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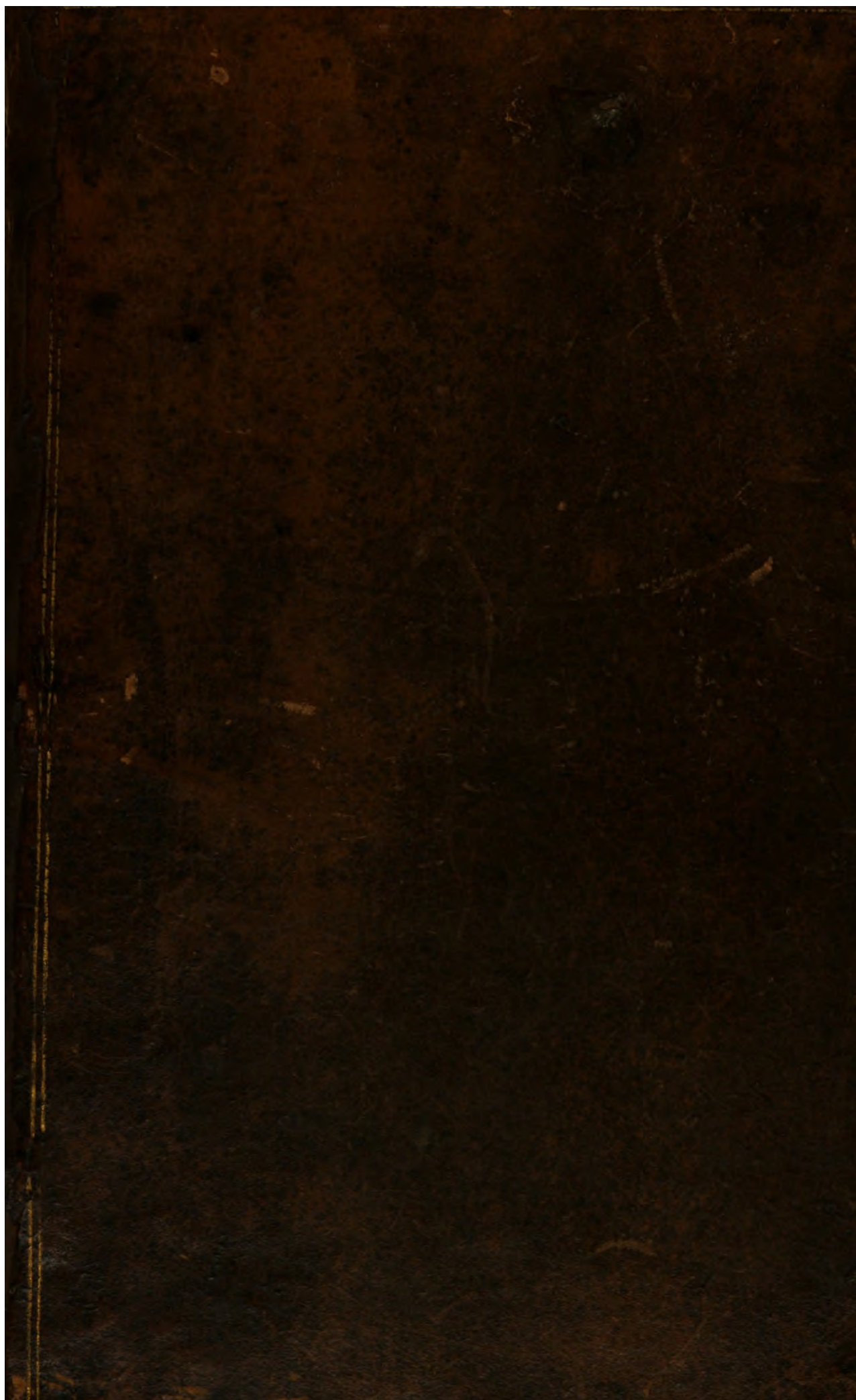
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