	10.00
1906	Corn	100	10.00
1907	Barley	100	10.00
1908	Ditto	100	10.00
1909	Flour	100	10.00
1910	Ditto	100	10.00
1911	Wheat	100	10.00
1912	Corn	100	10.00
1913	Barley	100	10.00
1914	Ditto	100	10.00
1915	Flour	100	10.00
1916	Ditto	100	10.00
1917	Wheat	100	10.00
1918	Corn	100	10.00
1919	Barley	100	10.00
1920	Ditto	100	10.00
1921	Flour	100	10.00
1922	Ditto	100	10.00
1923	Wheat	100	10.00
1924	Corn	100	10.00
1925	Barley	100	10.00
1926	Ditto	100	10.00
1927	Flour	100	10.00
1928	Ditto	100	10.00
1929	Wheat	100	10.00
1930	Corn	100	10.00
1931	Barley	100	10.00
1932	Ditto	100	10.00
1933	Flour	100	10.00
1934	Ditto	100	10.00
1935	Wheat	100	10.00
1936	Corn	100	10.00
1937	Barley	100	10.00
1938	Ditto	100	10.00
1939	Flour	100	10.00
1940	Ditto	100	10.00
1941	Wheat	100	10.00
1942	Corn	100	10.00
1943	Barley	100	10.00
1944	Ditto	100	10.00
1945	Flour	100	10.00
1946	Ditto	100	10.00
1947	Wheat	100	10.00
1948	Corn	100	10.00
1949	Barley	100	10.00
1950	Ditto	100	10.00
1951	Flour	100	10.00
1952	Ditto	100	10.00
1953	Wheat	100	10.00
1954	Corn	100	10.00
1955	Barley	100	10.00
1956	Ditto	100	10.00
1957	Flour	100	10.00
1958	Ditto	100	10.00
1959	Wheat	100	10.00
1960	Corn	100	10.00
1961	Barley	100	10.00
1962	Ditto	100	10.00
1963	Flour	100	10.00
1964	Ditto	100	10.00
1965	Wheat	100	10.00
1966	Corn	100	10.00
1967	Barley	100	10.00
1968	Ditto	100	10.00
1969	Flour	100	10.00
1970	Ditto	100	10.00
1971	Wheat	100	10.00
1972	Corn	100	10.00
1973	Barley	100	10.00
1974	Ditto	100	10.00
1975	Flour	100	10.00
1976	Ditto	100	10.00
1977	Wheat	100	10.00
1978	Corn	100	10.00
1979	Barley	100	10.00
1980	Ditto	100	10.00
1981	Flour	100	10.00
1982	Ditto	100	10.00
1983	Wheat	100	10.00
1984	Corn	100	10.00
1985	Barley	100	10.00
1986	Ditto	100	10.00
1987	Flour	100	10.00
1988	Ditto	100	10.00
1989	Wheat	100	10.00
1990	Corn	100	10.00
1991	Barley	100	10.00
1992	Ditto	100	10.00
1993	Flour	100	10.00
1994	Ditto	100	10.00
1995	Wheat	100	10.00
1996	Corn	100	10.00
1997	Barley	100	10.00
1998	Ditto	100	10.00
1999	Flour	100	10.00
2000	Ditto	100	10.00

TABLE III.

An ABSTRACT of Part of the IMPORTATIONS of IRELAND, ending
25th March.

	Denominations.		Great-Britain.	East Country.	Holland and Flanders.	France.	Spain and Portugal.	Plantations.	Totals.
1764	Ale	Barrels	2353 $\frac{1}{2}$						2353 $\frac{1}{2}$
1765	Ditto	Barrels	2671 $\frac{1}{2}$						2671 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Arms	Value	2149 9 9		16		32 6		2197 15 9
	Ditto	Value	1183 17 11		3	15	10 2	5 5	1202 19 11
	Bark	Barrels	75299	480	6237 $\frac{1}{2}$				82016 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Barrels	69843	254	1575	150		4	71826
	Beads of Glafs	Pounds	5		4228				4233
	Ditto	Pounds	355		5745				6100
	Bullion Silver	Ounces	21710 $\frac{1}{4}$	192		42			21944 $\frac{1}{4}$
	Ditto Ditto	Ounces	22366 $\frac{1}{2}$		139 $\frac{1}{2}$	33		428	22966 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Bottles of Glafs	Dozens	42560						42560
	Ditto	Dozens	43942 $\frac{1}{2}$						43942 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Cards Wool	Doz. Pairs	751 6						751 6
	Ditto	Doz. Pairs	866						866
	Cheefe	C. q. lb.	1935 1 7		5 21	14	4 3 14		1945 2
	Ditto	C. q. lb.	1550 3 14		3	2 7	7		1561 1 21
	Coaches and Chariots, &c.	Value	2936						2936
	Ditto	Value	2446 8						2446 8
	Coals	Tuns	161970 $\frac{7}{8}$						161970 $\frac{7}{8}$
	Ditto	Tuns	185927 $\frac{1}{2}$						185927 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Beer	Barrels	26467 $\frac{1}{8}$			115			26582 $\frac{1}{8}$
	Ditto	Barrels	25116 $\frac{1}{4}$						25116 $\frac{1}{4}$
	Barley and Malt	Quarters	31587 $\frac{1}{8}$						31587 $\frac{1}{8}$
	Ditto	Quarters	48574		280				48854
	Wheat	Quarters	25763 $\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$				25763 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Quarters	7363 $\frac{1}{2}$	1328	120	666		1051 $\frac{1}{4}$	10529 $\frac{1}{2}$
	New	Yards	248062 $\frac{1}{2}$						248062 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Yards	239359 $\frac{1}{2}$	6					239365 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Old	Yards	220820 $\frac{1}{2}$		7 $\frac{1}{2}$				220828 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Yards	176161 $\frac{1}{2}$						176161 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Shag	Yards	763						763
	Ditto	Yards	17						17
	Allom	C. q. lb.	3095 21				18		3113 21
	Ditto	C. q. lb.	3781 2 14				50		3831 2 14
	Madder	C. q. lb.	161 21		2820 3				2981 3 21
	Ditto	C. q. lb.	12 2		2686 1 14	3 3			2702 2 14
	Smalts	Pounds	340	770	101323				102433
	Ditto	Pounds	3068		74627				77695
	Earthen Ware	Value	11316 17 2		1050 10 10	418 12	40		12826
	Ditto	Value	11077 19 2	56 1 3	1125 16 3	291 5	11 2		12562 2 8
	Herrings	Barrels	14932 $\frac{1}{2}$	8661	$\frac{1}{4}$				23594 $\frac{1}{4}$
	Ditto	Barrels	14587 $\frac{1}{2}$	17030					31617 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Dressed	C. q. lb.	57 3		2 1 14				60 14
	Ditto	C. q. lb.	32 21		1 2				33 2 21
	Undressed	C. q. lb.	32395 14	12742 21	7447 2		1286		53870 3 7
	Ditto	C. q. lb.	6130 2 2	3048 3	3691 3 21				12871 1 14
	Fustians	Ends	13018						13018
	Ditto	Ends	11953 $\frac{1}{2}$						11953 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Drinking Glasses	No.	190669						190669
	Ditto	No.	245629						245629

Houses of the Oireachtas

TABLE III.

