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# ESSAY

O N

Trade in General ;

And, on that of

*IRELAND* in Particular.

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By the Author of SEASONABLE REMARKS.

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*And all King Solomon's drinking Vessels were of Gold,  
and all the Vessels of the House of the Forest of Le-  
banon were of pure Gold, none were of Silver ; it  
was nothing accounted of in the Days of Solomon,  
for the King had at Sea a Navy. I Kings,  
Chap. 10. ver. 21, 22.*

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Y A S S

Time in General;

THE NEW YORK

THE AUTHOR OF 'THE NEW YORK'

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK





TO THE  
RIGHT HONOURABLE  
*William Conelly, Esq;*  
SPEAKER of the House of  
COMMONS, &c.

SIR,

THE Universal neglect of Trade, and the general Dispondence which on that Head is

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## DEDICATION.

so remarkable amongst us, has prevail'd upon me, how unequal soever to the Undertaking to publish the following Tracts.

I have already endeavour'd to show how much it is the Interest of *England* to promote and encourage our Industry in those Branches of Trade that don't clash with their own, being fully convinced that the best and surest Way to obtain a Favour from t'other side the Water, is by shewing that it is their Interest to comply with us; and I hope I have made that Point as evident to the  
World



## DEDICATION.

World as it is in it self really true; but in the following Pages I endeavour to show the rise of Industry in the World, the ballance of Trade, the way to discover our Loss or Gain thereon, and to govern and improve our Commerce; and in order to remove that Dispondence which has long been fatal to our Affairs, I have shown how considerable our National Gain has been by Trade and Industry since the Time Sir *William Petty* made his Calculations. I have also given a brief account of all the Monopolies of



## DEDICATION.

of the *English* Trade, either by Acts or Parliament or Royal Grants, and have added there to a Summary of all the Laws made in *England* which in any manner affect our Trade, and an Abstract of the Wants and Superfluities of almost all the known World; but I have above all Things laboured to incite the landed Gentlemen to an Inquiry after that sort of Knowledge, on which alone depends the Grandeur and Prosperity of *Ireland* in general, as well as their own particular good Fortunes; and these being the  
Sub-



## DEDICATION.

Subjects on which I treat,  
to whom should I resort for  
Patronage and Protection,  
but to You, Sir? To You  
whose distinguished Virtues  
have placed You at the high-  
est degree of Honour and  
Trust in the State, and have  
made You to three succeed-  
ing Monarchs an Object of  
their warmest Esteem and  
Favour: To You, Sir, in whom  
the PARLIAMENT of Your  
Country: An *Irish* Parlia-  
ment ever steddy in pursuit  
of the Publick-Good, have  
for so many Years placed  
their sole and intire Confi-  
dence: To You whose con-  
summate



## DEDICATION.

summate Wisdom, whose unshaken Loyalty, and whose steddy Adherence to the Rights and Liberties of Your Country, have as it were enchanted all those Jealousies and Distrusts which either the People are used to entertain of a reigning Favourite, or the Prince of a zealous Patriot, and have rendred You at once the Favourite of the Prince and of the People ; and I doubt not, Sir, how imperfectly soever I have handled these important Subjects, but You will from that Publick Spirit for which You have been always re-



## DEDICATION.

remarkable, favour and countenance my Efforts, since they are the first of the Kind that have appeared to us in any Dress and since in so doing You may encourage abler Pens to so necessary an Inquiry.

My Labours, Sir, have been very freely bestowed thereon for the good of my Country, and my principal View was to lay before the House of Commons in a summary Way, the State of our Trade, and the Means whereby a wise Legislature may repair and improve it: A Knowledge highly deserving

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## DEDICATION.

ving of the Attention of those, who represent a People labouring under Difficulties, and not to be relieved but by a vigorous and prudent Application to the Trade which they have yet left; but it was almost impossible for me to be so exact therein as was necessary, since my Intention, not to be known in the World for an Author, hindred me from making such close Inquiries into the publick Accounts, as might enable me, to lay before the House, a perfect System of our Trade and Navigation; but such as it is I  
am



## DEDICATION.

am emboldned to publish it, by the Favourable Reception which my Seasonable Remarks have met with; and if it has the good Fortune to be agreeable to You, Sir, and to the Commons of *Ireland*, I shall not fail before the next Sessions to call in able Assistants, and to lay before the House an exact Scheme of our Trade and Navigation, of our Loss and Gain by each particular Trade, of our Money-Matters, of our Inland Business, and of every Branch of our Manufactures, with Proposals for the Improvement of each respectively;



# DEDICATION.

tively; towards which I have already made no small Progress.

In the mean Time I beg leave to have the Honour of accounting my self,

S I R,

*Your most Obedient,*

*Most Faithful, and*

*Most Devoted Servant.*

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A N  
E S S A Y  
O N  
TRADE in General,

And that of

*Ireland in Particular, &c.*



H E N Ambition and Power parcelled out the Earth into the Possessions of particular Men, they soon betook themselves to the Protection of Covenants and Agreements, for the peaceful Enjoyment of those Properties which they engrossed to themselves ; by  
B which



which Means, tying themselves down from Force and the stronger Hand (till then their only Law) it became necessary to find out other Means of procuring from their Neighbours, those things which their own Grounds did not afford; the Occasion soon offered it self, for the Desire of Novelty was universal, and enough were ready to exchange, those things with which they were cloy'd, for greater Rarities; and this Barter was the Original of Trade.

But when the Produce of particular Countries became scanty for the Support of their encreasing Inhabitants, and when the Desires of Men extended themselves into distant Climates, for Matter to furnish out their Riot withal, this Method became highly inconvenient and troublesome, wherefore it was universally agreed, to fix a certain Value



lue upon some lasting and portable Commodity, which might serve as a Ballance to the Value of all others, and be as a Security to the Taker from the rest of the World, for so much as he should at any time require, and this *Pas-par-tout* was Money.

No wonder then if Money, having acquired this great Reputation in the World, and becoming (as it were) a Load-stone, which drew to it all the valuable Things in Life, was quickly grown the universal Object of Ambition, ev'ry one being assured, that so much thereof as he could command, so much also should he command of whatever either his Necessities or Inclinations required; and from hence arose that great Strife amongst Men, which has continued it self down to this Day, and is like to last for ever.



The Possessors of much, have from the Beginning assumed a Power, to Lord it o'er the Poor, who being without Riches, and excluded from a Share in the Land, were obliged through Necessity to make their Court to the Wealthy on such hard Terms as they were pleased to impose: When therefore either their own Extravagance, or the general Impropriation of Things reduced any to Want, they hired themselves out to labour for those whom easier Fortunes had render'd Indolent, or became their Tenants at certain Rents, which for a long time did not exceed a Part of what their Farms produc'd; but as Money increased, the Love of Money increased also, and the Landlords not only raised their Rents, but exacted them in Cash; this put them upon Ways and Means to acquire it, and forced them from their darling Ease to Labour



bour and Industry. The Gain which ensued gave a Relish to their Toils, and engaged them to prosecute their Labours, by which Means, those who before like Drones, lived on the Fat of the Common-wealth, became industrious Bees to enrich it, whilst the rest who remained in the slothful Inactivity which they had forsaken, continued a useless Load on the Land, no Ways encreasing its Wealth, and little, or not at all, contributing to the common Good; but a severer Necessity compelling, even those too were driven to Labour; for the daily Encrease of Money enhanced the Rents of Lands, and obliged more pressingly to Industry, whilst the Merchant enriched by his foreign Commerce, allur'd them out by high Prices, and called them to share in the Wealth, brought in by Trade; in which Case all those whom



whom either Necessity compelled, or the hopes of Gain engaged to an Application to Industry, became Sharers in the Money, were enabled to out-bid the Idlers in their Farms, and forced the Drones from their Hives, either to work for Bread, or to perish for Want: Thus Men were brought from Sloth to Action, and all Hands were set to work, whilst ev'ry Application to Industry gave a Spring to Trade, and ev'ry Acquisition by Trade encouraged to Industry by the Rise which it occasioned on the Produce of Labour.

Thus Force begot Property, the Impropropriation of Things gave Rise to Trade, Trade required Money for the better Management thereof, Money begot Ambition and Avarice, and from these Monsters proceeded a motley Generation of Contention, civil Discord, Oppression, Usury, Fraud,



Fraud, Circumvention, and all those Evils with which the World is unfortunately harass'd and perplex'd, but evil as Money is, 'tis however a necessary Evil, and grown into such universal Esteem amongst Men, that without it no Business is to be done, no Necessaries of Life to be purchased, nay, Virtue it self is often measured by Money, and Princes become formidable, not by the Extent of their Territories, or the Numbers of their People, but for the Wealth of their Exchequer, and the Length of their Purse, those therefore, whether in private or in publick Life, whether a particular Society or a People in general, who would make a Figure in the World, or get into the Esteem of their Neighbours, must above all things take care to be rich, for Riches is Wisdom, and Power, and Honour, and ev'ry thing



thing in this mercenary Age. It seems therefore well to deserve our Enquiry how it is to be had, and by what Means to be introduced into a Country, and this shall be the Subject of the following Pages, in which, if I hit upon any thing for the Information of those in Power, or but incite abler Heads to so necessary an Enquiry, 'tis all my Ambition would aspire to.

Nature has so wisely distributed her Favours, that whatever is wanting in any Country, either for Ornament or Use, is supplied in an Abundance of other Things, by which they are to be purchased: Thus *India* has its Gold and Gemms, *Arabia* its Gumms and Spices, *Persia* its Silks, *France* and *Spain* their Wines and Fruits; we a Land teeming with other Sorts of Riches, and a Sea abounding with Treasures, which are valuable and sought for by



by all those Countries, infomuch, that tho' we have no Mines of Gold and Silver, yet we have the Means wherewith to purchase them, and by a proper Application to Trade, may soon become rich in all those foreign Commodities, which the Temperature of our Heavens, or the Coldness of our Soil deny us at home, for Trade is that whereby those Things are introduced into a Country which it self fails to produce.

Since therefore Trade is so useful, and indeed so necessary an Occupation for a People, it behoves them much to understand aright the Constitution of it, and not only to know their own Wants and Superfluities, but those of other Countries also, that they may the better regulate their Affairs, and send their Commodities to such Markets as have them in greatest Esteem, but above all the Art of Improving those

C                      Branches



Braches of Trade which are Advantageous, and waining from those which are injurious to the Wealth of a Country, deserves our Application, for useful as Trade is, it may however for want of proper Regulations turn to the Disadvantage of a Country, and become a Means to drain away all that Treasure, which it before introduced ; thus Want by obliging to Industry begets Wealth, and Wealth by a strange Reverse, reduces to Poverty again, if a prudent OEconomy is wanting ; for Indolence and Luxury are ever in the Train of Wealth, and stalk close upon the Heels of Riches, these beget a shameful Neglect of Industry, and an immoderate Consumption of foreign Commodities, by which Means our Importations become more expensive, and our Exportations less valuable, till at last our Income falls short of our Expence, and



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and whensoever this happens, either to a private Person, or to a Nation in general, that Minute they have passed the Summit of Fortune, and run headlong to Indigence and Misery.

To form a right Judgment (therefore) on the Trade of any Country, we must first know what Proportion its Exportations and Importations bear one to the other, for as much as the one exceeds the other, so much are they Gainers or losers by Trade, for Example, if there be exported to foreign Markets to the value only of 100,000 *l.* and imported from Abroad to the Value of 150,000 *l.* the exported Commodities pay only for 100,000 *l.* of their foreign Consumptions, and the rest must either be paid for in Money, or remain a Debt upon the Nation, which is the same thing, and how quick a Pace to Poverty they run who lose 50 *l.* per Cent. by Trade, is easily understood.

*False*

*False*

*False*



This Disadvantage in Trade must proceed either from a want of Industry in the Inhabitants, or from their extravagant Consumption of foreign Commodities, wherefore it is the Business of a wise Administration in such a Case to lessen the Expence, by sumptuary Laws and a prudent Imposition of Taxes upon the Importation of such Commodities as perish amongst them, and to encourage at the same time to Industry, and Manufactures by which the natural Wealth of a Country is improved in its Value, and consequently the Exports also.