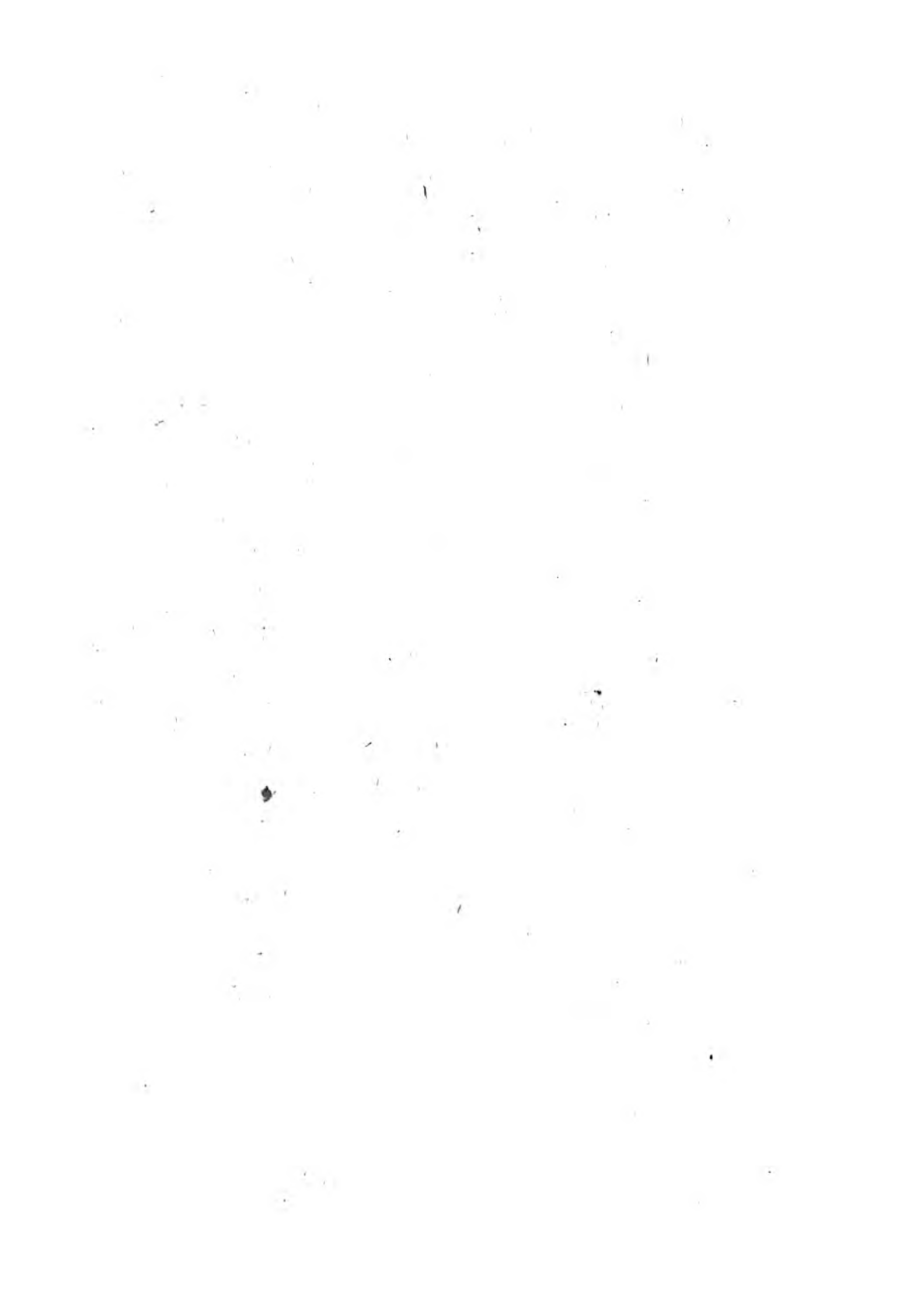
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# T O U R