CONTINUED.

	Denominations.		Great-Britain.	East Country.	Holland and Flanders.	France.	Spain and Portugal.	Plantations.	Totals.
1764	Glas Vials	No.	43536						43536
1765	Ditto	No.	281179						281179
	Glas Ware	Value	4306 3 4	19	329 1 5	4			4640 3 9
	Ditto	Value	4122 6 1½		214 6 6		1 2 9		4337 15 4½
	Gloves	Pairs	262			4760	480		5502
	Ditto	Pairs	412		71	5747	240		6470
	Liquorish	C. q. lb.	390 2 14		12 3 14	18	20		441 2
	Ditto	C. q. lb.	311 1			2	24 2		336 1
	Succus Liquoritæ	Pounds			91967	8500	46248		146724
	Ditto	Pounds			26570	9992	85756		122318
	{ Candy	C. q. lb.	67						67
	{ Ditto	C. q. lb.	44 2 21						44 2 21
	{ Loaf	C. q. lb.	1422 3				1 7		1423 7
	{ Ditto	C. q. lb.	902	1 3					903 3
	{ Muscovado	C. q. lb.	152605 2 21				13218 3 7	1186 2	167011
	{ Ditto	C. q. lb.	125986 2 14				3344 1	3	129331
	{ White	C. q. lb.	5813 7				4		5817 7
	{ Ditto	C. q. lb.	1557 3				3 14		1558 2 14
	Gold and Silver Twist	Ounces	586½						586½
	Ditto	Ounces	617						617
	Gold and Silver Thread	L. oz.	2102 6½						2102 6½
	Ditto	L. oz.	2310 10½						2310 10½
	Hair Goats	Pounds	8273				446		8719
	Ditto	Pounds	11497						11497
	Hats	No.	1292						1292
	Ditto	No.	1012			2			1014
	Hemp undressed	C. q. lb.	3016 1 7	10041 3 21	128 1 21		1 2		13195 21
	Ditto	C. q. lb.	6441 3 14	17345 1 7	164 1 14				23951 2 7
	Hops	C. q. lb.	20355 1 7						20355 1 7
	Ditto	C. q. lb.	11797						11797
	Hard-ware	Value	10021 16 ½	8	15 5 6	7 15	1 12		10046 16 6½
	Ditto	Value	11954 10 7¼	6	3 19 10	15			11959 11 5¼
	{ Iron	C. q. lb.	29187 3	69621	8506 2 7	1164 3 21	240	1229 1 14	109949 2 14
	{ Ditto	C. q. lb.	34325 14	71888 3 21	5824 1 7	2042 1	606	2784 2 14	117471 1
	{ Knives	No.	378321						378321
	{ Ditto	No.	407234						407234
	{ Razors	No.	12804						12804
	{ Ditto	No.	13792						13792
	{ Scythes	Dozens	4418						4418
	{ Ditto	Dozens	3950						3950
	{ Gold and Silver	L. oz.	177 4½						177 4½
	{ Ditto	L. oz.	55 9						55 9
	{ Thread Bone	Yards	11795		475	408			12678
	{ Ditto	Yards	19394½			349			19743½
	White Lead	C. q. lb.	930 2 21		129 14				1119 3 7
	Ditto	C. q. lb.	1121 1 7		77				1198 1 7
	Lime, Lemon and Orange Juice Gall.		2406½				12877½	243	15527½
	Ditto	Gallons					29723½		29723½

Houses of the Oireachtas

Table 3.

Continued.

	Denominations.		Great-Britain.	East Country.	Holland and Flanders.	France.	Spain and Portugal.	Plantations.	Totals.
1764	British	Yards	13166						13166
1765	Ditto	Yards	11629						11629
	Cambrick	Yards	49442 $\frac{1}{2}$		11177 $\frac{1}{2}$	75529 $\frac{1}{2}$			136149 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Yards	58273 $\frac{1}{2}$		1033	64852 $\frac{1}{2}$			124159 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Canvas	Yards	38546 $\frac{1}{2}$	360					38906 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Yards	29389					12	29401
	Coloured	Yards	21067 $\frac{1}{2}$		60	12			21139 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Yards	6899 $\frac{1}{2}$						6899 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Linen	Napkenning	1844	72					1916
		Ditto	1072	30					1102
		Tabling	3566 $\frac{1}{2}$	91					3657 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Ditto	1840	139	10				1989
		Hamborough	278	2916	9 $\frac{1}{2}$				3203 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Ells	1085	96	1605				2786
	Kentings	Yards	189002						189002
	Ditto	Yards	175765 $\frac{1}{2}$						175765 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Muslin	Yards	90247						90247
	Ditto	Yards	69338 $\frac{1}{2}$						69338 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Linfeed	Hogsheds	511 $\frac{1}{2}$	250	5976 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$		25422 $\frac{1}{2}$	32168 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Hogsheds	230	173 $\frac{1}{2}$	6587	333		20446	27769 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Linen & Cotton & Silk British Manufacture		Value 18858 7 9						18858 7 9
	Ditto	Value	18029 15 1	8					18037 15 1
	Meal	Flour C. qrs. lb.	107270 3 21			512 1 7		426	108209 1 0
		Ditto C. qrs. lb.	48097 3					19312 21	67409 3 21
		Wheat Barrels	1136 $\frac{1}{2}$						1136 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Barrels	46						46
	Millinary Ware		Value 17309 11		78 10 7	856 15 1	218 6 3		18463 2 11
	Ditto	Value	14374 5 4		12 18 5	321 18 3	28 3 9		14737 5 9
	Oyl	Linfeed Gallons	317		23843				24160
		Ditto Gallons	110	252	31324 $\frac{1}{2}$				31686 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Train Gallons	15531	13121	630	250		15882 $\frac{1}{2}$	45414 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Ditto Gallons	22979	9163 $\frac{1}{2}$	116			9760 $\frac{1}{2}$	45019 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Paper	Prefling Leaves	48340						48340
		Ditto Leaves	46555						46555
		Printing Reams	2229		6672	17909	600		27410
		Ditto Reams	2694		5962	25694			34350
		Writing Reams	98		10095	990			11183
	Ditto	Reams	365 $\frac{1}{2}$		7783	1199			9347 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Pafte-Boards		No. 11794		6767				18561
	Ditto	No.	21020		2950				23970
	Pot-Ashes	C. qrs. lb.	3578 2 21	8279 2 21	7989 2 14	239 3	2470		22557 3 0
	Ditto	C. qrs. lb.	2061 1 21	20864 2 14	723 3 14	30	7025 2 0		30705 1 21
	Salt	Foreign Bushels		500		2762	224854	56	228172
		Ditto Bushels	5100			9156	353010		367266
		Rock Tuns	12385 $\frac{1}{2}$						12385
		Ditto Tuns	14295 $\frac{1}{2}$						14295
		White Bushels	266474 $\frac{1}{2}$						266474 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Ditto	Bushels	290289						290289