There is a twofold Wealth in ev'ry Country; one consists in the simple Produce of the Earth, and may therefore be called the natural Wealth, but the other, which is indeed the greater Treasure, arises from the Labour of the People improving upon the Former, and adding



ding to its Value : Thus a Stone of Flax, which as it's plucked from the Earth, may be worth two Shillings, when spun into fine Thread sells for 4 Pounds, but if wove into Linnen, gives a better Price ; and if wrought into Lace, extravagantly more ; and this additional Value, whatever it amounts to, is the artificial Wealth ; wherefore when the natural Wealth is not sufficient to defray the Expence of the People we must have Recourse to Art and Labour, which seldom fails to retrieve Affairs, when proper Measures are taken to stop those Drains which are occasioned by Riot and Luxury.

Trade may be divided into Inland and Foreign ; Inland Trade is that by which Particulars lose or gain in their Dealings, one with the other without increasing or diminishing the publick Wealth, and consists in buying and selling amongst themselves, which



which being only a Commutation within the Country can neither introduce nor drain away Treasure ; but inconsiderable as it may therefore seem, its however the chief Wheel of the grand Machine carrying to the Sea-ports, the Produce and Manufactures of the Country, and returning from thence the Commodities and Money imported, to be dispersed through the innermost Parts of the Land, as an Encouragement to new Labour and Industry in order for other Exports, and here ends the Office of inland Trade, but foreign takes up the Burthen where that has laid it down, and consists in the Dealings of one Country with another, in the Management of which, the Wisdom or Folly of a People is quickly discovered, for this is the great Channel by which their Wealth is either received or lost, by this the Superfluities of  
other



other Countries are to enter, and by this their own is to issue, here therefore a wise Legislature watches carefully that nothing noxious should be received ; and nothing issue to other Countries, which kept at home, might turn to greater Advantage ; here it is that the Importation of foreign Vanities is to be restrained, and the Exportation of unmanufactured Commodities confined ; here it is that foreign finished Manufactures, which afford the People no Employment, and perish amongst them are loaded and discouraged, whilst the Importation of *Primums* that furnish them with Matter to work upon, is eased and promoted ; here the Manufactures of a Country are made to come cheaper to the Inhabitants than those of Strangers, tho' the Expence of making should be greater ; and here, in short, is exercised all the Mystery



Mystery of growing rich by Trade, whilst a prudent Administration by a discreet Imposition of Taxes brings all these things about ; and gives what Turns it thinks most convenient to the Channels of Trade.

There is nothing so nearly concerned in Trade as Land, the Interests of the one and the other are inseparable, and they must always rise and fall together ; for as Trade is supported by the Produce of Land, improved by Art and Labour into various Forms, and fitted to the Occasions of foreign Countries, so Land is raised in its Value, by the Plenty of Money brought in by Trade, wherefore it greatly behoves those Gentlemen whose Fortunes are in Land, and whose Rank in the World afford them a Prospect of sharing in the Administration, to understand well the Trade of their Country, that they may be able to  
give



give Advice on so important a Subject whensoever it comes before them, without giving themselves up to the Councils of particular Traders, whose private Interests are a heavy Byas upon their Judgments, and lead often into very fatal Mistakes : Many worthy and honest Gentlemen (no doubt) there are of that Vocation, but it is the Interest of every body to be thought so ; and that makes it almost impossible to distinguish aright betwixt the Affectation of Virtue and Virtue it self ; wherefore, I say, it greatly behoves the Landed-men to be able to judge for themselves, and to remain no longer under the Direction of those whose Interest it may possibly be to mislead them.

There is nothing more necessary to be understood by those who are to form Decrees, in Relation to Commerce, than the Difference in

D

Value



Value between the Exportations and Importations of their Country, that being the Measure of their Loss and Gain by Trade; this is commonly called the Ballance of Trade; and may be divided into the General, and the Particular; the general Ballance of Trade is our Loss or Gain, by our general Dealings, with all the World: And it requires but little Art to discover, whether this be for or against us; for its Symptoms are strong and obvious: A general Depretiation of all Commodities, and a universal Face of Poverty spreading it self over the Land, if it be against us; but high Prices and a chearful Plenty of Money, if it be for us; but the particular Ballance of Trade respects our Dealings with particular Countries; and is harder to be discovered, tho' more necessary to be understood than the other;



other ; for we may be Gainers in the general, and yet Losers by our Trade with particular Countries, to such a Degree, as may eat up most Part of our Profit by all the Rest ; and by that Means greatly retard our growing rich ; so likewise may we be greatly Gainers by particular Branches of Trade, and yet Losers by others, which like a secret Disease prey upon our Vitals, and waste our Constitution faster than the wholesome Nourishment of the others can repair it ; but a wise Statesman, like a skilful Physitian, searches out the Cause of this general Decay, and employs all his Art to discover in what Part the Distemper lies ; a Knowledge, without which, the Statesman, as well as the Physitian, would ever be at a Loss in the Application of his Remedies.



To arrive at this Knowledge in Trade, it is necessary, not only to know the Difference in Value between our Exports and Imports in general, but between those also to and from the Countries respectively, with which we have any Commerce; in order to which, it will be proper to consider them, under the following Heads, *viz.*

As transacted by Natives in home-built Shipping.

As transacted by Natives in foreign Shipping.

As transacted by Strangers in home-built Shipping.

As transacted by Strangers in foreign Shipping.

Then we must compute what the Ships Freight and the Merchant's Expence and Profit may reasonably amount to *per Cent.* on the Commodities traded with; for by adding that to the home Price of  
our



our Exportations, we shall come pretty near their selling Price at foreign Markets ; and by deducting the same from the Price of Imports at our Markets, we shall be very close upon their first Cost at the Place of Lading ; this Article in *England* is rated at 25*l. per Cent.* and in all Probability it is not less with us, since our Profit upon foreign Sales, is greater than theirs, and our Expence less : Now if the whole Trade were managed by Natives in our own Ships, this Sum would entirely be saved to the Nation, on the Purchase of its Imports ; and gained in the Sale of its Exports ; for the Freight, Expence and Profit, issuing all to Natives, wou'd only be a Computation within ourselves, and of Consequence we drain to the Nation ; but as our Trade is carryed on partly by Strangers, they must be paid whatever falls to their Share of that



that Sum, and so much must be added to the first Cost of our Imports, and deducted from the selling Price of our Exports; the Freight, Expence, and Profit, or so much thereof, as they earn, going always to these Countries, to which the Merchant and the Ship belongs; but we must take care to consider all Money and Bullion imported and exported either in Trade or to answer Bills of Exchange, apart from any other Commodity or Merchandize; for whereas we count our Exports of other Commodities gain to the Nation, and our Imports Loss in respect to Money 'tis just the reverse; our Exports are all Loss and our Imports Gain; and we must compute accordingly, if we would come at the Truth, for what avails it to gain on the Ballance of other Commodities, if we lose more than our Gains by an unprofitable Issue of Money?

We



We are also in the stating of our Accounts, to have an Estimate of our Losses at Sea ; for so much of our Exports as are lost before they arrive at Market, must be deducted from the Value of our Exports (the Nation receiving no Value for them) and so much of foreign Commodities as have been purchased by Natives, in order for Importation tho' lost by the Way, must however be rated as imported, the Nation having paid Value for them.

And when we have thus stated the Accounts of our Exportations and Importations respectively, and deducted the one from the other, the Ballance is our Loss or Gain by that Branch of Trade ; for Example, we find by the *Custom-house* Books for the Year ending 1725. that our Trade with *France* stood thus.

Ex-



Exports 214,422,

Imports 141,650,

-----

Ballance 72,772.

But the Imports as well as Exports, being here rated at the selling Price in our Markets, without any Allowance for a Benefit on the Article of Trade ; the Ballance of 72,772 must be only the Ballance which wou'd arise in Case the whole Trade were managed by Strangers in foreign Shipping ; but it is probable that two thirds of that whole Trade is managed by Natives in home built Shipping, and if so, then adding 25 *per Cent.* to 2 thirds of our Exports, and deducting the same from two thirds of our Imports, our Ballance on that Branch will be 132,202 ; but as my present Intention is not so much to be exact in the Account it self,



self, as in the manner of stating it, I will here distinguish it under such Heads as I have mentioned ; dividing our Imports and Exports into 4 equal Parts. That the Reader may the better understand the Method which I propose for the more exact Discovery of the Ballance ;

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>
Exported in home built Shipping by Natives to the Value of	53,605	$\frac{1}{2}$
More by Natives in foreign Shipping to the Value of	53,605	$\frac{1}{2}$
More by Strangers in home built Shipping to the Value of	53,605	$\frac{1}{2}$
More by Strangers in foreign Shipping to the Value of	53,605	$\frac{1}{2}$
<hr/>		
Exported in all at our Market-Price to the Value of	214,422	
To which if we add 25 <i>per Cent.</i> for Freight Expence and Profit,	53,605	$\frac{1}{2}$
<hr/>		
The selling Price at foreign Markets may be	268,027	$\frac{1}{2}$

But the Trade being manag'd partly by Foreigners, they must be paid their Share of this 25 *per Cent.* which being deducted from the above, the Remainder will be our National Gain by Exportation, wherefore

E

To



To Strangers for Freight, Expence and Profit on 53, 605 <i>l.</i> worth exported by them in foreign Shipping at 25 <i>l.</i> per Cent.	13,401
More to them Expence and Profit on 53, 605 <i>l.</i> worth Exported by them in our Shipping after paying our selves 5 <i>l.</i> per Cent. Freight.	10,721
More for Freight of 53, 605 <i>l.</i> worth Exported by us in foreign Vessels at 5 <i>l.</i> per Cent.	2,680
In all	26,802
And then our Exportation will bring us in	241,225

But we Import from *France* as follows, *viz.*

	<i>l.</i>	<i>q.</i>
By Natives in home built Shipping to the Value of	35,412	$\frac{1}{2}$
More by Natives in foreign Shipping to the Value of	35,412	$\frac{1}{2}$
More by Strangers in home built Shipping to the Value of	35,412	$\frac{1}{2}$
More by Strangers in foreign Shipping to the Value of	35,412	$\frac{1}{2}$
Imported in all at our Market-Price to the Value of	141,650	
From which if we deduct 25 <i>l.</i> per Cent. for Freight Expence and Profit.	35,412	
The first Cost of our whole Import may be	106,238	
But we must add to this Article 25 <i>l.</i> per Cent. for so much of our Import as was furnished by Strangers, wherefore to Strangers for Freight, Expence and Profit on 35,412 <i>l.</i> worth imported by them in foreign Ships at 25 <i>l.</i> per Cent.	8,853	
More to them Expence and Profit on 35,412 <i>l.</i> worth imported by them in our Shipping after paying our selves 5 <i>l.</i> per Cent. Freight.	7082	
More for Freight of 35,412 <i>l.</i> worth imported by us in foreign Shipping at 5 <i>l.</i> per Cent.	1,761	
To be added in all	17,706	
And		



And then the Loss on our Imports will be  
But our Exportation brings us

L.  
123,944.  
241,215

Wherefore the Nation is Gainer on the Ballance of  
that Trade } 117,281

But if we have sent out any Sum of Money, either in Trade or for the Support of our Gentry travelling in that Country, it is so much Loss to the Nation, and must be deducted from our Gain ; and having so done, we shall not be very much mistaken in the Ballance of our Loss and Gain by that Branch ; and so for any other Branch of our lawful Trade, which that the curious Reader may the better be able to do for himself, I annex here to a short Abstract of our Exports and Imports to and from the several Countries with which we Trade, at a Medium of the selling Price in our Markets for the Year ending *Lady-Day* 1725 ; but before I conclude this Essay, it may not be



improper to add the following Remarks on the Management of Trade in general; that when the Ballances of our particular Trades are discovered, and when we are assured which are the advantagious and which the detrimental Branches of Commerce, we may the better be able to apply such political Remedies, as may effectually stop the Drains which before kept the Nation poor, and enlarge those Channels by which the Wealth was received.