Thro' the whole ISLAND of

## G R E A T B R I T A I N,

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### Circuits *or* Journies.

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their Situation, Magnitude, Government, and Com-  
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Rivers, and the Inland Navigation.
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NOBILITY and GENTRY.

*With Useful OBSERVATIONS upon the Whole.*

Particularly fitted for the Reading of such as desire to  
Travel over the ISLAND.

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By a GENTLEMAN.

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Inn: 1728.

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L O N D O N:

Printed, and Sold by G. STRAHAN, in Cornhill.

W. MEARS, at the Lamb without Temple-Bar.

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S. CHAPMAN, at the Angel in Pall-Mall.

R. STAGG, in Westminster-Hall, and

J. GRAVES, in St. James's-Street. MDCCLXXIV,





THE  
P R E F A C E.



*If this Work is not both Pleasant and Profitable to the Reader, the Author most freely and openly declares the Fault must be in his Performance, and it cannot be any Deficiency in the Subject. As the Work it self is a Description of the most flourishing and opulent Country in the World, so there is a flowing Variety of Materials; all the Particulars are fruitful of Instructing and Diverting Objects.*

*If Novelty pleases, here is the Present State of the Country describ'd, the Improvement, as well in Culture, as in Commerce, the Encrease of People, and Employment for them: Also here you have an Account of the Encrease of Buildings, as well in Great Cities and Towns, as in the new Seats and Dwellings of the Nobility and Gentry; also the Encrease Wealth, in many eminent Particulars.*



If Antiquity takes with you, tho' the looking back into remote Things is studiously avoided, yet it is not wholly omitted, nor any useful Observations neglected; the learned Writers on the Subject of Antiquity in Great Britain have so well discharg'd themselves, that we can never over-value their Labours, yet there are Daily farther Discoveries made, which give future Ages, room, perhaps not to Mend, yet at least to Add to what has been already done.

In Travelling thro' England, a Luxuriance of Objects presents it self to our View: Where-ever we come, and which way soever we look, we see something New, something Significant, something well worth the Travellers stay, and the Writer's Care; nor is any Check to our Design, or Obstruction to its Acceptance in the World, to say the like has been done already, or to Panegyrick upon the Labours and Value of those Authors who have gone before, in this Work: A compleat Account of Great Britain will be the Work of many Years, I might say Ages, and may employ many Hands: Whoever has travell'd Great Britain before us, and whatever they have written, tho' they may have had a Harvest, yet they have always, either by Necessity, Ignorance or Negligence pass'd over so much, that others may come and Glean after them by large Handfuls.

Nor cou'd it be otherwise, had the Diligence and Capacities of all who have gone before been greater than they are; for the Face of Things so often alters, and the Situation of Affairs in this Great British Empire gives such new Turns, even to Nature it self, that there is Matter of new Observation every Day presented to the Traveller's Eye.

The Fate of Things gives a new Face to Things, produces Changes in low Life, and innumerable Incidents;

## The PREFACE.

v

*cidents; plants and supplants Families, raises and sinks Towns, removes Manufactures, and Trade; Great Towns decay, and small Towns rise; new Towns, new Palaces, new Seats are Built every Day; great Rivers and good Harbours dry up, and grow useless; again, new Ports are open'd, Brooks are made Rivers, small Rivers; navigable Ports and Harbours are made where none were before, and the like.*

*Several Towns, which Antiquity speaks of as considerable, are now lost and swallow'd up by the Sea, as Dunwich in Suffolk for one; and others, which Antiquity knew nothing of, are now grown considerable: In a Word, New Matter offers to new Observation, and they who write next, may perhaps find as much room for enlarging upon, as we do upon, as those that have gone before.*

*The Author says, that indeed he might have given his Pen a Loose here to have complain'd how much the Conduct of the People diminishes the Reputation of the Island, on many modern Occasions, and so we could have made his Historical Account a Satyr upon the Country, as well as upon the People; but they are ill Friends to England, who strive to write a History of her Nudities, and expose, much less recommend her wicked Part to Posterity; he has rather endeavour'd to do her Justice in those things which recommend her, and humbly to move a Reformation of those, which he thinks do not; In this he thinks he shall best pay the Debt of a just and native Writer, who, in regard to the Reader, should conceal nothing which ought to be known, and in regard to his Country, expose nothing which ought to be conceal'd.*

*A Description of the Country is the Business here, not Discanting upon the Errors of the People; and yet, without Boasting, we may venture to say,*  
we

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*we are at least upon a Level with the best of our Neighbours, perhaps above them in Morals, whatever we are in their Pride ; but let that stand as it does, till Times mend ; 'tis not, I say, the present Business.*

*The Observations here made, as they principally regard the present State of Things, so, as near as can be, they are adapted to the present Taste of the Times : The Situation of Things is given not as they have been, but as they are ; the Improvements in the Soil, the Product of the Earth, the Labour of the Poor, the Improvement in Manufactures, in Merchandizes, in Navigation, all respects the present Time, not the Time past.*