Note. The first Line of each Commodity relates to the Year 1764, the second to 1765.

Houses of the Oireachtas

If most Part of the Bullion, which *England* gains from *Spain* and *Portugal*, is sent away to the *East-Indies*, and not to answer the Balances that lie against it in the Northern Trades, and the Demands also of Foreigners, who have great Shares in the public Funds, as many imagine to be the Case, it will need other Resources and Means to encrease its Wealth: These are furnished to it from those Countries which depend upon it, namely, the Plantations and *Ireland*; the Plantations enrich it by their Commodities, which are re-exported to other Countries; and *Ireland*, by its continual Remittances in Money.

Our Case is much the same with the Plantations; the Produce and Profit of all our Labour issues constantly to the People of *England*; and therefore it is its Interest to give the People of *Ireland* full Employment, to encourage their Industry in every Branch of Trade, and not stop any Inlet through which Treasure may come into it, since every Acquisition and Profit that we can make, will at last center among them: If they would look upon us with the same Favour, and in the same Light, as they ought to do their Plantations, they would justly reckon us a main Foundation of their Wealth, and think it not consistent with their Interest to cramp our Industry, or render our Labour trifling and insignificant.

Upon a candid and fair Enquiry and Reasoning it will be found, that there is no Trade or Manufacture that *England* is possessed of, but it is for its Advantage to let the People of *Ireland* into the full Enjoyment of it; not excepting the Woollen Manufacture, the principal Foundation of all their Trade, and which they are so jealous of, and value at so high a Rate.

This Assertion may seem a strange Paradox to several Persons, but I think may be supported with
D many

many good Reasons ; but I shall first take Notice of, and examine the Grounds of those Complaints, which are frequently raised by some in *England*, of the Transportation of great Quantities of Wool, and Woollen Manufacture, from *Ireland* to *France*, *Spain* and *Portugal*, to the great Prejudice of their Woollen Trade, by the Sale of *Irish* Stuffs, or *French* Manufacture made of *Irish* Wool ; and as a Proof of this it is urged, that the Quantity of Wool transported from hence to *England* is much diminished of late Years, and therefore they conclude, that all the Wool that is wanting to make up the former Quantities, is run to *France*.

In answer to this it must be owned, that there is not so great a Quantity of Wool exported to *England* of late Years, as used to be ; but this Diminution is easily accounted for, and it is not owing to the Running of Wool, but arises principally from the following Causes :

First, That in the North of *Ireland* there are hardly any Sheep now to be found, since the Inhabitants are grown very numerous, and have applied themselves principally to the Linen Manufactures, and sowing of Corn for their Subsistence ; so that they are forced to supply themselves with Wool and Mutton from other Provinces.

Secondly, In other Parts of the Kingdom, the Farmers finding that Wool lay under a great Discouragement, and could not afford a Profit answerable to the high Price of Lands, have generally lessened their Flocks of Sheep, and employed their Lands to other Uses, which turn to a better Account, such as feeding black Cattle, keeping Dairies, plowing for Corn, Rape, Hemp and Flax, &c. for which they find a ready Market Abroad ; whereas they are not allowed at all to export their Wool manufactured.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, We are further to consider, that the People of *Ireland* are much encreased in Numbers, and are fallen into a greater Wear and Use of their own Manufactures, and, consequently, must consume a greater Quantity of their Wool.

We see this Diminution might have happened, though we should not have run one Stone of Wool, and it is likely this Diminution will still encrease; for what Motive can we have to deal in a Commodity which we are not allowed to export or manufacture to Advantage, and only to make ourselves Shepherds for *England*? This Cause of Complaint is like to fall soon to the Ground, since we find it our Interest to lessen our Number of Sheep, and to keep no more of them than are necessary for our own Consumption, and then probably we shall be courted to return to our Flocks again.

It cannot be denied, that some Wool and Stuffs are run out of the Kingdom, and it is impossible altogether to prevent it in such a wide extended Coast, full of Creeks, notwithstanding the Vigilance and Care of the Officers, who are perhaps the strictest in the Execution of this Part of their Office, of any in *Europe*; and we see that in *England*, all their Laws and Endeavours cannot prevent this mischievous Traffick. It is remarkable, that one of our Merchants having observed many Packs of Wool landed in the West of *England* from *Ireland*, soon after saw the same Packs landed in one of the Ports of *France*, where he happened to come, and knew them by their Marks: And upon Enquiry made in the Ports of *France*, it was found, that a greater Quantity of Wool was imported thither from *England* than from *Ireland*.

If any Woollen Manufacture is clandestinely carried from hence to *Portugal* or *Spain*, (for *France* will take nothing but Wool) the Quantity cannot

be great ; the Hazards on Exportation are so many, and Forfeitures so great, that it is hardly worth any one's while to venture ; and as such Exporters are poor, they must sell for what they can get ; and perhaps their selling their Goods at a low Rate, though in a small Quantity, has given the greatest Offence ; and for that Reason, the *French* and *Dutch* will be as ready to join in the Outcry as the *English*.

If the *French*, or any other Foreigners, should sell all their Goods at the same Market Abroad, that *England* does, and remit all the Money arising from thence to *England*, to be spent there, will any body say, that so much is not clear Gain to *England*, though some of its Merchants may possibly suffer a little thereby, in the Sale of their Goods ?

This is the very Case of *Ireland*, so much complained of ; which leads me to make good my Assertion, that it is the Interest of *England* to leave the Woollen Trade free and open to the People of *Ireland*.