I. It is highly advantagious to a Nation to manage their own Trade in home built Shipping, because in such Case the whole Freight, Expence and Profit is gained to the Nation, on their Exports, and saved on their Imports, whereas if the Trade and Navigation is left to Strangers, the Nation must pay 25 l. per Cent, (*viz.* the Freight, Expence and Profit) more than it otherwise would for its Imports;



ports; and gain so much less on its Exports.

II. That Trade is the least beneficial, which takes of the primums of Manufactures, and not the Manufactures themselves, because it deprives the People of matter to work upon, and gives it to Strangers, *et Vice Versa*, that Trade is more advantagious which takes off our Manufactures, than that which takes primums only, because it pays not only for the Produce of our Lands, but for the Art and Labour of our People also.

III. It is better to buy the primums of Manufactures from abroad, than the Manufacture itself, because in the first Case, Value issues only for the Materials, but in the last, we must not only pay for the Materials, but for the Labour and Art also which brought them to perfection.

IV.



IV. When native Commodities fail to employ all the Hands of a Country, it is prudent to Import Foreign, to be Manufactured for re-exportation ; because the Improvement thereon from Art and Labour, adds considerably to its value, and is (as it were) a new Comodity which could not issue without them.

V. Buying in one Country to sell the same to advantage in another, is a business of very great Profit, affording not only to the Ships owner and the Merchant, but to the Nation also a considerable Gain, and furnishing them with a constant Employment in one part or other of the World, whenever Trade is dead at Home.

VI. The nearer Commodities are bought to the place of their Growth, the more advantageous they are to the Country Importing ; because Ship's Freight, Sailors Wages, &c. being but a Commutation within themselves,



selves, are no drain to the Nation ; and the first Cost only issues ; whereas in buying at second Hand, the Seller must be paid for all these Things, and a Profit also for his Hazard, Expence and Trouble, so likewise the farther off we can sell our own Commodities, the more Advantagious to the Nation, the Expence and Hazard of the Navigation, adding considerably to their Price at such Markets.

VII. The Quantity of exported Commodities and not the Price had for them at Market, enriches a Nation ; for 50,000 Ells of Linnen sold at 10 s. an Ell will bring the Nation but 25,000 l. whereas 100,000 Ells of the same Linnen sold at 8 l. the Ell (which is 2 s. cheaper) brings 40,000 l. so that it is the true Interest of a Country, by all possible Means to enlarge their Sales Abroad.

VIII. The only way to enlarge our Sales, is to enable our selves to under-



undersel our Neighbours ; it being a standing Rule, that he who sells cheapest and best must have most Customers.

IX. It is better for a Nation to pay ready Money to Foreigners importing, than Commodities or Manufactures ; because in delivering our Manufactures we leave the Benefit on the Article of Navigation, &c. to the Takers which would be Gain to the Nation, if we had exported them our selves ; whereas in exporting the Money, there is very great Hazard and little Profit on the Article of Navigation, &c.

X. Taxes raise the Price of Commodities on the Consumers, and are therefore very dangerous to the Wealth of a Country, when laid on the Exportation of their own Manufactures ; but highly advantageous on the Importation of such as drain away our Wealth and perish among us.

XI.



XI. Præmiums on the Exportation of Goods enable the Merchant to sell them so much cheaper at foreign Markets than he could otherwise afford them, and are of singular use in Cases where we are undersold by others, for which reason, it is a Nation's Profit to give Præmiums where the Sale of their Manufactures would otherwise be lessen'd; for suppose that in a 1000 l. worth of Linnens, we are undersold by Strangers at foreign Markets in 50 l. and that our Sale thereof is by that Means stop'd, a Præmium of 60 l. to the Exporter would enable him to sell the same Parcel of Linnen 10 l. cheaper than the Stranger; by which means he would infallibly get the Customers; so that by giving the Exporter 60 l. (which is no Loss to the Nation if he be a Native) there is a 1000 l. brought into the Country which wou'd otherwise go to Strangers.



Many other Rules there are for the Regulation of Trade and Commerce too tedious to be inserted here ; but they occur more properly in treating of the particular Branches of Trade, in the following Chapters, to which I shall refer my Reader.

And having thus briefly considered Trade in general, I proceed in the next Place to take a View of that of our own poor Country, which lies bleeding with many Wounds, and calls aloud for some skilful Hand to stop its Issues ; true it is that we labour under heavy Restrictions, and that our Affairs are incumbred with many Difficulties ; but we must not therefore give up the Cause of our Country, and neglect the little which is left : Men of large Estates may take their Ease, and think themselves above that Care and Oeconomy, which is absolutely necessary for narrower Circumstances ; they can bear many  
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and great Mismanagements, but one false Step may destroy a slender Fortune, and bring it to nothing ; it behoves us therefore who have so small an Estate in Trade, and so many Drains upon it, to employ in a more particular manner all our Conduct and Circumspection in the Management thereof, and not to suffer ourselves by a false way of reasoning to be led into such a fatal neglect of our Affairs, as wou'd too quickly bring our little to nothing.

I am sorry to find so universal a Dispondency amongst us in respect to Trade ; Men of all Degrees give up the Thoughts of improving our Commerce, and conclude that the Restrictions, under which we are laid, are so insurmountable that any Attempt on that Head wou'd be vain and fruitless ; but this is a dangerous Opinion to prevail amongst a People, and may in Time



throw such a Damp upon the Spirits of the Nation as may prove highly injurious to our Business, there being no greater incentive to Labour and Industry, than the Prospect of Gain, and no greater discouragement from them, than the Thoughts of a poor Return; It mayn't therefore be improper before we proceed farther to consider, what our Success has been within these last 50 Years, that we may the better judge, if the Trade which is still left us be worth our looking after.

Sir *William Petty* in his *Political Anatomy of Ireland*, publish'd in 1676. computes that the whole Territory consisting of 9000,000 of Acres, good Arable Pasture and Meadow, and 1500,000 Acres of Loughs, Boggs, Shrubbs, Woods, &c. *Irish* Plantation Measure and *Strafford* Survey, afforded an Annual Rent (including His Majesty's Quit-Rents



Rents, the Tythes and Tenements, Improvements) of 900,000 *l.* and was worth to be purchased at the highest selling Price of those Times, 9 Millions at present (considering the great Improvements of Lands, and the very favourable Survey in general) the 9000,000 Acres of good Arable Pasture and Meadow, may be worth at a Medium of 4 *s.* 6 *d.* per Acre, or 2,025,000 *l.* *per Annum*, and His Majesty's Quit Rents, the Tythes and Tenements, Improvements, at a modest Computation 799,870 *l.* *per Annum*. so that without making any Allowance for 1,500,000 Acres of Boggs, Woods, &c. the Rents, publick and private, arising from the rest, is 2,824,870 *l.* *per Annum*. and that at 20 Years Purchase (the lowest selling Price of this Time) is worth 56,497,400 *l.* or 47,497,400 more than it was worth in 1676, when



when that Gentleman made his Calculation ; but if we add to this the great increase of our Personal Estate, and the number of Hands which is daily added to our Industry ; and if we at the same time consider that whilst we have been accumulating that Treasure, we had all along labour'd under a dead Drain for the Support of our Out-Lyers, which alone has lately been estimated at 600,000 *l. per Annum*, and which in the whole cannot be under 23,000,000 *l. Sterl.* we shall find that stinted in Trade and wasted by Out-Lyers ; as we are, there is still somewhat left highly deserving of our Care and Circumspection.

*Ireland* is in respect to its Scituation, the Number of commodious Harbours, and the natural Wealth which it produces, the fittest Island to acquire Riches of any in the *European Seas* ; for as by its Scituation  
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it lies the most commodious for the *West-Indies*, *Spain*, and the *Northern* or *East-Countries*; so it is not only supply'd by Nature with all the Necessaries of Life, but can over and above export large Quantities of its Growth and Manufacture to foreign Markets, infomuch that had it been Mistress of a Free-Trade, no Nation in *Europe* of its Extent could in an equal number of Years acquire a greater Wealth.

The Commodities which it produces, are *Wool*, *Linnen* and *Hemp*, *Beef*, *Butter*, *Tallow* and *Hides*, *Kelp*, *Soap*, *Ashes*, *Lead*, *Iron* and *Copper*, *Fish* and *Corn*, *Salt*, *Coals*, *Marble* and *Timber*, of each of which large Quantities might annually be exported, if proper Care were taken to improve the National Industry, and to put the Business of which, we are yet possess'd under proper Regulations; but before we enter  
into



into those Particulars, it will be proper to take a short View of the present State of the Trade of these Nations in general, with respect to the several Impropriations thereof, either by *Charters* or *Acts of Parliament*, and to consider what particular Laws have been made in *England* to incumber that which was left us, in which I shall be somewhat particular to shew of what Importance our Neighbours have always thought the Regulation of their Trade, how often they have revised and amended their Commercial Laws, and how great a Part of the National Business was swallowed up by a few Favourite Companies, exclusive of the People in general, until the Wisdom of their *Parliaments* roused up by the Inconveniencies arising from such contracted Ways of acting, broke their Bonds in funder, and laid the



the Province of Trade in a Manner Free and Open to all.

The Trade to *Russia* was carried on through the Ports of the *Baltick* until the Reign of *Philip* and *Mary*, when the Port of *Archangel* was discovered, by some Adventures of *London*, in attempting the *North* Passage to *China*; this was thought a matter of that great Consequence to *England*, that the Adventures were rewarded with a Patent granting to them certain Liberties and Immunities exclusive of all others their Majesties Subjects; which Patent was by Act of Parliament in the 8th of Queen *Elizabeth* confirmed to them and their Successors, under the Name of the *Fellowship of English Merchants for Discovery of New Trades*; but Experience shewing that so limited a Company was unequal to that Trade, it was by the 10th and 11th of *William III.* Cap. vi. order'd that

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every Subject of the Realm of *England* desiring admission to the said Company should upon payment of 5 *l.* to the Company be admitted thereto, and enjoy all the Priviledges and Immunities which the said *Company* or *Fellowship* were any ways intitled to.

The Trade to the Coast of *Africk* was attempted by some *English* Adventurers towards the latter End of Queen *Elizabeth's* Reign, and carried on without any particular Priviledges, till the 16th of King *James* I. when His Majesty incorporated them by a *Charter* with several Powers and Immunities, exclusive of all others His Majesty's Subjects; but this was not thought sufficient to debar others from trading to those Parts, and several particular Merchants tempted by the great Gain which they saw the Company make, and insisting upon their natural  
Right



Right adventured to those Parts notwithstanding the Companies *Charter* ; but these *Interlopers* sharing in the Benefit of all the Expence which the Company was at in Forts and Castles for the Protection of their Trade, and contributing nothing to the common Charge, were able to undersel the Company, and forced them at last to give up the Cause, and withdraw their several Stocks ; the *Dutch* in the mean time became very intent upon that Trade, and finding the *English* Affairs in those Parts unconcerted and without Power grew very troublesome to our Merchants, and at last engrossed most part of that rich Trade to themselves, whereupon Application being made to King *Charles* I. he in the 7th Year of his Reign granted a new *Charter* with exclusive Priviledges like the former ; which was afterwards confirmed by *Cromwell* ; but the *Interlo-*

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*pers* had then a fairer Pretence than ever to insist on the natural Right, and so the Company and the *Interlopers* fell together by the Ears, and gave the *Dutch* and *Danes* a new Opportunity to enlarge their Settlements, and to build several Forts and Factories on those Coasts; till at last not only the Company but the *Interlopers* themselves were almost entirely beat out of that Trade.