*In every County something of the People is said, as well as of the Place, of their Customs, Speech, Employments, the Product of their Labour, and the Manner of their living, the Circumstances as well as Situation of the Towns ; their Trade and Government ; of the Rarities of Art, or Nature ; the Rivers, of the Inland, and River Navigation ; also of the Lakes and Medicinal Springs, not forgetting the general Dependance of the whole Country upon the City of London, as well for the Consumption of its Produce, as the Circulation of its Trade.*

*The Preparations for this Work have been suitable to the Author's earnest Concern for its Usefulness ; seventeen very large Circuits, or Journeys have been taken thro' divers Parts separately, and three general Tours over almost the whole English Part of the Island ; in all which the Author has not been wanting to Treasure up just Remarks upon particular Places and Things, so that he is very little in Debt to other Mens Labours, and gives but very few Accounts of Things, but what he has been an Eye-witness of himself.*

*Be-*

## The PREFACE. vii

Besides, these several Journeys in England, he has also lived some time in Scotland, and has Travell'd critically over great Part of it; he has viewed the North Part of England, and the South Part of Scotland five several Times over; all which is hinted here, to let the Readers know what Reason they will have to be satisfy'd with the Authority of the Relation, and that the Accounts here given are not the Produce of a cursory View, or rais'd upon the borrow'd Lights of other Observers.

It must be acknowledged, that some Foreigners, who have pretended to travel into England, and to give Account of things when they come home, have treated us after a very indifferent Manner: As they viewed us with Envy, so they have made their Account rather equal to what they wish'd; we should be than to what we are; and wrote as if they were afraid the Country they wrote to should be in Love with us, and come away to live among us: In short, speaking of England, they have, like the Israelitish Spies, carried Abroad a very ill Report of the Land: Seignior Gratiano a Spaniard, is one of those; he has given such a scandalous Account of England in Spanish, as made a wiser Man than himself, say, That if the History of England written by Augustin Gratiano had been written in the Days of Philip II, and he had believ'd it to be true, he would never have thought it worth his while to fit out such an Armada for the Conquest of it; but that it appear'd by King Philip's making that unfortunate Attempt, that he was certainly better acquainted with it, than Gratiano.

It is worth no Man's while to Examine and Confute foreign Authors, whose Errors are their Ignorance. Our Business is to give just Ideas of our Country to our Readers, by which Foreigners may  
be

be rightly inform'd, if they please to judge impartially; if any Man will not be inform'd, we must write on that Blindness, let him be Ignorant.

But after all that has been said by others, or can be said here, no Description of Great Britain can be, what we call a finished Account, as no Cloaths can be made to fit a growing Child; no Picture carry the Likeness of a living Face; the Size of one, and the Countenance of the other always altering with Time, so no Account of a Kingdom thus Daily altering its Countenance, can be Perfect.

Even while the Sheets are in the Press, new Beauties appear in several Places, and almost to every Part we are oblig'd to add Appendixes, and Supplemental Accounts of fine Houses, new Undertakings, Buildings, &c. and thus Posterity will be continually adding; every Age will find an Encrease of Glory. And may it do so, till Great Britain as much exceeds the finest Country in Europe, as that Country now fancies they exceed her.





A  
T O U R,  
IN  
C I R C U I T S,  
T H R O U G H  
E N G L A N D, &c.

**I** BEGAN my Travels, where I Purpose to End them, *viz.* At the City of *London*, and therefore my Account of the City itself will come last, that is to say, at the latter End of my Southern Progress; and as in the Course of this Journey I shall have many Occasions to call it a Circuit, if not a Circle, so I chose to give it the Title of Circuits, in the Plural, because I do not pretend to have Travelled it all in One Journey, but in Many, and some of them many times over; the better to inform my self of every thing I could find worth taking Notice of.

B

I hope

I hope it will appear that I am not the less, but the more capable of giving a full Account of Things, by how much the more Deliberation I have taken in the View of them, and by how much the oftner I have had Opportunity to see them.

I set out, the 3d of *April*, 1722, going first Eastward, and took what I think, I may very honestly call a Circuit in the very Letter of it; for I went down by the Coast of the *Thames* thro' the Marshes or Hundreds, on the South-side of the County of *Essex*, till I came to *Malden*, *Colchester*, and *Harwich*, thence continuing on the Coast of *Suffolk* to *Tarmouth*; thence round by the Edge of the Sea, on the North and West-side of *Norfolk*, to *Lynn*, *Wisbich*, and the *Wash*; thence back again on the North-side of *Suffolk* and *Essex*, to the West, ending it in *Middlesex*, near the Place where I began it, reserving the Middle or Center of the several Counties to some little Excursions, which I made by themselves.