If *Ireland* was the only Country, besides *England*, which produced Wool, it would then be in the Power of *England*, and its Interest by Restrictions laid upon us, to reserve the whole Trade to themselves ; and we should readily acquiesce, and submit to those Laws, however severe they may otherwise be thought : But the Case is much otherwise ; *Spain* produces great Quantities of fine Wool, and all the other Parts of *Europe* raise a great deal of the coarse, and a considerable Parcel of the fine Sort ; so that they do not want Materials for Woollen Manufacture. Stopping the Door upon *Ireland*, has only served to open and enlarge that Trade in foreign Countries, by driving great Numbers of our Weavers to *France*, and other Places, where they have set up the same Trade, and thereby have
done

done *England* much more Injury, than if they had stayed at Home, and were allowed to export their Woollen Manufactures.

We find by sad Experience, that since the Revolution, the *French*, *Dutch* and *Germans* have encouraged and cultivated their Woollen Manufactures to a great Height, and still go on in improving the same; and by the Cheapness of Labour and Provisions, are able to undersell the *English* already in their own and foreign Markets. The *French* have thereby in a great Measure engrossed the Woollen Trade in *Turkey* and the *Mediterranean*, which was formerly carried on by the *English*; and many Provinces in *Germany* now supply themselves with their own Manufactures, which they likewise had formerly from *England*. We find also that the *Spaniards* have, either out of Revenge or Policy, prosecuted the Woollen Trade with such Vigour, that they now cloath their Armies with their own Manufactures, and, in Imitation of the Court, the Nobility and better Sort are cloathed the same Way; and that *English* Bays, which used to be the common Wear of the Country, is not now made use of there. If this Humour goes on, the *Spaniards* may in Time prohibit the Exportation of their Wool, the principal Ingredient of the fine Drapery of *England*.

This is a very disagreeable Scene of Affairs, which should inspire the *English* with Resolutions of taking other Measures to mend their Condition. They see the *French*, *Dutch*, and Others, have rivalled, and even wormed them out of a great Part of their Woollen Trade; and they are in Danger of being driven out of the best Part of what remains, unless some new Course be taken to retrieve their Woollen Trade, which can be done no other Way, than by being able to sell as cheap as the *French* and *Dutch* in foreign Markets; for it is a

Maxim which always holds good, that he commands the Market, who sells best and cheapest; this is what the *English* cannot do of themselves, considering the high Price of Labour, Taxes, and Manner of Living in *England*, which lie heavy on their Manufactures, and make them come dearer to any foreign Market, than those of other Countries which rival them; but if they should think proper to employ the People of *Ireland*, in making any Part of their Woollen Manufactures, and especially such Sorts of them, as they are rivalled in by others, they would soon be liable to drive the *French* and *Dutch* out of any Branch of foreign Trade, by selling as cheap, and better Commodities than they.

And this we have Reason to believe would be the Case, considering that the Price of Labour and Provisions in *Ireland* is very low, and that the People are industrious, and live poor and cheap, and have little Taxes on their Consumptions. There is no Way left for the People of *England* to recover any lost Trade, but by the same Ways and Means whereby others got it from them, which is, by selling cheaper than their Neighbours; nor is there any Course left to bring that about, but by taking in the Assistance of the People of *Ireland*, and employing their Hands in such Manner, and such Work, as they shall find most convenient.

If, for Instance, the Merchants and People of *England*, either on Commission or otherwise, would employ the *Irish* in making up Woollen Goods of various Kinds, and get a Permission to send them so manufactured to *England*, in order to be exported Abroad, by this Means, the *Irish* Wool would be worked up, and not sent Abroad raw; the poor People would be employed, and the *English* Merchant would gain a considerable Profit at the foreign Market, or, if the *Turkey* Merchants were

were allowed to work up in *Ireland*, such Sort of Goods as the *French* sell in *Turkey*, and to export them directly thither, and could, by underselling the *French*, dispose of a much greater Quantity of such Goods, than they do at present, would not this be apparently for the Benefit of *England*? the greatest Part of the Profit would redound to the *English* Merchants, and the poor *Irish* Manufacturer, would be only employed in the most laborious and least gainful Part of the Work, and thereby get a bare Livelihood. It is the *English* Merchants, who have Stocks of Money, and could employ the poor People of *Ireland*, that would have the Benefit of their Labour; and if the *Irish* should themselves gain a little by this Working, and being instrumental in encreasing their Wealth, even that little would not stay with us, but be carried off, as all our Wealth is, to maintain our Gentlemen in *England*.

If under the present Discouragements, Hazards and Forfeitures, some of our People will venture to carry some Woollen Goods to *Portugal* and *Spain*, and be able to undersell all others there, for which, no Doubt, the *French* and *Dutch* are as much set against us on this Account, as some *English*; this shews to a Demonstration, that the *English*, by the Help of *Irish* Labour and Industry, could be able to undersell all others, and drive them out of foreign Markets; in obtaining which Advantage, and keeping it afterwards, they may have full Employment for their own People, as well as the People of *Ireland*; and it is certainly more for the Advantage of *England*, that the People of *Ireland* should have a Share in this Trade, than that Foreigners should run away with it, since every Addition to our Wealth, will enlarge our Remittances to *England*.

We do not in the least imagine or expect, that the People of *England* will come into any Indulgence of this Kind, for our Sakes alone, but, if it is apparently for the Advantage of *England*, it is to be presumed, they will not be blind to their own Interest, or neglect any Expedients, or Means, for encreasing the Trade or Riches of their Kingdom, though they may seemingly interfere with the Interest of particular Companies, or Traders. I am persuaded, that a proper Use of the Labour and Industry of the People of *Ireland*, is the best and surest Fund to encrease the Wealth of *England*.

Fourthly, I shall now offer some Hints, and Proposals, for the Improvement and Regulation of our Trade.

But am forced to premise what I have to say, with this melancholy Reflection, that as long as this wasteful Export of our Treasure continues, and carries off every Acquisition we can make, it will be in vain to offer any Expedients for encreasing our Manufactures, lessening our Imports, or improving our Trade; for, every Inlet of Wealth we can make, will be too little to feed and satisfy this devouring Drain, which will ever keep us poor and miserable.

It must very much affect every one who wishes well to this Country, to consider that all our Toil and Labour can avail us nothing, and will only serve to continue that Evil upon us, which is the Cause of all our Poverty: For, poor we must ever be, so long as all the Advantages we can make by our Industry and Trade, fall so much short of our Remittances Abroad. If we must be always poor, it is better to enjoy Poverty with Ease, than to sweat and toil without any Hopes of mending our Condition, and without any other Effect

Effect than that of supporting the Vanity of our Gentlemen Abroad, who treat their Country with Contempt, and ruin it without Remorse.