Soon after the Restoration, there was a new *Charter* granted by King *Charles II.* but the *Dutch War* breaking out in 1664. *De Ruiter* their Admiral took that Opportunity to destroy all the *English* Settlements on that Coast; but when the Peace with *Holland* was concluded, His Majesty invited all His Subjects to a new Subscription and joint Stock, and granted to the Subscribers thereof under the Name of *The Royal African Company*, another *Charter* with the same exclu-



exclusive Priviledges ; but the *Interlopers* still carried on a separate Trade very much to the Disadvantage of the Company ; wherefore in the Year 1697 they applied to the *Parliament* for Redress, who found out a Medium to reconcile their different Interest, and by the 9th and 10th of *William III. Chap. 26.* Enacted that the Trade to *Africk* from *England* and from the *Plantations* in *America* should be laid open to all the Subjects of the Realm of *England* as well as to the Company, they paying to the Company a Duty of 10 *l. per Cent.* for all Commodities imported or exported, except *Redwood*, for which only 5 *l. per Cent.* is to be paid, and *Gold, Silver* and *Negroes* which are Free ; and it is by this Act provided, that all the natural born Subjects of *England* paying the Duties aforesaid to the Company, shall be intitled to the same Protection, Defence, and Security, from



from all the Company's Forts and Castles, and the same Freedom for their Negotiations and Trade that the Company has or is any ways intitled to, and shall and may at their own Expence settle Factories on any part of the Coast of *Africk* within the Limits of the Company, *viz.* from *Cape-Mount* to the *Cape* of *Good-Hope*, and from *Cape-Blanco* to *Cape-Mount*, without any hindrance from the Company the Duties which are to be paid to the Company are to be according to the first Cost, and Bonds are to be given for the delivery of all Goods to be exported from *England* or the Plantations in the particular Places for which they are design'd on that Coast; and again like Bond on their return for *England* or the Plantations. The Continuance of this Act was but for 13 Years, and to the End of the next Session of *Parliament*, but notwithstanding the strenuous



nuous opposition of the Company it was renewed by. Of Queen *Anne* :

We begun our Trade to *Turkey* in 1598 but that was also quickly engrossed by the *Levant Company* who obtained a Charter from Queen *Elizabeth* for that Purpose, the Constitution of this Corporation is somewhat particular, and I may say without Precedent among all the Monopolies of the *English* Trade ; for limited as it is, there is however no one forbid to trade thither who subjects himself to the Duties imposed on separate Traders by the Company, in whose Hands is the entire Power of fixing the Duties on all the Commodities imported from thence ; but even this hardship is in Effect nothing, for any of His Majesty's Subjects are intitled on the payment of 50 *l.* to have admission into the Company, and to enjoy all the Liberties and Immunities thereof.

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By the Produce of the Duties imposed by the Company, they are obliged constantly to maintain a Royal Embassador at the *Ottoman* Court, and to defray the Expence of their several Consuls and Settlements in those Parts. I don't find that we are any ways restrained from trading thither, tho' I believe without admision into the Company we should find our selves but ill intitled to their Protection in those Parts.

The Fisheries of *Greenland* and *Newfoundland* were by the 25th of *Charles II. Chap. vii.* limited to the Inhabitants of *England, Wales, or Berwick upon Tweed*, navigating as directed by the Act of Navigation, Victualing in *England, Wales, or Berwick*, and proceeding from thence to the Voyage, on which Terms they were to import any Oyl, Blubber or *Wale* Finns, &c. taken by them free from  
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any Custom or Impost whatsoever ; but all these Priviledges were by 4th and 5th *William* and *Mary*, Chap. xvii. vested in an exclusive Company, under the Name of the Company trading to *Greenland*, with an additional Clause, that an *English* Master and one third of *English* Mariners should entitle them to the Benefit of the 25th of *Charles* II. provided they in all other Respects conform'd to the Navigation Act, victualled in *England*, *Wales* or *Berwick*, and proceeded from thence directly to the Fishery ; but the Company having in a great Measure lost that Business to Foreigners either by their own Neglect or Incapacity, It was provided by the 1st of *Queen Anne*, Chap. xvi. that notwithstanding any Clause in the 4th and 5th of *William* and *Mary*, it shall and may be lawful for any of their Majesties Subjects whatsoever, to go to those Seas, and to have

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and enjoy all the Priviledges that were granted to the Company by the said Act, and that they shall not pay any further or other Duty than if they had been of the Company ; this Act relates only to the Fishery of *Greenland*, but as to that of *Newfoundland*, it was by the 10th and 11th of *William III. chap. xxv.* laid open to all His Majesty's Subjects residing in *England*, or in any of the Dominions thereunto belonging, in as full a manner as the same has been at any time heretofore enjoyed by any of the Subjects of His Majesty's Predecessors by this Act the respective Duties to be paid for Goods fished in *English* Shipping, for Goods fished in Plantation Ships, and for those caught in foreign Shipping are fixed, and the entire Government and Management of that Fishery and Trade is extremely well provided for.

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The Trade to *Sweeden* and *Denmark* was vested in the *Eastland* Company, exclusive of all others, till by the 25th of *Charles II. Chap. vii.* it was laid open to all Persons as well Natives as Foreigners, notwithstanding any thing to the contrary contained in the Charter of that Company, and every Subject of the Realm of *England* was by this Act intituled to an Admission to that Company on the Payment of 40 s.

The Charter by which the *East-India* Company engross to themselves all the rich Trade of the East, was granted to the Subscribers of two Millions, advanced upon a Fund for Payment of Annuities at the Rate of 8 per Cent. pursuant to a Power given to King *William* by the 9th and 10th of His Reign, *Chap. xliv.* since which Time, many other Acts have been made for the better Regulation of that Trade, and for the fur-



ther Security of the Company against *Interlopers*, whereby it is made unlawful for any one of His Majesty's Subjects to trade or go to the *East-Indies* unless they be of the Company, or are employed by them or to contribute to, or promote any foreign Company trading to the *East* from the *Austrian Netherlands*, or to import into any Place belonging to the *English* Crown any of the Growth or Manufactures of the *East* unless they be ship'd in some Part of *Great-Britain*, except Cinnamon, Cloves, Mace and Nutmeggs, which by the 8th of *Anne* and 6th of *George*, may be imported from other Places by License ; but I don't find that *Ireland* except as by the Navigation Act is expressly restrained from importing from other Countries any *East-India* Goods, but wrought Silks, Muslins and Callicoes, which by the 5th of *George*, Chap. xi. they must import from  
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*Great-Britain* only on pain of Forfeiture of Ship and Goods.

The *South-Sea* Company were incorporated by the 9th of *Anne*, Chap. xxi. with Power to trade from the River *Oronoco* on the *Eastern* Side of *America* to the *Southern* Parts of *Terra dell Fuego*, and thence *Westward* as far as *Brazil* and *Surinam*, exclusive of all other Her Majesty's Subjects, but these Priviledges were to expire on the repayment of the Money advanced by them after a certain Time therein mentioned, wherefore for the farther Encouragement of the new Company it was thought proper by the 10th of *Anne*, Chap. xxx. to continue these Priviledges to them and their Successors for ever, notwithstanding the repayment of their Debt: In their Hands is the sole Trade to the *Spanish West-Indies*, which was granted to *England* in 1713 by the *Assiento*, as a Preliminary to the general



ral Peace concluded soon after at Utrecht: The *Affientists* are by their Agreement impowred to import *Negroes* into his Catholick Majesty's Dominions for the space of 30 Years, paying for every Head of 4800 *Negroes*, annually a Duty of 33 Pieces of Eight and one third of a Piece of Eight in full of all Impositions whatsoever, and for any further Number which they shall import a Duty only of 16 Pieces of Eight, and two thirds of a Piece of Eight a Head. But his Catholick Majesty reserves to himself one fourth Part of the general Gain of that Trade upon paying or securing to be paid to the *Affientists* 1, 000, 000 of Pieces of Eight with the Interest thereof at 8 *per Cent.* towards carrying on His Majesty's said 4th part of the Business, that being one quarter of the Sum which was thought necessary for the Undertaking and for the first Establish-



Establishment of the Company, and the *Affientists* are to adjust their Accounts with His Majesty every fifth Year; but his Catholick Majesty by the 24th Article of the *Affiento* as a further Demonstration of his Esteem for the Queen of *Great-Britain*, has licensed one Ship of 500 Tuns Burden to trade Yearly into his Dominions with such Commodities of the Growth or Manufacture of *Europe* as they can best dispose of there, his Majesty still reserving to himself one fourth part of the clear Gain thereof, as in the *Affiento* and 5 *per Cent.* Duty on the other three Parts.

These are most if not all the Monopolies of the *English* Trade, and I have been the more particular in deducing them from their first Originals that the Reader may judge for himself how far he is affected by them, let us in the next Place consider what Laws have been made in

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*England* to incumber our Trade in particular, and when that is done, we shall be able to judge what Branches of our Trade are deserving of our Protection and Encouragement, and what are not. And as Navigation is the Means by which Trade and Commerce are chiefly perform'd, it will be proper to begin with ours, and shew upon what Footing it stands at present.

As soon as the People of *England* had restored King *Charles II.* and settled their Affairs on the antient Foot, they quickly begun to consider of what Importance it was to them to take care of their Navigation and Commerce; and finding that for want of proper Regulations the industrious *Hollanders* furnished all their Markets with foreign Commodities cheaper than they could themselves import them, and by that means left no Encouragement to  
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build or fit out Ships in *England*. It was thought proper to lay such a Weight on all Goods imported in foreign shipping as might encourage their Merchants to build for themselves, or at least to freight home built shipping in order to save the extraordinary Duties which they must have paid on foreign Bottoms; and in as much as it was Customary with the *Dutch* to have in their Towns constant Magazeens of all Kinds of foreign Commodities, which the *English* Merchants to make a quick Return of their Money, and to save the Expence and Hazard of a tedious Voyage used to buy there. It was thought proper to lay such a Duty on all Commodities that were not bought and taken on board in *English* Vessels, at the Place of their Growth and Production, as might oblige the People of

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*England* to go to the Countries from which the *Dutch* first brought them; and by that means to save the Nation so much of the Cost of their foreign Consumption as the *Dutch* before exacted on the Article of their Navigation. And accordingly by the 12th of *Charles II.* Chap. xviii. commonly called the Navigation Act, the whole matter of the Navigation of these Dominions was regulated and modelled; and as we of *Ireland* have the good Fortune to be included therein under the same Advantages and Restrictions with the Inhabitants of *England*; it may not be improper to give the Reader a particular Abstract thereof.

By this Act (therefore) is provided that no Goods whatsoever shall be Imported or Exported to or from any of His Majesty's Lands, Islands, Plantations, or Territories in *Asia*,  
*Africk*



*Africk* or *America*, but in Ships truly and *bona fide* belonging to the Subjects of *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales*, or *Bermick* upon *Tweed*, or in such as are of the Built of and belonging to His Majesty's said Lands, Islands, Plantations, or Territories, in *Asia*, *Africk*, or *America*, navigated by three fourths of the Mariners, and the Master *English* on pain of the Forfeiture of Ship and Cargo, one Third thereof to the Governor of the Place or Plantation where taken, one Third to the Discoverer, and one Third the King.

And that no Foreigner unless naturaliz'd, shall on pain of forfeiting Goods and Chattles be Merchant or Factor, in any of the said Places.

And that all Officers upon entering on their Office shall take an Oath to execute strictly this Law, and upon neglecting to execute the same shall be removed from their Employment.



And that no Goods of the Growth, Production or Manufacture of *Asia*, *Africk* or *America* shall be imported into *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales*, *Berwick*, *Fersey*, or *Guernsey*; but in *English* built Ships navigated as above, on pain of forfeiting Ship and Cargo.

And that no Goods or Commodities which are confin'd to be imported in *English* built Shipping shall be imported from any other Place but from the Place of their Growth and Production, or from such Places as the same are usually first ship'd from on pain of Confiscation of Ship and Cargo.

And that all Fish, Fish-Oyl, Blubber, *Whale*-Finns, or *Whale*-Bones imported into *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales* or *Berwick*, and which have not been fished for and cured by the People thereof in Ships truly belonging to them, shall pay double Aliens Duty; (but this as to Oyl and Finns is alter'd by



by 25 Charles II. Chap. vii. and thereby all People of any Nation whatsoever residing in *England*, may import them Duty free in *English* built Shipping navigated as above, provided the same has been fished for in such Ships.)