Passing *Bow-Bridge*, where the County of *Essex* begins, the first Observation I made was, That all the Villages which may be called the Neighbourhood of the City of *London* on This, as well as on the Other sides thereof, which I shall speak to in their Order; I say, all those Villages are increased in Buildings to a strange Degree, within the Compass of about 20 or 30 Years past at the most.

The Village of *Stratford*, the first in this County from *London*, is not only increased, but, I believe, more than doubled in that time; every Vacancy filled up with new Houses, and Two little Towns or Hamlets, as they may be called, on the Forest side of the Town, entirely  
New,

New, namely, *Mary-land-Point*, and the *Gravel-Pits*, one facing the Road to *Woodford*, and *Epping*, and the other facing the Road to *Illford*: And as for the hither-part, it is almost joined to *Bow*, in spite of Rivers, Canals, Marshy-Grounds, &c. Nor is this increase of Building the Case only, in this and all the other Villages round *London*; but the increase of the Value and Rent of the Houses formerly standing, has, in that Compass of Years above-mentioned, advanced to a very great Degree, and I may venture to say at least a fifth Part; some think a third Part, above what they were before.

This is indeed most visible, speaking of *Stratford* in *Essex*; but it is the same thing in Proportion in other Villages adjacent, especially on the Forest-side; as at *Low-Layton*, *Layton-stone*, *Walthamstow*, *Woodford*, *Wansted*, and the Towns of *West-Ham*, *Plaistow*, *Upton*, &c. In all which Places, or near them, (as the Inhabitants say) above a Thousand new Foundations have been erected, besides old Houses repaired, all since the Revolution: And this is not to be forgotten too, that this Increase is, generally speaking, of handsom large Houses, from 20 *l.* a Year to 60 *l.* very few under 20 *l.* a Year; being chiefly for the Habitations of the richest Citizens, such as either are able to keep two Houses, one in the Country, and one in the City; or for such Citizens as being rich, and having left off Trade, live altogether in these Neighbouring Villages, for the Pleasure and Health of the latter Part of their Days.

The Truth of this may at least appear, in that they tell me there are no less than two Hundred Coaches kept by the Inhabitants within the



Circumference of these few Villages named above, besides such as are kept by accidental Lodgers.

This increase of the Inhabitants, and the Cause of it, I shall enlarge upon when I come to speak of the like in the Counties of *Middlesex*, *Surrey*, &c. Where it is the same, only in a much greater Degree: But this I must take Notice of here, that this Increase causes those Villages to be much pleasanter and more sociable than formerly, for now People go to them, not for retirement into the Country, but for good Company; of which, that I may speak to the Ladies as well as other Authors do, there are in these Villages, nay, in All, three or four excepted, excellent Conversation, and a great deal of it, and that without the Mixture of Assemblées, Gaming-Houses, and Publick Foundations of Vice and Debauchery; and particularly I find none of those incentives kept up on this side the Country.

Mr. *Camden*, and his learned Continuator, Bishop *Gibson*, have ransacked this Country for its Antiquities, and have left little unsearched; and, as it is not my present Design to say much of what has been said already, I shall touch very lightly where Two such excellent Antiquaries have gone before me; except it be to add what may have been since discovered, which as to these Parts is only this; That there seems to be lately found out, in the Bottom of the Marshes, (generally called *Hackney-Marsh*, and beginning near-about the Place now called) the *Wyck*, between *Old-Ford* and the said *Wyck*, the remains of a great Stone Causeway, which, as it is supposed, was the Highway, or Great Road from *London* into *Essex*,  
and

and the same, which goes now over the great Bridge between *Bow* and *Stratford*.

That the Great Road lay this Way, and that the Great Causeway landed again just over the River, where now the Temple-Mills stand, and passed by Sir *Tho. Hickes's* House at *Ruckolls*, all this is not doubted; and that it was one of those famous Highways made by the *Romans*, there is undoubted Proof, by the several Marks of *Roman* Work, and by *Roman* Coins, and other Antiquities found there, some of which are said to be deposited in the Hands of the Revd. Mr. *Strype*, Vicar of the Parish of *Low-Layton*.