But, as I am not without Hopes that some Measures will be thought of, and soon put in Execution, that may in some Degree remove our present Grievances, and go to the Bottom of the Evil ; I shall, on that Account, humbly offer some Hints, which may be improved to good Purposes, by others of greater Abilities, or may put them on thinking on better Ways and Means of serving their Country.

First, The Linen Manufacture, I may truly say, is the Staple of *Ireland*, without which it could not subsist : It is the Source of almost all the Wealth and Riches we have. This Manufacture has encreased greatly of late Years, and has extended itself to most Parts of the Kingdom ; and notwithstanding there is still great Room for further Improvement and Extension, from the great Demand there is for the low Price Linens, under 18d. a Yard, for *America* and other Countries, and we are much obliged to *England* for the 1½d. a Yard Bounty on the Exportation from thence ; and with respect to the Hempen Manufacture, we have made very little Progress in that, though there are very few Countries better qualified for carrying it on. The Cambrick Manufacture has encreased greatly of late Years, yet it falls far short of supplying our Home Consumption in the Article of clear Cambricks ; yet, I have been told, that there are upwards of One thousand five hundred Looms now at that Work in the North of *Ireland*. The Cambrick Company has great Merit with the Public, for they, at great Expence and Attention to the Encouragement of that Business, brought over from *Flanders* a great many Manufacturers, whom they

they employed at *Dundalk*, by which, that Manufacture has greatly spread over all that Side of the Country ; and now, private Persons can carry on that Trade more extensive and to greater Advantage than the Company ; but this is entirely owing to the Enlight and Encouragement given by them, who, notwithstanding the Bounty given by Parliament, suffered greatly in their private Fortunes, and were almost broke by the Expence they were at, and the Losses they sustained for many Years, from want of Knowledge in the Manufacture, and the proper Method of disposing of the Cambrick.

It would be a great Benefit to this Kingdom, if we could extend our Cambrick Manufacture in the Article of Clear Goods, which, as yet, we have not done, and it will take up some Time to nurse it up, to prevent the Importation of them from *France* ; yet, till we can make sufficient of these Goods, it will be in the highest Degree imprudent in us to take off any Part of the Duty on foreign Cambrick, as that Duty is a great Support, not only to the Linen Manufacture, but to the Cambrick also, and is the Means to encourage and enable us to extend the Cambrick in all its Branches, and without it, it must soon fall to the Ground. I find that Duty brings in about 7000l. yearly ; three Parts in six, or one half, goes to the hereditary Revenue, two Parts are appropriated to the Linen Manufacture, and the remaining sixth Part to the Cambrick.

Why should not we endeavour to make Kentings, and encourage by Premiums and Bounties, our Manufacturers to go into that Business ? Sure our Country is as fit for it, as any other, and what a large Sum would we save, by even preventing the Importation of at least 189,000 Yards now imported ?

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The Premiums and Encouragement given by the Linen Board, have answered well, and been a great Spur and Incentive to the Increase and Extension of the Linen Manufacture; it is to be hoped, it will be employed to the Encouragement of those Branches of it, we have so great a Demand for from our Plantations. Funds of this Kind, are of great public Utility to infant Manufactures and Trades, that require Instruction in the Beginning, and Encouragement to overcome the Difficulties and Losses which always attend the first Attempts, in every Invention and Trade.

I cannot quit this Head, without taking Notice of the very great Importation of undressed Flax, in the Year 1764, as appears by the Table, no less than 53870 C. Wt. in Value upwards of 134600l. What a shameful Indolence and Neglect is this, in an Article of so great Importance, relative to our Linen Manufacture; and that too, in a Country, where it is well known, Flax may be raised in great Abundance, with only common Care and Industry? What a Hazard, what a Risk do we run, to depend upon any Country whatsoever, for the Primum of a Manufacture of so much Importance to the Nation?

Our Soil and Country, are well suited to the Hempen Manufacture, and it was thriving and extending greatly some Years ago, till a Damp was thrown on it, I may say a Stop was put to it, by the laying a Duty on it in *England*, though they import from foreign Countries, at least five Times as much of that Manufacture, as they make at Home. But notwithstanding, why do we not raise Hemp, and manufacture it, at least, as much as will answer our own Consumption? It is plain we do not, from the Table of Imports.

Secondly, What very large Sums of Money are yearly carried out of the Kingdom, in Specie, for the

the Article of Coals. By the Customhouse Books it appears, that there is entered very near 186,000 Tun, and it is imagined there are upwards of 50,000 Tun more brought from Abroad, and consumed here, that are not entered, nor can, from the Situation of the Places where they are imported; computing of this very low, here is a constant yearly Drain of upwards of 150,000 *l*. Indeed, this Year, it may be reckoned higher, for the Colliers have entered into a Combination, not to sell under 16 *s*. a Tun, and accordingly have kept up to that Price.

We have large Collieries of our own, and good in their Kind, and want nothing but the Means of bringing them to Market, a Navigation, which can be, we are told, compleated for about 17,000 *l*. and then we shall have this Necessary of Life in great Abundance, free from the Combinations, the Frauds, the Monopolies, the Exactions of Colliers, Coal Factors, and Engrossers, and save the sending out of the Kingdom so large a Sum annually in Specie; what a Benefit would this be to our poor People, to have them employed in this Way, and such a Quantity of Cash circulate round the Kingdom? Sure, no Difficulty could arise in obtaining so small a Sum as 17,000 *l*. considering the great national Benefit that would accrue thereby, if any Dependence could be had, or Security given, for the compleating the Navigation for such a Sum.

It is a melancholy Thing to reflect, what Sums have been given away within these last twenty Years for Navigations, doubtful in their Use and Practicability; and how great a Part of those Sums have been consumed in Salaries, and thrown away by the Mismanagement and Ignorance, I will not say worse, of our Undertakers, and our own Want of Knowledge and Skill that Way. Look further

further, and see the Accounts laid before Parliament, and our Establishment, Civil and Military, and above all the List of Pensions of all Kinds : What an enormous Sum have they swelled to of late Years, upwards of 91,000*l.* and yet, at the same Time, this important Article of Coals, the producing this great Necessary of Life, the saving so large a Sum as 150,000*l.* yearly, has been starved and neglected.

There has been, indeed, of late established, an excellent Institution, to prevent the excessive high Price of Coals, I mean the Public Coal-yards in the City of *Dublin*, by which Coals cannot well rise above 18*s.* a Tun ; for when they exceed that Sum, the Coal-yards are to sell out at 18*s.* to the Poor and Indigent, under certain Regulations ; this has, and will, probably, keep the Price under 18*s.* but then, what an exorbitant Profit have these Harpies at this Rate ! For, upon Examination, it appeared very clear, that every Person, employed in the Coal Trade, would have a reasonable and sufficient Profit upon a Sale at about 13*s.* a Tun.