And it is further provided, that no Ships but *English*, built and navigated as above, shall trade from Port to Port of *England*, *Ireland*, *Jersey* or *Guernsey*, and that no Stranger or Person not naturalized shall be Owner, or Part-Owner in such Ships on Pain of Forfeiture of Ship and Cargo (but by Act of *James II. Chap. xviii.* foreign Ships brought into *England* may be employed in this Port of Trade, paying 5 s. per Tun Duty at the Port of Delivery over and above all former Duties.)

And



And it is Declared and Enacted, that where-ever any Ease, Abatement, or Priviledge is given in the Book of Rates to Goods imported or exported in *English* built Shipping, the same shall be understood to mean Ships built in *England, Ireland, Wales, Jersey, or Guernsey*, or in His Majesty's laid Lands, Islands, Territories, or Dominions in *Asia, Africk or America*, navigated during the whole Voyage, by an *English* Master, and at least three fourths of the Mariners *English*, which by the 14th of *Charles II. Chap. xi.* is declared to mean Subjects of *England, Ireland, or the Plantations.*

And it is further Enacted, that no Commodities of the Growth or Manufacture of *Russia or Muscovy*, no sort of Matts, Timber or Boards, no foriegn Salt, Rosin, Pitch, or Tar, Hemp or Flax, no Raisins, Firrs, Prunes, or Olive-Oyl, no sort of  
Corn



Corn or Grain, Sugar, Pot-Ashes, Wines, Vinegar, Aquavitæ or Brandy, no Currants, or Commodities of the Growth or Manufacture of the *Ottoman* Empire, or of the Dependencies thereon shall be imported into *England, Ireland, Wales, or Berwick*, but in *English* built shipping navigated as above, or in Ships belonging to the Countries which produce them respectively, or the Ports where the same are usually first ship'd from, and whereof the Master and three fourths of the Mariners are of such Countrey or Place respectively on Pain of Forfeiture of Ship and Cargo.

Provided always, that all the above Goods, and likewise all Wines of the Growth of *France* or *Germany, Spain* or *Portugal, Madera, the Canaries, or Western Islands*, which shall be imported in Ships belonging to the respective Places of their Growth  
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and Production, or to the Places or Ports respectively from whence the same are usually first ship'd, and not in *English* built shipping navigated as aforesaid, shall pay double Aliens Duty; but by the 14th of *Charles II.* Chap. xi. no sort of Wine, other than *Rhenish* no sort of Spices, Grocery, Tobacco, Pot-Ashes, Pitch, Tar, Salt, Rosin, Deal, Firr, Timber, or Olive-Oyl, shall be imported into *England* from the *Netherlands* or *Germany*, on Pain of Confiscation of Ship and Cargo.

And that no foreign built Ship shall be deem'd or pass as a Ship belonging to *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales*, or *Berwick*, unless the Owners or Part-Owners thereof, have first made Oath that they are Subjects of *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales* or *Berwick*, that no Alien has any Share or Interest therein, and that they have really and *bona fide* purchased the same for  
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valuable Consideration, and Registers of such Oaths shall be kept at the respective Ports of *England* and *Ireland*, whereof Duplicates shall be return'd to the chief Officers of the Customs in *London* and *Dublin* respectively.

And all Officers neglecting to demand Certificates, or allowing any Ship for *English* built which is not really such, or allowing the Privilege of this Act to any Ship until Proof first made, that the Master and three fourths of the Marriners are of the Place or Country from which the Goods are carried or otherwise neglecting to execute that Statute, shall for the first Offence lose their Office, Place or Government.

Provided always, that nothing therein shall restrain or hinder the Importation of the Commodities of the *Streights* or *Levant-Seas* from the usual Places of loading them in  
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those Seas in *English* built Shipping navigated as aforesaid.

And provided, that nothing therein shall restrain the Importation of *East-India* Goods from the usual Places of loading them to the *Southward* and *Eastward* of the *Cape* of *Good-Hope* in the aforesaid Ships navigated as aforesaid, tho' the same be not the Places of their Growth or Production.

And provided also, that it may be lawful for the People of *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales*, *Jersey*, and *Guernsey*, to import from the Ports of *Spain* or *Portugal*, the *Azores*, the *Madera* or *Canary-Islands* in *English* built Ships navigated as aforesaid; all Commodities of the Growth, Production or Manufacture of the Plantations or Dominions of either of them respectively.

And



And provided, that said Act shall not extend to Bullion nor to Goods taken by way of Reprisals by any Ship of *England, Ireland, Wales, Jersey, or Guernsey*, navigated as above.

And provided, that said Act shall not extend to lay Aliens Duty upon *Scotch* Corn, Salt and Fish imported in *Scotch* Ships, whereof three Fourths of the Mariners and the Master are His Majesty's Subjects, nor upon Seale-Oyl of *Russia* imported in *English* built Shipping.

And that all *French* Ships trading to *England, Ireland, or Wales*, shall pay to the Collector of the Port wherein she loads or unloads any Goods, or takes or delivers any Passengers 5 s. per Tun, which she shall be computed to be of Burthen, which Duty was to continue till three Months after that of 50 Solls imposed on *English* Shipping by the

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King of *France* should be taken off.

And that no Sugars, Cotton-Wooll, Indigoes, Ginger, Fustick, or other Dying Wood, of the Production, Growth or Manufacture of any *English* Plantation in *Asia*, *Africk*, or *America*, shall be ship'd or convey'd from any of said *English* Plantations, but to some other of said Plantations, or to *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales* or *Berwick*, on pain of Forfeiture of Ship and Cargo.

And all Ships design'd for the Plantations from *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales* or *Berwick*, shall give Bonds of 1000 *l.* with one Surety, if the Ship be under 100 Tuns, and of 2000 *l.* if over; that in case they take on Board any Plantation Commodities, they shall import them into *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales*, or *Berwick*, the danger of the Seas excepted and all Governors of Plantations



ons shall there take Bonds of like Penalty from all other Ships permitted to trade thither, that all Goods taken on board by them in the Plantations shall be by them delivered in *England, Ireland, Wales* or *Berwick*, and all Ships sailing from the Plantations with such Goods on board, without first passing such Bond shall be forfeited with Cargo, Rigging and Apparel; and all Governors are obliged twice every Year to return Copies of all such Bonds to the chief Officer of the Customs in *London*.

It mayn't be improper to observe, that this Law in it self was so far from being a Hardship upon us, that it not only secured the Navigation of our own Country, inwards and outwards to our selves, but gave us also the same Immunities and Freedoms with the People of *England* in respect to their Imports and Exports, and  
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enabled us to trade from *England* to all the Dependencies on the *English* Crown, on equal Terms with *England*, to partake of the Præmiums granted on their Importations and Exportations, and to carry on a Trade with them on better Terms, and for less Duties than any other Nation in the World ; and the only Hardship we suffer by it is from the Exactions of the *East-India* Company on those Commodities of the *East*, which we by subsequent Laws are forbid to go for our selves to the Place of their Growth or Production, or to import from any other Place but *England*.

By the above Act, we cou'd trade freely to and from the Plantations directly, but by 15th *Charles* II. Chap. vii. no Commodities of the Growth of *Europe* were to be imported to the Plantations, but such as were laden and put on board in *England*,  
*Wales*,



Wales, or Berwick on pain of Confiscation, except Salt for the Fisheries of *New-England*, and *Newfoundland*, Wine from the *Maderas*, and *Azores*, and Horses, Servants, and Victuals from *Scotland* and *Ireland*, to which was added by the 3d and 4th of *Anne*, Chap. viii. and by the 3d of *George I.* Chap. xxi. Linnen from *Ireland*, but *Ireland* not being named in the new Law, we did not think our selves bound by it, and carried on our Trade as before; wherefore by the 22d and 23d of *Charles II.* Chap. xxvi. it is ordered, that the Word, *Ireland*, shall for the Future be left out of all Bonds taken for the delivery of the aforesaid Plantation Commodities; by which means tho' we were not expressly forbid to import them, yet the Bonds being to be given for Delivery in *England*, *Wales*, or *Berwick*, we could not without incurring the Penalty of

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our Bonds, deliver them any where else; and by that means we fell under the Limitations of the Navigation Act, the Plantation Act, &c. this Act was but temporary, till by a Clause in the 5th of *George I. Chap. xi.* It was continued so long as the Act of Tunnage and Poundage should endure; the 25th of *Charles II. Chap. vii.* gave us another Loop-Hole to creep out at; for by that Act, all Ships refusing to give Bond, were only to pay certain Duties therein enumerated; but by the Plantation Act of the 7th and 8th of *William III. Chap. xxii.* it is declared that the 25th of *Charles II.* related only to Goods carried from one Plantation to another, and that notwithstanding the Duties ordered to be paid by that Act, all Ships whatsoever shall give such Bonds as are required by the 12th, 22d, and 23d of *Charles II.* and afterwards in the 15th



15th *Section* of the same Act, to put Matters intirely out of Dispute, it is ordered, that no Commodities of the Growth or Manufacture of the Plantations, shall on any Pretence whatsoever, be landed in *Ireland*, or *Scotland*, unless the same has first been landed in *England*, and has paid the Rates and Duties, wherewith they are there chargeable by Law, if they be not really forced on Shore, and stranded by stress of Weather; In which case they may be taken on Shore for Safety, but not put to Sale until first ship'd off for *England*, landed there, and brought back again to *Ireland*; but all the Duties either paid or secured to be paid on landing of Plantation Commodities in *England*, are entirely drawn back, or Security vacated, on Re-exportation of the same; except that on Sugars, which

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leaves behind one half of the old Subsidy, or 6 *d.* of the Pound Rate.

These are the principle Restrictions laid upon us in respect to the Plantation Trade ; so that we are still upon a better Footing in respect to that Business, than any other Nation in *Europe*, if not upon quite so good a one as *England* ; I proceed in the next Place to consider the Laws which were made in *England*, in relation to our woollen Trade.

By the 3<sup>d</sup> of *Edward IV. Chap. iv.* the Importation of Cloath and all other woollen Manufactures, was prohibited in general Words ; but the same was afterwards declared not to extend to the Wares or Commodities of *Ireland*, so that notwithstanding the prohibition, we might still import our Woollen Manufactures ; and upon this Footing we stood till the Restoration ; when by the 12<sup>th</sup> of *Charles II. Chap. iv.* which granted



granted the Subsidy of Tunnage and Poundage all manner of Woollen Cloaths imported were rated at 8 l. a Yard, and so in proportion for most other Woollen Manufactures, without any particular Reservation as in that of the 4th of *Edward III.* for those of *Ireland*; but if this Book of Rates affected the Manufactures of *Ireland*, we had however this Comfort that we could export our Wooll raw or manufactured to any other Part of the World, where we found a Market for them, till by the 12th of *Charles II. Chap. xxxii.* It was enacted, that no Wooll, Woollfells, Shortlings, Mortlings, Yarn made of Wooll, Wooll-Flocks, Fullers-Earth, or Fulling-Clay, should be exported from *England, Ireland, Wales, or Berwick upon Tweed*, into *Scotland*, or any other Place out of His Majesty's Dominions, on pain of Forfeiture of Ship

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and Cargo, and Confiscation of the Goods and Chattels of the Master ; by 14th *Charles II. Chap. xviii.* Offences against 12 *Charles II.* was made Felony, in the Owners, Aiders, and Abettors ; and had they rested here, we should have had no reason to complain, since the Prohibition to export raw Wooll, &c. would have laid us in a short Time under a Necessity, to betake our selves to the Woollen Manufacture, without which we could not dispose of one Lock of our Wooll, to any Country but *England.*

In this Scituation, our Woollen Trade remain'd till the Revolution, when by the 1st of *William and Mary, Chap. xxxii.* the better to secure the Wooll of *Ireland* to *England*) it was enacted, that no Wooll, &c. should be shipp'd off from any Ports of *Ireland* but from *Dublin, Waterford, Youghall, Kinsale, Cork* and



and *Drogheda*, and from thence only to certain Ports therein mentioned in *England*.