From hence the Great Road passed up to *Layton-stone*, a Place by some known, now as much, by the Sign of the *Green-Man*, formerly a Lodge upon the Edge of the Forest; and crossing by *Wansted* House, formerly the Dwelling of Sir *Josiah Child*, now of his Son the Lord *Castlemain*, (of which, hereafter) went over the same River which we now pass at *Ilford*; and passing that part of the Great Forest which we now call *Henault Forest*, came into that which is now the Great Road, a little on this side the *Whale-bone*, a Place on the Road so called, because a Rib-bone of a great Whale, which was taken in the River of *Thames* the same Year that *Oliver Cromwel* died, 1658, was fixed there for a Monument of that monstrous Creature, it being at first about Eight and-twenty Foot long.

According to my first Intention of effectually viewing the Sea-Coast of these Three Counties, I went from *Stratford* to *Barking*, a large Market-Town, but chiefly inhabited by Fishermen, whose Smacks ride in the *Thames*, at the Mouth of their River, from whence their Fish is sent

up to *London* to the Market at *Billingsgate*, by small Boats, of which I shall speak by itself in my Description of *London*.

One Thing I cannot omit in the mention of these *Barking* Fisher-Smacks, viz. That one of those Fishermen, a very substantial and experienced Man, convinced me, that all the Pretences to bringing Fish alive to *London* Market from the North Seas, and other remote Places on the Coast of *Great Britain*, by the New-built Sloops called *Fish-Pools*, have not been able to do any thing, but what their Fishing-Smacks are able on the same Occasion to perform. These Fishing-Smacks are very useful Vessels to the Publick upon many Occasions; as particularly, in time of War they are used as Press-Smacks, running to all the Northern and Western Coasts to pick up Seamen to *Mann* the Navy, when any Expedition is at hand that requires a sudden equipment: At other Times, being excellent Sailors, they are Tenders to particular Men of War; and on an Expedition they have been made use of as *Machines*, for the blowing up Fortified Ports and Havens; as at *Calais*, *St. Maloes*, and other Places.

This Parish of *Barking* is very large; and by the Improvement of Lands taken in, out of the *Thames*, and out of the River which runs by the Town, the Tithes, as the Townsmen assured me, are worth above 600*l. per Annum*, including small Tithes. Note, This Parish has two or three Chapels of Ease, viz. One at *Ilford*, and one on the side of *Henault* Forest, called *New-Chapel*.

Sir *Tho. Fanshawe*, of an Antient Roman Catholick Family, has a very good Estate in this Parish: A little beyond the Town, on the Road to *Dagenham*, stood a great House, antient, and now almost

almost fallen down, where Tradition says the *Gunpowder Treason Plot* was at first contriv'd, and that all the first Consultations about it were held there.

This side of the County is rather rich in Land, than in Inhabitants, occasioned chiefly by the unhealthiness of the Air; for these low Marsh Grounds, which, with all the South-side of the County, have been saved out of the River *Thames*, and out of the Sea, where the River is wide enough to be call'd so, begin here, or rather begin at *West-Ham*, by *Stratford*, and continue to extend themselves. From hence Eastward, growing wider and wider, till we come beyond *Tilbury*, when the flat Country lyes six, seven, or eight Miles broad, and is justly said to be both Unhealthy, and Unpleasant.

However the Lands are Rich, and, as is observable, it is very good Farming in the Marshes, because the Landlords let good Penny-worths, for it being a Place where every body cannot live, those that venture it, will have Encouragement, and indeed it is but reasonable they should.

Several little Observations I made in this part of the County of *Essex*.

1. We saw passing from *Barking* to *Dagenham*, The famous *Breach*, made by an Inundation of the *Thames*, which was so great, as that it laid near 5000 Acres of Land under Water, but which after near ten Years lying under Water, and being several times blown up has been at last effectually stopped by the application of Captain *Perry*; the Gentleman, who for several Years had been employed, in the *Czar of Muscovy*,

vy's Works, at *Veronitza*, on the River *Don*. This Breach appeared now effectually made up, and they assured us, that the new Work, where the *Breach* was, is by much esteemed the strongest of all the Sea Walls in that Level.