3dly. We have great Plenty of Fish of all Kinds upon our Coasts, and our Ports and Bays are most happily situated to carry on that valuable Branch of Trade, which all our Neighbours, even upon our Coast, make so great Profit by, and even supply us. What an Indolence and a Shame is this, and especially now, that the Legislature has given us so great a Bounty, and Encouragement, as they have done by a late Act of Parliament ?

4thly. See by the above Tables, what large Quantities of the Silk and Woollen Manufactures we pay for and import ; it is true, by the Bounty
of

of Parliament, and the Patronage of the *Dublin* Society, the Silk Manufacture is beginning to revive, and the Poor, who were distressed formerly to a great Degree, for Want of Employment, are beginning to get Bread. I have been told the Consumption of *Ireland* in this Article is about 130,000 *l.* yearly, and that we do not manufacture above 30,000 *l.* of it; and that we consume of the plain Silks alone about 80,000 *l.* in Value. Our fancied Goods, certainly, do not come up to that we have from Abroad, but the plain we have, and can make to Perfection; and would it not be an immense Thing for us to employ our Poor, and prevent the sending Abroad for this Article of plain Goods, by which such a Sum as 80,000 *l.* would be saved.

What a Disgrace is it to our People of Fashion and Distinction, to see them despise our own Manufactures, and so fond of foreign Goods, by which they are become even the Dupes of some Tradesmen, who, finding they cannot sell *Irish* Goods, though exceeding good of their Kind, are obliged to say, they came from Abroad, and raise the Price, and consequently their Profit; and by this pious Fraud (if I may say so) in Favour of our own Country, great Quantities of *Irish* Goods are sold for Foreign, and this Management is made Use of with Respect to Woollen Goods, as well as Silk, in order to force a Trade of *Irish* Goods; and so fully convinced are some very sensible Manufacturers of the Benefit of this Kind of Fraud, that they declare, the fixing of any Kind of Mark, that would with Certainty distinguish the *Irish* from the *English* Goods, would be greatly injurious to the *Irish* Trade. But we are in hopes, not only to extend this valuable Branch of our Manufactures, but get over all Prejudices, when so many
worthy

worthy and public-spirited Ladies, have taken upon them the Patronage and Protection of the Silk Manufacture, and its Warehouse in *Parliament-street*.

With Respect to the Woollen Manufacture, I have mentioned above my Reasons, why it would be of Use, even to *England*, to permit us to export several Articles in the coarse and low priced Goods, which Trade they have been in a great measure beat out of, by their Neighbours selling them cheaper in foreign Markets; and by this Means our *Irish* Wool would be consumed at Home, and not clandestinely sent Abroad, to the great Prejudice of *England*. I am credibly informed, with Respect to the clandestine Exportation of Wool, much more *Irish* Wool is carried Abroad that Way through *England*, than directly from *Ireland*.

5thly. It is very alarming, with Respect to the Health and Morals of the People, to think what a Quantity of Spirits is consumed in this Kingdom; of Brandies, you will see from the Table, upwards of 57,000 Gallons, imported from *France* and *Holland*; and of Rum above 1,230,840 Gallons; beside it is imagined, there is clandestinely run above half that Quantity, to the great Injury of the public Revenue, and the fair Trader; add to this, the immense Quantity of home-made Spirits consumed here. I think it would be of great national Consequence, to prevent the immoderate Use and Consumption of this pernicious Liquor: Both in *Great-Britain* and here, it has been attempted in vain; but since that cannot be affected, let us see if we cannot in some Measure prevent the excessive Use of it, and at the same Time turn it to a national Benefit. I have been informed by some Physicians of great Knowledge and

and Character in their Profession, that Spirits distilled from Grain, are more wholesome than Brandies or Rums; why may we not contrive some Way to prevent the Importation of Brandies, and even Rums, and encourage the distilling of home-made Spirits from Grain? It would be a Means of improving our Country, by encouraging Tillage and Agriculture, and prevent the ill Consequences of Running of Spirits. I am told an effectual Method to prevent this pernicious Practice, would be to take off one Shilling of the twenty Pence, I think in the Pound, Duty on black Teas, that is, Boheas; for it is imagined, very little of that Kind is entered, or pays Duty, most is run, and that the Runners would not find their Account in that Practice, if they had not the Benefit of running these Kind of Teas along with the Spirits, and in the End no Prejudice would arise to the public Revenue; for in this as well as in many other Articles, where the Duty is high, a lower Duty, if paid, would bring in more Money than the high, where very little is entered and most of it run.

I shall not trouble my Reader, with entering more minutely into the many Articles of our Exports, that we might improve and extend; or, our Imports, which we might prevent, either entirely, or in a great Measure: But beg Leave, to refer them to the Tables, and to the List of Præmiums that have been offered by the *Dublin* Society, this Year; but I cannot omit to mention in general, the Importation of near 30,000 Barrels of Beer and Ale; this Article, I understand, can be sold cheaper here than we can brew it for Sale, by the Drawback of great Part of the Duty on Exportation, and by the Duty being very small on Importation here. Should not this put us upon encreasing the Duty on Importation; see the Quantity

tity of Hard and Earthen Ware imported ; and also, of Rape and Linseed Oil, all which we might manufacture to the great Employment of our industrious Poor, and Improvement of our Land.

Having thus, with the greatest Candour and Impartiality, laid before the Reader, the yearly Value of the Remittances in Money, which we may reasonably be supposed to make to our Gentlemen who live Abroad ; and having also considered what Balance in our Favour we have, by our whole Trade, to enable us to maintain those Remittances ; and, having likewise taken into Consideration several other Articles, which do either increase or lessen the Balance, I leave it to every one to judge, whether the Inferences and Observations, drawn from thence, are well grounded. It appears on one Hand, that our Absentees draw out of the Kingdom, yearly, above a Million ; and on the other, that the Balance in our Favour, by our Trade, (which is the Fund we have to discharge these Drafts upon us with) amounts to no more than 4,89,836*l.* yearly, according to the public Estimates, and by consequence, there will be wanting upwards of 5,70,000*l.* to make up these Payments.

How we have been able hitherto to support all this, I leave to others to account for ; perhaps that Stock, which we have been gathering for many Years, may hitherto have enabled us to answer these Demands upon us, when they were more moderate ; but it is impossible for us to subsist much longer, under such a wasteful Drain. It is evident, by the great Scarcity of Money in the Kingdom, that our Stock is draining off to the Lees.