So much of the 14th of *Charles II.* as made the Exportation of Wooll, Felony, was repealed by the 7th and 8th of *William III.* Chap. xxviii. and some little alterations was made in the Ports of Import and Export; but soon after finding, that the Restraint laid upon the Exportation of our Wooll, had made us apply with double Affiduity, to the Manufacture thereof; and that we already exported of such Commodities to foreign Markets, it was thought fit to throw a Damp upon that Branch of our Industry; and accordingly by the Ninth and Tenth of *William III.* Chap. xl. the Exportation of Fullers-Earth, and scowring Clay for *Ireland* was forbid, under severe Penalties, in order to incommode our Manufactures,



tures, by with-holding from them those useful Ingredients. By the 10th and 11th of *William III. Chap. x.* no Wooll, Woollfells, Shortlings, Mortlings, Wooll-Flocks, Worsted, Bay or Woollen Yarn, Cloath-Serges, Bays, Kerseys, Frizes, Druggets, Shalloons, Stuffs, Cloath-Serges, or any other Drapery, Stuff, or Woollen Manufacture whatsoever, is to be exported from *Ireland*, to any Part of the World but *England*; and that only from the Ports of *Dublin, Waterford, Youghall, Kinsale, Cork, and Drogheda*, to which *Ross* was afterwards added in *Ireland*, to the Ports of *Biddeford, Barnstable, Minehead, Bridgwater, Bristol, Milford-Haven, Chester* and *Liverpool* in *England*, first giving Bond, with two sufficient Securities, for the Delivery thereof in some of the Ports aforesaid, under pain of forfeiture of Ship and Cargo, with 500 *l.* for every Offence,



fence, and 4 l. a piece for every Master and Sailor of such Ships as shall export the same, and for every Person in any ways aiding or assisting therein, one half of the Forfeitures, &c. to the Informer, and the other half to the Officers of the *Irish* Exchequer, to be laid out for the Encouragement of our Linnen Manufacture; and all Offences against this Act were tryable in any Court of Record in *Ireland* or *England* at the Election of the Prosecutor, provided always that Acquittals in *Ireland* shou'd be no Barr to a Prosecution in *England*, with many other Provisoos and Regulations too tedious to be here incerted.

But it may be proper to observe, that by the 14th *Section* of the above Statute, it is Enacted, that it shall and may be lawful to import into licenced Ports in *England* from licenced Ports in *Ireland*, all manner of  
Wooll



Wooll and Woollen Manufactures, so as Notice be first given to the Commissioners or chief Managers of His Majesty's Customs in *England*, or to the chief Customer or Collector in the Port to which the same is intended to be brought, of the Quantity, Quality and Package, together with the Numbers thereof, with the Name of the Master and Ship on which they are to be laden, and the Port for which intended, and so as Bond with one or more sufficient Surety of treble the Value be first given that the same (the Dangers of the Seas excepted) shall be landed accordingly, and so as License be also first had under the Hands of the Commissioners for the Time being, or three of them, or from the chief Customer where such Bond is to be given for the landing and importing the same, which License they are authorized and required to grant, with-



without any Fee or Reward or any other Charge to the Person demanding the same, any Law, Statute or Usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Now if it be true, that there can be nothing nugatory in an Act of Parliament, and that every Clause thereof must either grant or restrain something, which was before forbid, or allow'd; this Provifo, must needs enable us to import our Woollen Manufactures as well as our Wooll, Duty free into *England*: For before the passing of this Law (if *Irish* Woollen Manufactures fell within the meaning of the 12th of *Charles II. Chap. iv.* which was the worst of our Case) we might import into *England* all our Woollen Manufactures, subject to the Duties charged thereby on Woollen Manufactures in general; and if this enabling Clause gives leave only to import them sub-

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ject to the former Duties, it leaves us where we were; that is to say, at liberty to import them subject to a Duty equal to the value of the Commodity it self; which wou'd therefore be intirely nugatory and trifling; but I submit to better Judges and to Persons learned in the Law, of what Force or Efficacy this enabling Clause may be in respect to our Woollen Manufactures; tis true however that I cant but think it the Interest of *England* to allow us such a Freedom because on the one Hand if the People of *Ireland* are guilty of any unlawful Exportation of Wooll or Woollen Manufactures, it proceeds intirely from the Prohibition of exporting them to *England*; and because on the other hand, if such a Liberty were allow'd, the multitude of Hands and the large Quantities of Wooll which are at present employed in fur-



furnishing coarse Cloaths for their home Consumption, wou'd then in a great measure be spared from that Business, to furnish matter for larger Exports of those fine and valuable Cloaths, &c. which they send to *Turkey* and to the several Ports of the *Mediterranean* and *Levant-Seas*, but it is however proper to observe, that there has not been since the passing of this Act any Exportation of Woollen Manufactures from *Ireland*, except of such as were eased of Duties by other Acts; such as comb'd Wooll, which comes free under the denomination of Wooll, Bay and Wollen-Yarn, made free by the 1<sup>st</sup> of *Anne* 2<sup>d</sup>. *Sessions*, Chap. viii. Frize and Stockings which are subject to lighter Duties by the old Book of Rates, &c.

By the 1<sup>st</sup> of *Anne*, Chap. xii. of the 2<sup>d</sup> *Sessions*, we were enabled to export the necessary Cloathing and



Accoutrements of certain Regiments of our Establishment to the *Leeward-Islands*, wherein they were Cantooned ; but by the 3d and 4th of the same Reign *Chap. viii.* no Woollen Manufactures whatsoever, were to be imported into the Plantations, but what have been taken on board in *England*, on pain of Forfeiture, &c.

By the 3d of *George*, *Chap. viii.* so much of the 10th and 11th of *William III.* as vested one half of the Forfeitures for unlawful Exportation of Wooll in the Exchequer of *Ireland* is repealed, and the remainder of that half after defraying the Expence of the Prosecution is given to the Crown ; and for the more Impartial trying of all such Actions, as shall for the future be brought by vertue of any Act now in being, for preventing the unlawful Exportation of Wooll and Woollen Manufactures.



factures, it is provided that all such Actions, shall be tryed in the *Four-Courts* at *Dublin*, by a Jury of lawful *Freeholders*, to be summoned out of any County but that wherein the Fact was committed; and the 5th of *George*, Chap. xi. extends the Penalty of the 10th and 11th of *William III.* even to the loading or carrying of Wooll or Woollen Manufactures with intent to export them contrary to Law.

Thus therefore stands our Woollen Trade, we can Export neither Wooll nor Woollen Manufactures to any part of the World but *England*, and even to *England* we can expect none of our Manufactures of that Commodity; because the Duties laid upon them amounts to a Prohibition, notwithstanding the enabling Cause of the 10th and 11th of *William III.* so that we are under a severe Necessity to send all  
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our Wooll out raw and unmanufactured, and to take such Prices as the Monopolizer thereof are willing to give us for it; but it won't perhaps be amiss to observe that the Duties on Woollen Manufactures imported into *England* and the Draw-backs upon the Re-exportation thereof are as follows, viz.

Duties on Importation.	Draw-backs on Re-exportation.
l. s. d. 20.	l. s. d. 20.
For all manner of Woollen Cloaths the Yard.	1, 4, 2, 15.   1, 0, 2, 5.
Flannen the Yard	0, 0, 4, 15.   0, 0, 4, 5.
Frize of <i>Ireland</i> the Yard	0, 0, 4, 11.   0, 0, 4, 7.
Cloath Rashes the Piece	2, 11, 3, 12.   2, 2, 9, 0.
Double Says or Serges the Yard	0, 1, 8, 10.   0, 1, 5, 2.
Mild Says the Piece.	0, 17, 1, 4.   0, 14, 3, 0.
Stuffs of all Sorts made of or mix'd with Wooll the Yard	0, 3, 6, 15.   0, 2, 11, 12.
<i>Irish</i> Ruggs the Piece	0, 1, 10, 16.   0, 1, 7, 0.
Blankets or Mantles colour'd the Piece.	0, 3, 9, 12.   0, 3, 2, 0.
Ditto Uncolour'd	0, 2, 10, 4.   0, 2, 4, 10.

I have inserted this Table that the Reader may judge, If by the Benefit of these Draw-backs we might be able to send any of our Woollen Manufactures to the Plantations or to the *Levant-Sea*, they be liable to the Duty.

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The Importation of *Black-Cattle* and *Sheep* into *England* was by the 15th of *Charles II. Chap. vii.* loaded with a Duty equal to a Prohibition; but by the 18th of the same Reign, *Chap. ii.* the Importation of great Cattle, Sheep and Swine, Beef, Pork, and Bacon, was declared a common Nuisance, and forbid on pain of Forfeiture, one half to the Poor of the Parish, the other to the Seizer; but this being a temporary Law, was revived by the 32d of *Charles II. Chap. ii.* which extended the same Penalties and Forfeitures to Mutton, Lamb, Butter and Cheese, and continued it for ever; so much of this Act however as related to Bacon, was repealed by the 5th and 6th of *William and Mary, Chap. ii.* so that our Beef Trade is free and open to all Places of the World but *England*.



Linnen and Hemp, and all the Production thereof, certified by the Commissioners of the Customs of *Ireland* to be of the Growth and Manufacture of that Kingdom, may by the 7th and 8th of King *William*, Chap. xxxix. be imported into *England* free from any manner of Custom or Duty whatsoever; the same Liberty to the Plantations was allowed us by the 3d and 4th of *Anne*, Chap. viii. but this being a temporary Law, the 3d of *George I.* Chap. xxi. has continued it so long as *British* Linnen may be imported into *Ireland* without paying Duty; and adds that *Irish* Linnen imported into *England*, may afterwards be imported to the Plantations, free from Duty.

These are all or most of the Restrictions laid upon our Trade by *English* Laws; so that there remains free for us to work upon, Linnen and Hemp, and all the Productions thereof,



of, Beef, Butter, Tallow, raw and tann'd Hides, Kelp, Soap, Ashes, Lead, Iron and Copper, Fish of all sorts, Fish-Oyl, Salt, Corn, Coals, Marble and Timber, together with all the various sorts of Manufactures which arise from the Commodities of other Countries imported in the way of Trade; such as Cotton and Silk, dying Stuffs, Pitch and Tar, Gold, and Silver, Timber and Naval Stores, to which may be added the carrying Trade, and that of buying in one Country to sell to Advantage in another, a Business of as great profit to the particular Trader, and indeed to the Nation in general as any other, and such as our depending Circumstances, seem more particularly to adapt us for, having the Advantage of all other Countries in our Navigation to *England* and its Dependencies, being the only People in the World, who in cheapness of Building, Victual-

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ling, and Sailing, can rival the *Dutch* and the Business it self, being such, as would in no ways clash with that of *England*, but rather promote and advance it; of all which Matters I design to treat more at large in the following Tracts, but first it will be proper to take a short View of the Wants and Superfluities of foreign Countries, that we may see how large a Field we have to expatiate in, tho' all our own Growth should be deny'd a free Exportation.

*England* exports all Sorts of Woollen Manufactures, portable Goods and small Wares, Copper, Lead, Iron, Beef, Butter, Fish, Tallow, Cheefe and tann'd Hides, Cyder, and distill'd Liquors, Bark, Corn, and Coals, manufactured Silks, rich and Plain (to *Ireland* and the Plantations, only) *East* and *West-India* Goods, Gold and Silver; and requires all  
sorts



sorts of unmanufactur'd and raw Silks, all Plantation Commodities, Wooll, raw comb'd and spun, Flax, Hemp, Linnen, and Linnen-Yarn, Fruits, Wines and Brandies, *East-India* Goods, *Russia-Leather*, and Firrs, Pitch and Tar, Cordage and Timber, Kelp, Castle-Soap, *Spanish-Wooll*, Bullion and Gems, Train-Oyl, Blubber, *Whale-Finns* and Ivory, the trading Towns and Harbours of *England* are sufficiently known to us wherefore I shall pass them over.

The *English* Plantations in *America* which contribute not a little to the Trade and Riches of *England*, are *New-England*, *Virginia*, *Mary-Land*, *New-York*, *Pensylvania*, *Carolina*, &c. on the Continent and the Islands of *Barbadoes*, *Antegoa*, *Neves*, and *St. Christophers*, *Monseratt*, the Island of *Jamaica*, &c. the Commodities which they afford are Muscovadoes



and Sugars, Indigo, Ginger, Cotton, Tobacco, Piamento, Fustick, Logwood and other dying Woods, Fish, Bark, Timber, Pitch and Tar; and what they require are Cloths and Linnens, Hatts, Shoes, Stockings, Iron, Copper, Lead, Beef, Butter, Tallow, Leather, Manufactures of all sorts, and Wines, but particularly those of *Madera* and *Azores*, and *Negroes* from the Coast of *Africk*.

Under the Head of *English* Plantations may be considered also *Greenland* and *Newfoundland*, these require nothing but an Application to the fishing Trade, and they furnish in return an immense Treasure by Train-Oyl and Blubber, *Whale-Finns*, *Sperma-Cety*, Cod, Haddock and other Fish, this Business is intirely open to us, and we by our Scituation, the cheapness of our Victuals, and the low Price of our Labour seem much better qualify'd to carry it



it on than the *Dutch*, who in the space of 46 Years, have fished out of those Seas Fourteen Millions, *Sterl.* But for this I refer the Reader to Mr. *Elkins's View of the Greenland Trade*, and for a curious System of the Expence and Profit of that Business also.

*Denmark* is a poor Country, and has no considerable trading Town but *Copenhagen*; it is however rendered of very great Importance by its command of the Sound, which is as it were the Key of the *Baltick*; its Exports are Wheat, Rye, and lean horned Cattle; but *Norway* which is in subjection to the King of *Denmark*, tho' a very poor Country, also, furnishes considerable Quantities of Timber of all sorts, Pitch and Tar, some Copper and Iron, dry'd Fish, Furrs, Buck-Skins, Ashes, Butter and Tallow: The Poverty of these People allows but a small Consumption



tion of foreign Commodities, which makes *Dutch* Dollars, *Spanish* Cobbs, and other Coins, a necessary Ingredient to maintain a Commerce with them; the following Commodities however sell well there; all sorts of Spices and Druggs, Salt, Sugar, Canary, Vinegar, Brandy, Cheefe, Tobacco-Rolls, Silks, Linnen and Woollen Manufactures.

The Trade of *Sweeden* is much more considerable, affording the best Copper in the World, Iron, Steel and Lead in great Quantities, Muskets and Pistols, Cannons for Ships, Bullets, Pikes, Helmets and Breast-Plates, Brafs-Wire, Pitch and Tar, Mafts, Planks, and Yawls or Barks made of Deal; its chief Port is *Stockholm*, and the Goods which it takes in Barter are much the same that *Denmark* and *Norway* require.



*Pomerania* is a Country of great Trade, not only on account of its native Riches, but on account also of the Advantages it receives from the River *Oder* which runs through it and conveys the Produce of *Brandenburgh* and *Seletia* to its Markets, its principal Sea-Ports are *Strallsund*, *Woolgact*, *Stetin* and *Coleberg*; and the Commodities had there in greatest abundance are Corn, Honey, Wax, Butter, Iron and Lead, Wooll, Tinn, Flax, Linnens of *Seletia*, and Timber, the Goods which sell best there are, Wines and Brandies, Salt, Tobacco, hammer'd or coin'd Silver and Spices.

*Prussia* is divided into the Royal and the Ducal, the last of which is subject is to the King of *Prussia*; the most of its Trade is carry'd on at *Koningsberb* and *Memell*; the first is scituated on the Mouth of the River *Pregel*, and is much frequented by



by Strangers, but the River being somewhat intricate and unsafe, Ships of Burthen generally unlade at *Pillaw* to get up the easier to *Koningsberg*, where may be had great Quantities of Oak for Coopers work, Ashes, Wheat, Leather and Furrs, Rice, Honey, Wax, Barley, Millet and Hemp; the following Goods sell well there, Cloaths, Wines and Brandies, Cheefe, Salt, Tobacco, Spices, Iron, Lead, Tinn, and hammer'd or coin'd Silver.

The chief trading Town of *Poland* (which is one of the most fruitful Countries in the World) is *Dantzick* in Royal *Prussia*; this City by its Scituation on the Mouth of the *Vistula*, a River navigable almost Three Hundred Leagues into the Country, seems to be particularly adapted for Trade; and it is not one of the least Advantages which it enjoys to be govern'd by Laws of  
its



its own making; it is a Republick, though under the Protection of the Crown of *Poland*, and enjoys this Priviledge that none but the Inhabitants can buy any Corn that enters their Port, but they are under Obligation however to take all that comes at such a Rate as the Magistrates affix. The *Poles* are great Strangers to Trade and Navigation and very little expert in Manufactures, which lays them under a Necessity tho' possess'd of a most fruitful Country to be indebted to Strangers for many Things; the Commodities in which they abound are Grain of all sorts, Cattle, Wax, and Honey, Mines of Salt, Iron, Lead, Copper, Quick-Silver, Vitriol, Salt-Peter and Sulpher, Oak, Dale, Hemp, Flax, Tallow, Pitch and Tar, yellow Amber, Bull and Cow-Hides, Firrs and Wooll, and those which they require from  
O                      abroad,



abroad, are all sorts of Silks and Cloaths; Woods for dying, Wines and Brandies, all sorts of Spices, *Italian* Crematartar, Sugar, Oyl, Wines and Brandies, Druggs, Salt and small Wares.

The Dutchy of *Courland* is a Sovereignty under the Protection of *Poland*, its Exports are mostly Wheat, Timber and Linseed, of which last the *Dutch* take great Quantities, not only for Oyl, but for the propagation of Flax also, their own being apt quickly to degenerate; and it wou'd be well for us if we took the same way for ours; its chief Ports are *Libaw* and *Memell*.

The Trade of *Livonia* is carry'd on at the Ports of *Riga*, *Revel*, *Narva* and *Pernaw*, as is also a considerable part of that of *Muscovy* and *Lithunia* by the River *Narva*, and the assistance of their Pledges; the Commodities to be purchased at those Towns,



Towns, are Flax, Hemp, Pitch, Wheat, Wax and Firrs, Mafts from *Russia* and *Livonia*, Timber of all forts Cordgage, Dale-Boards, Linfeed. Honey and Tallow; In exchange for which are taken, Salt, Spices of all forts, Sugar, Wines and Brandy, Tobacco, Paper, Iron Work, small Wares and Coins of any fort, but particularly Dollars and hammer'd Money.

*Revel* and *Narva* were the only trading Towns of *Muscovy*; till the *English* in 1653 in attempting the *North* Passage to *China* discovered *Archangel*, an excellent Port on the *White-Sea*, not above seven Leagues distant from the River *Duina*, which runs through the best part of *Muscovy*, and carries the Produce of that great Empire to the Sea; but the *Dutch* who are indefatigable in Trade, have in a manner ingrossed the Business of that Town to themselves.



The Fair of *Archangel* begins the 20th of *August*, and continues till the last of the same Month; the Commodities to be purchased there, are great Quantities of Sables, Beavers and other Furrs, *Russia-Leather*, Caviar for *Italy*, Sturgeon and Wax for *Spain* and *America*, Ashes, Pitch, Tar and Tallow; and those which they take in Barter for them are Silks and Woollen Manufactures of all sorts, Linnen coarse and fine, Paper, small Wares and Iron-work, small Arms, Cannon, Gunpowder, Copper, Sulphur, Lead and Tin, Wines and Brandies, Oyl, Vinegar, Confections, and dried Fruits, pickled *Herrings*, Frankincense, Ceruse, Copperas, and Indigo, all sorts of Dying-Wood, Galloons and Laces of all sorts, Sugar, Saffron, Spices and Pepper, of which they make a great Consumption, Gold and



and Silver-Lace and Thread ; but above all, any kind of Silver Coin.

The most considerable part of the *German Trade* is carried on by the Rivers *Elb*, *Wezer*, *Maes*, *Rhine* and *Ems*.

The *Elb* has its rise in *Bohemia* and falls into the Ocean 20 Leagues below *Hamborough*, after traversing *Bohemia*, *Saxony*, *Brandenburgh* and *Hanover* ; the chief trading Town on this River is *Hamburgh*, where are to be had all the Superfluities of most of the Provinces of lower *Germany*, as Brass-Wire, white Iron or Tin-Plates, Linnen, Corn, Timber for shipping, and indeed most of the Commodities of the *North* ; in exchange for which are taken Silks and Wollen Manufactures of all sorts, small Wares, Spices and Druggs, Sugar, Tobacco, and other Plantation Commodities.

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The *Wezer* also runs through many Provinces of lower *Germany*, and empties it self into the Sea 15 Leagues, below *Bremen*, where may be had great Quantities of excellent Timber, Wheat, Wooll, several sorts of Metals, Beer and Mum; the following Goods are in demand there, Silk, Woollen Stuffs, small Wares, Dying Stuffs and Plantation Commodities.

The *Rhine*, besides a Course of 300 Leagues, which it performs from it rise in *Switzerland* to its fall in the *Holland-Seas* has the Advantage of receiving into its Channel the two great Rivers of *Main* and *Mozel*, the former near *Mentz*, after travelling through all *Franconia*, and the latter at *Coblentz* after washing the Dutchy of *Loraighn*, and Electorate of *Triers*; so that the Trade of these three great Rivers is in a great Measure carried on at *Collogue*, where



where may be had excellent Oak, and other Timber, Wines of several sorts, especially Rhenish, Iron, Cannons, Bullets, Cuttlers Ware from *Nuremburgh*, and Copper (but the two last are better had farther up the River at *Frankfort*) Flax, Thread and Linnen from *Fuliers* and *Berghs*; the Goods taken in exchange are Silks, Woollen Stuffs, Sugar, Cheese, *Herrings* and Plantation Commodities.

The Trade of the *Maese* is principally carried on at *Leige*; where may be had Serges, Slate, Pit-Coal, Iron and Steel - Work, Bullets, Bumbs, Granadoes, Arms, Lead and Braziers Ware; the Goods which sell best here, are all sorts of Silks, and Woollens, Spices, Druggs and Groceries.

The River *Ems* which runs thro' all *Westphalia* furnishes the Markets of *Embden* with Horses and Oxen,  
Hams,



Hams, Timber, Woollen-Cloaths, and Linnen of all Sorts.

The Trade of the *Spanish Netherlands* is mostly possess'd by the *Dutch*, their chief Commodities are fine Linnens, Table-Cloaths and Lace, Tapestry, Sheeps-Leather and Serges, and they buy Silks and Woollen Stuffs, Spices, Druggs, Coffee, Tea, Chocolate, Coarse Camblets and *Indian* Stuffs.

*Holland*, in which I comprehend the united Provinces, though the least productive of good things, is the most abounding in them of any Nation in *Europe*; for it is become through the indefatigable Application of its Inhabitants, the Magazine or Store-House of whatsoever is valuable or necessary in any part of the World; the most considerable of their Native Commodities which they export, are Linnen, Lace and Delph-Ware, but their great  
Wealth



Wealth arises from the Re-exportation of the Growth of other Countries, which by reason of the lowness of their Interest Money, the cheapness of their Navigation, and several other prudent Managements, they can afford to Strangers, even cheaper than they could themselves directly import them; the Goods which they take from these Dominions are Coals, Butter, Lead, Tin, Clay, Redding, Sugars, Tobacco, Indigo, Logwood, Fustick, Ginger, Pepper and Cotton-Wooll, most of which by the wise Regulations of our Plantation Trade, they are under a Necessity to take from us; but the other Commodities with which they traffick are numberless, being the only People in the World who have found out the way to furnish all others with Delicacies, and to partake of none themselves.



The Ports of *France* are too well known to us to need any enlargement upon them ; it shall suffice therefore to say that they export wrought Silks of all Sorts, Brocades, and Lace, Gold and Silver, Wines and Brandies, all Kinds of Trinkets, Sweet-Meats, Fruits, Salt, Iron, Paper, Looking-Glasses, Cambricks and Linnen, and require Wooll, Beef, Butter, Tallow, Hides, Hemp, Pitch and Tar, Corn, Coals, Tobacco, and other Plantation Commodities.