If this be our Case now, and that the present Cash of the Kingdom is no way sufficient to carry

on our domestic or foreign Trade, and that there is a great Stagnation in our Business already, for Want of Money, what must be our Case in a little Time, when all the rest of our Species shall be carried off, as it must certainly be, if our Gentlemen Abroad shall continue to draw it from us, in the Degree they do at present? The Consequence will then be, that we shall not be able to support our Establishment, and shall cease to be an Advantage to *England*, which will ever receive less from us, in Proportion as we grow poorer. It is to be hoped, the People of *England* will not be against our taxing the Estates of our Absentees, since it may enable us to pay the Taxes of our Country, support our Government, and prevent our becoming a Burthen to them; and we may presume, they may be the rather inclined to approve of such a Tax, since it is more than probable, that most of our Absentees will, notwithstanding this, still live among them, and not forego their foreign Pleasures, on that Account.

I have taken particular Notice of the Benefits which accrue to *England* by its Dealings with *Ireland*, and that it is its Interest to let the People of *Ireland* into a free Enjoyment of every Branch of Trade, and to give full Employment to all their Hands, since every Profit arising from thence will only serve to enlarge their Remittances to that Kingdom.

If the People of *England* will still keep us under the same Restrictions in Trade, let them send us home our Gentlemen; or, if they will have our Gentlemen live and spend their Fortunes amongst them, it is to be hoped, that they will give us a greater Liberty of Trade, to enable us to maintain them there; one or other of these Expedients seems

seems to be absolutely necessary at present for the Support of this Kingdom.

The last Thing I propos'd to speak of in this Treatise, was to make some Observations, and offer some Reasons, why the Absentees should be obliged to contribute, in some shape, to the Welfare and Support of the Country they derive their Honours, Estates and Income from.

Indeed, as this Evil grows daily upon us, and has already thrown the Nation into a wasteful Consumption of all its Substance, it is high Time to apply some Remedy to stop this immoderate Drain, that has reduced us so low ; And this can be done no other Way than, in Imitation of our Ancestors, and of all wise Nations in the like Case, by taxing the Estates and Incomes of those, who out of Wantonness and Luxury, choose to spend all the Profits thereof Abroad, to the Impoverishment and Ruin of their native Country.

It is not reasonable to expect, that the Security of the *Protestant* Religion and Interest in this Kingdom, the Prosperity of the People, and Safety of the Government, should all give Way to the Gratifications of our Gentlemen Abroad ; if they set so high a Value on their foreign Pleasures, that for the Enjoyment of them, the Kingdom must be brought into Ruin, it is to be hoped, they shall not be indulged in all this, without contributing their Quota towards the Charges of the Public. As the Case stands at present, while all others at Home pay largely in Taxes, for the Maintenance of our Establishment, these Gentlemen, though many of them have nothing but what they derive from this Country, yet pay not one Farthing for the Support of it ; they have, indeed, the Merit of pay-

ing by their foreign Consumptions, the Taxes of all Countries but their own.

It is notorious, that many of our Absentees have, by their Rents and otherwise, drawn out of this Kingdom many Millions of Pounds the last twenty Years, and yet none of them have contributed to the Support of the public Charges, as much as the meanest Person who pays for a Quart of Ale.

It cannot be supposed, that our *Irish* Landlords, who live Abroad, and consume no Part of the Produce or Manufacture of their Country, pay the least Share of the Duties or Taxes thereof, or relieve any of its Poor, whose Miseries they never see, or make any Improvements, who never mean to live among us; nay, their living Abroad seems to have so far alienated their Affections from their Country, and hardened their Tempers towards it, that they, above all others, are remarkable for setting their Estates at a Rack Rent, so as hardly to allow a Livelihood to their poor Tenants, by whom they are supported.

There is no Country in *Europe* which produces and exports so great a Quantity of Beef, Butter, Tallow, Hides and Wool, as *Ireland* does; and yet our common People are very poorly cloathed, go bare-legged half the Year, and very rarely taste of that Flesh-meat, with which we so much abound. We pinch ourselves in every Article of Life, and export more than we can well spare, with no other Effect or Advantage, than to enable our Gentlemen and Ladies to live more luxuriously Abroad.

And they are not content to treat us thus, but add Insult to ill Usage; they reproach us with our Poverty, at the same Time that they take away our Money; and can tell us, we have no Diversions or Entertainments in *Ireland* for them, when
they

they themselves disable us from having better, by withdrawing from us.

But is to be hoped, that our Legislature will take Care that those Gentlemen, who spend their Fortunes Abroad, and are thereby the greatest, and almost only Cause of its Poverty and Distress, shall not be the only Persons favoured, and exempted from paying the Taxes thereof.

A Tax of two, three, or four Shillings in the Pound on the Estates, Pensions, Profits of Employments, and Incomes of Absentees, and also, some certain Sum on all Persons who are in Possession of, or shall obtain Titles of Honour amongst the Nobility of *Ireland*, would, in all Likelihood, remove the Evil complained of; for, if the Absentees should return home, then the public Revenue would encrease to a greater Produce in the Customs and Excise, in Proportion as the Home-Consumption would be enlarged, by the spending of so much more Money amongst us; or, if they would notwithstanding live Abroad, then a considerable Fund would be provided for some useful and beneficial Object in this Country.

I know well, that many Difficulties may arise to and upon the raising such a Tax; and how will you apply it? for the former Tax of four Shillings in the Pound on Absentees, which subsisted for so many Years, answered no good Purpose, by being applied to defray the public Charges of Government, as has been mentioned in the former Part of this Treatise.

As to the first of these Objections, I have found somewhere this Question asked, why should not we lay a Duty on the Exportation of our Nobility and Gentry, according to their Titles and Incomes? They travel for Health or Pleasure. Should not they pay 50*l.* or 100*l.* or some certain Sum, to their

their own Country, for Permission to spend the Remainder of their Fortunes in another ?

You see by what has been mentioned, the legal Provisions our Ancestors made upon this Head ; and why may not the Tax be raised in pretty much the same Manner, but free from the dispensing Clauses, as the four Shillings in the Pound was raised by virtue of the former several Acts of Parliament, so long in Force in this Kingdom ? And with respect to the raising a Tax on such of our Nobility as have no Estates in *Ireland*, which seems to be attended with the greatest Difficulty, you see what was done by the Act of 10 *Charles I.* Chap. 21, which never has been repealed. Besides, I do not think but the Wisdom of our Legislature may and can contrive Ways and Means to raise such a Tax, if they are once convinced of the Propriety and Usefulness of it. To charge them who are rich in this World, is Religion and true Policy, and to ease the poor Labourer, is equal to it.

There does not seem to be so great Difficulty as at first imagined in doing this ; other Countries have raised Taxes, where the Difficulty seems to have been greater.

In *Holland*, every Man that accepts of an Employment, is obliged to pay such a certain proportionable Part of it to the State, and a proportionable Tax on the Promotion of Land and Sea Officers and Clergy. There is also there, what is called a Collateral Tax, by which the Inheritor of a Fortune in Land, or even Money, not descending to him in a right Line, pays two and a half per Cent. to the State ; when they sell Land or Employments, the Buyer and Seller pay two or three per Cent. of the Value to the State, and they have a Method of raising and collecting these Taxes with Ease.

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As to the other Objection, relative to the Application of the Tax.

There are two great and national Charities in this Kingdom, neither of which have any certain Support any Way adequate to the great Expence of them, or the vast Benefit arising to this Country by them ; I mean the Charter Schools, and the Foundling Hospital at the Workhouse ; the former supports about 2500 Persons, and has for its Object the training up the Children of the Papists of this Kingdom, of a low Condition, not only to be useful Members of Society, by instructing them in Husbandry and Manufactures, and binding them Apprentice to Protestant Masters, but to be good Protestants. We know well how slow a Progress the Reformation made in the lower Class of People of this Kingdom, and I am much afraid the Number of Papists have encreased of late Years out of all Proportion, and so it has been found by some late Returns, owing, I am apprehensive, on one Hand, to the Non-residence and Indolence of our Clergy, and to the Remissness and Negligence of the Protestants in general ; and on the other, to the indefatigable Assiduity and Zeal of the Popish Clergy, and the People in general of that Persuasion ; and, I am afraid, in a great Measure, to the great Number of Jesuits and Regulars that have of late come into the Kingdom.

The other Charity has for its Object, the rearing and making useful Members of Society, a great Number of helpless deserted Infants, that must otherwise inevitably perish. There are two or three and twenty hundred Children supported by this Charity ; and indeed it is become now of universal Concern, Children from all Parts of the Kingdom being sent in there.

These

These two Charities have been in the utmost Want of Money and Distress this last Year; the Charter Schools, from the Number of Children sent in this scarce Year, and Dearness of Provisions, were obliged to call in the Money they had upon Securities, and all the Debts they could possibly get in, and upon the Corresponding Society in *London* for their Assistance and Support, who assisted them with that Zeal they have been ever remarkable for, and without which, and some accidental Legacies and Charities to a considerable Amount, it would have been impossible for them to subsist. Indeed the Zeal and public Spirit of one Gentleman, a Member of the House of Commons in the West of this Kingdom, who ought to be mentioned with Honour, and who has not only a Charter School for forty Children, but a Nursery for the Support of one hundred within his Demesne, and under his immediate Care and Protection, seeing the Distress the Society was likely to be reduced to, generously offered to support them from the Beginning of this Year till the Parliament could relieve them, both Charter School and Nursery, at his own Expence. A noble Example, and worthy so good a Man.

The Foundling Hospital was in like Distress; for they owed to Nurses in the Country, who had their Children to the Number of between 1400 or 1500, near 2000 *l.* some for two, some more Years nursing, and they had no Money to pay them; their Credit was so low by the Means of this great Arrrear, that no Woman could be got to take the Children from the Poor-house to nurse, and many coming in daily, they were obliged to put several Children on one wet Nurse, and great Numbers were in the utmost Danger of starving, had not the Governors raised a Sum of 1800 *l.* in a Mort-

a Mortgage of their little Estate about the Work-house, from a Banker of this City, who advanced that Sum from a Motive and Zeal for so good a Work, more than the Goodness of the Security ; for, in Truth, it was but very scanty, and ill circumstanced.

I mention these two particular Charities, because I am well acquainted with them. I am sure there are several others ; such as, the *Hibernian* School for the Support of the Children of Soldiers ; the Marine Society for those of Sailors, that are of great Use and Benefit to the Kingdom, and do great Honour to the Charity and Humanity of the People of this Country.

Many Gentlemen in *England*, having been informed of the Object of the two above great Charities, and that they had but a small Fund or Estate, and were supported entirely by uncertain and occasional Funds, wondered how the Governors could venture to undertake so great a certain Expence upon so uncertain a Fund, where so many thousands were in Danger of starving ; for that the great Charities there, had some 10,000 *l.* some 11 or 12,000 *l.* a Year certain Income or Estate, or else they would never venture to undertake so great an Expence. The Foundling Hospital in *Paris* has certain Taxes, to a great Amount, appropriated to their Support ; Taxes on Luxuries, on Diversions, on the Play-houses, so much on every Ticket made use of there.

I mention all this, to be the better entitled to take the Liberty to submit it to the Legislature, whether it would not be a right and a proper Measure, to lay some certain Tax on Absentees of all Kinds, and to appropriate it to the Support of the above two great Charities, and such other as they should think fit, to be accountable to Parliam-

ment. Perhaps when the Tax was applied to so good a Purpose, the Persons that pay it, as well as those that grant it, would be induced the rather to come into it, and rest satisfied, that it would be free from the Objection raised formerly, to the Tax of 4s. in the Pound, on Absentees, and which was paid for so many Years.

As I am sure I have tired the Reader, by this Time, I shall beg Leave to conclude with the following Observation: That notwithstanding all I have said, to draw the Attention of the People of *Ireland* to Agriculture, Manufactures, and Commerce, important Objects indeed! yet, as I think, this Island is in great Danger of being attacked, whenever a new War breaks out, we should be on our Guard, and now in Time of Peace, the most proper, let us set about establishing a useful and national Militia for our Defence, and train our Protestants up to the Use of Arms, that they may, in Time of Danger, protect us from both foreign and intestine Enemies, many of which, I am afraid, we have amongst us, who, upon such an Occasion, may be more dangerous than our open and avowed Enemies; for, as has been observed by a noble Author, who has lately wrote the History of the Reign of *Henry* the Second, that, Exercise in Arms, encreases the Strength of a Nation, which, remaining long unemployed, is very apt to decay, and sink into an infirm and effeminate Softness, particularly, when People are much addicted to Commerce, the mercantile Spirit prevailing over the military, more than is consistent with the Safety or Virtue of a State. To keep up the Energy of both these Spirits, in a proper Degree, and without Prejudice to each other, is a very important, and a very difficult Part of political Wisdom, which has been performed in few Governments either ancient or modern.

Before

Before I conclude, I must beg Leave to take Notice, that I hope, the general Observations that have been drawn from a plain Representation of Matters of Fact, and public Estimates, will not, as it never was intended they should, give the least Offence to any one.

F I N I S.