The Trade to *Spain* is of greater Consequence than any other in *Europe*, not only on account of the Treasure which they possess in the new World, but on account also of the great difuse of Industry and Manufacture amongst the Inhabitants, and of the great Empire in *America*, which is to be furnished only thro' them ; the Commodities of their own  
Growth



Growth which they export, are Wines, Fruits, Oyls, Soap, Salt, Soud or Kallt, Iron, Steel and Wooll of which they have very great Quantities; but on account of its fineness unfit for Manufacture without a mixture of coarser; the Commodities of the new World which pass through their Hands are, Gold and Silver, Pearl and Emeralds, Cochineal, Indigo, Quinquina, Coco-Nuts and Vanilles Tobacco, Leather, Wood of Campechy and Snuff: And the foreign Commodities which they require are Linnens of all Sorts coarse and fine, of which they make an incredible Consumption as well at home as in *America*; Negroes for their Plantations in the new World, Woollen and Silk Stuffs, Lace, Hats, small Wares of all Sorts, and Jewellers Work, Pitch and Tar, Hemp and Cordage, Rigging for Ships, Plank and every other sort of Naval Store, all sorts of



Amunition, Herrings, Salmon, Beef, Butter, Cheefe, Tallow, and Corn, Hides, tann'd and salted, Timber for Building, Pipe and Barrel-Staves, Honey, Wax, Paper, Cards and small Wares of Iron and Copper, *Russia-Leather*, and Druggs, all kinds of Spice, as Cinnamon, Nutmeggs, Cloves, Mace and Pepper; Tobacco, Ginger, refin'd Sugars, Lead and Tin, Gold and Silver Lace, Lawns, Cambricks, Tapes, Fillitting, and almost every thing that is produc'd by Art and Labour, choos'ing rather to pay for them than to debase themselves by Handicraft Trades a Species of Pride, which makes them (tho' possess'd of the greatest Treasure in the World) the Poorest and most Needy of all their Neighbours, and may serve to convince us that Mines of Gold and Silver are not so great a Wealth as an industrious People; the chief trading Towns  
in



in *Spain* are *Mallaga*, *Cartagena*, *Alicant*, *Valentia*, *Almarica* in the *Mediterranean* and *Cadiz*, *Bilboa*, *St. Sebastian*, *Port of St. Mary*, *Port-Royal*, *St. Lucar*, *Sevil* and *Biscay* on this Side the *Streights*.

The Kingdom of *Portugal* before its Union with the Crown of *Spain*, has made a great Figure in Trade, and had very considerable Acquisitions and Settlements on the Coast of *Africk*, and in the *East* and *West-Indies*, but in that Scituation through the ill Conduct or rather Debility of the *Spanish* Monarchy, it suffered the Loss of most part of them to the *Dutch*; and would in all probability be intirely dismantled of its foreign Dependencies, had not they under the Conduct of the Duke of *Braganza* happily shook off the *Spanish* Yoak time enough to preserve a part of their Dependencies by a Truce of ten Years, concluded in 1641 with the  
States-



*States-General*, and by the succeeding Peace of 1661 effected through the Mediation of King *Charles II.* *Lisbon*, *Oporto* and *St. Ubes* are the chief trading Towns of this Kingdom, where may be had of their own Growth, Wines, Oyls, Olives, Salt, Lemons, and Oranges, Sweet-Meats, Anniseed, Reasins and Figgs, and of the Growth of their Plantations, *Madera* and *Tercera* Wines, of which our Plantations in *America* make a great Consumption, Sugars Tobacco, Wood of *Brazil* and *Fernambouck*, Ox-Hides, Ginger, Pearls, Indigo, rough Diamonds and Ambergrease; the following Commodities sell well there, *viz.* all Manufactures of Wooll, Linnen and Silk; small Wares, Iron Work, Paper, Cards, Leather, Corn, Lead and Tin, Fish, Silk, Worsted, Beef, Butter, Tallow and Hides.

The



The Trade of *Italy* is chiefly carried on at the Ports of *Genoa*, *Leghorn*, *Venice*, *Naples* and *Messina*, and the Commodities had there are raw and thrown Silks, many *Levant* Goods, plain and wrought Velvets, Tabbies, Sattins, Damasks, Gold and Silver Brocades, Gold Twist, Oyl, Parmasan, Cheese, Anchovies, dried Fruits, Pastes and Confections of all Sorts, Lemons, Citrons, Rice, Anniseeds, Allum and Sulphur, *Venetian* Steel, Manna, Amber, Turpentine, Treacle, fine Lacca, Glass of all Sorts, white Marble, Paper, Soap and Essences ; the Goods which go off best in return , are Pepper, Cloves, Nutmeggs and Cinnamon, *Russia-Leather*, China-ware, Iron, Copper, Lead, *English* Pewter, and Tin, *Whale-Bone*, Fish, Pitch and Tar, Planks and Naval Stores, Woollen and Linnen Cloaths, Stock-Fish, Salmon, Sturgeon and Caviard, Musk,



Musk, Civet, Sugars, Wheat and other Grain.

The *Levant* Trade is very considerable, but mostly possessed by the *English*, the *French* and the *Dutch*, who take care to continue themselves, in the Grand Seigniors Favour by their exactness and good Management; *Constantinople*, *Smyrna*, *Alleppo* and *Grand Cairo* are the most considerable trading Towns of those Seas, and the Goods brought from thence are raw Silks, Goats and Cammels Hair, Cotton, *Turkey-Leather*, coloured Camblets, Cordivants, Wax, Allum, Galls, Wooll, Box-Wood, Currants, Coffee, Ultramarine, Frankincense, Sena and Casia, Aloes, Sallarmoniack, Tamarinds, Pine-Kernals, Ostridge-Feathers and Mastick; and the principle Goods disposed off there, are Woollen Cloaths and Stuffs of all Sorts, Druggs, Cochineal, Indigo and



and Woods for Dying, Tin, Lead, Iron and Steel, *Russia*-Leather, Cloves, Nutmeggs, Cinnamon, Pepper, Ginger, Sugars, and Plate-Cobbs.

The Trade to *Africk* is divided into many Hands, the *French*, *English*, *Portuguez*, *Dutch* and *Brandenburghers*, have each of them Settlements on that Coast, but the greatest Number and most considerable belong to the *English* and *Dutch*; the Goods which sell best there, are Rock-Chrystal, Corral, Lace, Brandy, slight Woollen Stuff, great Quantities of Linnen, of which that which has been worn is most esteemed by the Natives, and all kinds of portable Goods in Exchange for which they give Elephants Teeth, Gum's Wax, Wood for Dying, Leather, *Negroes*-Slaves, and Gold Dust.

Q

The



The *Dutch, Portuguese, English* and *French* have ingrossed the *East-India* Trade, and bring from thence all kind of Spice, as Cloves, Nutmeggs, Cinnamon, Mace, Pepper and Ginger, several Druggs, as Indigo, Salt-Peter, Sugar, Lace, Ambergrease, Musk, Tea, Rhuburb, Borax, Benzoin, Bezoar and Camphire Silks, raw twisted and wrought, Cottons and Callicoes, Muslins, Chintz, Copper from Japan, Tin and Lead, Diamonds, Rubies, Saphires, blew and white Topazes, Hyacinths, Corral and Amethysts, Turquoise Stones, Oriental Agatts, Pearls, Porcelain or China, Japand Ware, Wood of Aquila and Siampan, Lignum Aloes, Sandal and Rose-Wood, Ebony, Calambour, Catatour, Cocoa and Tortoise Shell, all which Commodities being the Produce of several Kingdoms are traded with by the *English, French,*



*French, Dutch and Porteguez*, not only in *Europe*, but in the *East* also ; where a great part of the Company's Expence is defray'd by trafficking even there, and selling the Produce of Neighbouring Kingdoms to each other ; the only Commodities which they take from *Europe* are Cloaths, Linnens and Stuffs, Gold and Silver, and some small Wares.

I have been thus particular in recounting the Wants and Superfluities of different Kingdoms, not only to shew in what parts of the World our Growth and Manufactures may come to a good Market, but to discover also how extended a Province that of Trade is, and how many ways it affords to get Riches, besides exporting the Commodities and Growth of our own Country. Merchants must buy from others what they export even of our own



Growth to foreign Markets; and their Profit lies in selling to Advantage what they have so bought; It matters but little whether it be Wooll or Linnen, or Beef, *East-India* Goods, or *Northern* Commodities, so they make a Profit in the Sale; thus the *Dutch* send their Fleet to the *East-Indies*, not to sell their Freight only and return again; but to traffick there buying the Growth of one Kingdom to sell to another, and loading there again to sell elsewhere, always with Profit, till they come at last into *Europe* with such a Cargoe as is like to sell well here; these again they send to the *North* and *Baltick* to barter for naval Stores, Corn, Copper, Caviar, Wooll, Linnen, and other Commodities, which they manufacture at home; and having gathered a sufficient loading for the *Mediterranean*, they send



tend to *Florence, Genoa and Venice*,  
 where their *Northern* Commodities  
 go off for *Plate-Cobbs* and ready  
 Money, (a necessary Article for the  
*Levant-Trade*) then they proceed to  
 the Dominions of the *Grand Seignior*,  
 and with their home Manufacture,  
*East-India* Goods and Money buy raw  
 Silks, Cotton, Leather, Druggs,  
 &c. which they bring again into  
*Europe*, and having wrought their  
 Silks, Cottons, &c. into rich and  
 valuable Commodities, sell them  
 to *England, Ireland, Spain, Portugal*,  
 and the *North*, or to any others  
 who afford them a good Market,  
 and thus like a *Swow-Ball* by their  
 continual rowling from one Coun-  
 try to another, encrease their Wealth,  
 and that at the Expence and through  
 the Indolence of others; for their  
 natural Produce is the least Article  
 in their Trade; their immense Ri-  
 ches



ches are acquired by buying the Growth of one Country to sell to another, having perfectly learned how to supply the Barrenness of their own, by the Fertility of other Countries: to extend their Dominions, not by Conquest but by Commerce, and to raise a Revenue not by a Tax on their own Subjects, but by Imposts, as I may call it, on the Laziness and Luxury of all the rest of the World, who having the same and far better Means wherewith to supply themselves directly, are yet under a shameful Necessity to take from them at second Hand.



**ABSTRACT** of the Exportations and Importations of *Ireland*, for the Year ending the 25th of *March*, 1725. Estimated at a Medium of the Selling-Price in our Markets for that Year.

		Exports.		Imports.
To and from	{ South-Britain, Wales, Guernsey, and Jersey }	476, 632.		441, 799.
	{ North-Britain and the Isle of Man. }	21, 250.		31, 003.
	{ Denmark, Norway, Sweedon and Ham- borough. }	42, 49.		74, 300.
	{ Holland and Flanders. Prance. }	52, 618.		70, 048.
	{ Spain and the Cana- ries, Portugal, Ge- noa and Leghorn. }	214, 422.		141, 650.
	{ }	149, 984.		60, 959.
	{ Plantations. }	96, 825.		000, 000.
	Totals —	1053, 782.		819, 761.

**F I N I S.**



ABSTRACT of the Exports  
and Importations of Ireland  
for the Year ending the 25th of  
March 1727. Estimated at a Me-  
dium of the Selling-Price in our  
Market for that Year.

## ERRATA.

**P**Age 21. l. 20. for *Computation* read *Commutation*, and line  
21. in the same Page, read *no* instead of *we*. p. 37. l. 1. &  
13. read *Tenants* for *Tenements*. p. 41. l. 7. & 11. read *Adven-  
turers* for *Adventures*. p. 85. l. 18. for *expect* read *export*. p.  
86. l. ult. read *in Case they be liable to the Duty*.

Total ————— 1023, 734, 819, 761.  
100, 625, 400, 000.  
100, 204, 60, 229.  
Total ————— 1023, 734, 819, 761.