2. It was observable that great part of the Lands in these Levels, especially those on this side *East Tilbury*, are held by the Farmers, Cow-keepers, and Grazing Butchers who live in and near *London*, and that they are generally stocked (all the Winter half Year) with large fat Sheep, (*viz.*) *Lincolnshire* and *Leicestershire* Wethers, which they buy in *Smithfield* in *September* and *October*, when the *Lincolnshire* and *Leicestershire* Graziers sell off their Stock, and are kept here till *Christmas*, or *Candlemas*, or thereabouts, and tho' they are not made at all Fatter here, than they were when bought in, yet the Farmer, or Butcher finds very good Advantage in it, by the difference of the Price of Mutton between *Michaelmas*, when 'tis Cheapest, and *Candlemas* when 'tis Dearest; this is what the Butchers value themselves upon, when they tell us at the Market, that it is right Marsh-Mutton.
3. In the bottom of these Marshes, and close to the edge of the Rivers stands the strong Fortrefs of *Tilbury*, called *Tilbury Fort*, which may justly be looked upon, as the Key of the River of *Thames*, and consequently the Key of the City of *London*: It is a regular Fortification, the Design of it, was a Pentagon, but the water Bastion as it would have been call'd, was never built; the Plan was laid out  
by

by Sir *Martin Beckman*, chief Engineer to King *Charles II.* who also designed the Works at *Sheerness*. The Esplanade of the Fort is very large, and the Bastions, the largest of any in *England*, the Foundation is laid so deep, and Piles under that, driven down two an End of one another, so far, till they were assur'd they were below the Channel of the River, and that the Piles, which were shod with Iron entered into the solid Chalk Rock adjoining to, or reaching from the Chalk-hills on the other side. These Bastions settled considerably at first, as did also part of the Curtain, the great Quantity of Earth that was brought to fill them up, necessarily, requiring to be made solid by Time; but they are now firm as the Rocks of Chalk which they came from, and the filling up one of these Bastions, as I have been told by good Hands, cost the Government 6000 *l.* being filled with Chalk-Rubbish fetched from the Chalk-Pits at *North-Fleet*, just above *Gravesend*.

The Work to the Land side are compleat; the Bastions, are faced with Brick. There is a double Ditch, or Moat, the Innermost Part of which is 180 Foot broad, there is a good Counterscarp, and a covered Way marked out, with Ravelins, and Tenailles, but they are not raised a second time after their first settling.

On the Land side there are also two small Redoubts of Brick, but of very little strength, for the chief strength of this Fort on the Land side consists in this, that they are able to lay the whole Level under Water, and so to make it impossible for an Enemy to make any approaches to the Fort that way.

On the side next the River, there is a very strong Curtain, with a noble Gate called the *Water-Gate* in the middle, and the Ditch is Pallisadoed. At the Place where the Water-Bastion was designed to be built, and which by the Plan should run wholly out into the River, so to flank the two Curtains on each side; I say, in the Place where it should have been, stands a high Tower, which they tell us was built in Queen *Elizabeth's* time, and was called the Block-house, the side next the Water is vacant.

Before this Curtain above and below the said Vacancy, is a Platform in the Place of a Counter-scarp, on which are planted 106 Pieces of Cannon, generally all of them carrying from 24 to 46 pound Ball; a Battery, so Terrible, as well imports the Consequence of that Place: Besides which, there are smaller Pieces planted between, and the Bastions and Curtain also are planted with Guns; so that they must be bold Fellows who will venture in the biggest Ships the World has heard of, to pass such a Battery, if the Men appointed to serve the Guns, do their Duty like stout Fellows, as becomes them.

The present Government of this important Place is under the prudent Administration of the Right Honourable the Lord *Newbrugh*.

From hence, there is nothing for many Miles together remarkable, but a continued Level of unhealthy Marshes, called, the *Three Hundreds*, till we come before *Leigh*, and to the Mouth of the River *Chelmer*, and *Black-water*. These Rivers united make a large Firth, or Inlet of the Sea, which by Mr. *Camden* is called *Idu-*

*manum Fluvium* ; but by our Fishermen and Seamen, who use it as a Port, 'tis called *Malden-Water*.

In this Inlet of the Sea is *Ossey* or *Osyth* Island, commonly called *Oosy* Island, so well known by our *London* Men of Pleasure, for the infinite Number of Wild-Fowl, that is to say, Duck, Mallard, Teal and Widgeon, of which there are such vast flights, that they tell us the Island, Namely the Creek, seems covered with them, at certain times of the Year, and they go from *London* on purpose for the Pleasure of Shooting; and indeed often come Home very well loaden with Game. But it must be remembred too, that those Gentlemen who are such lovers of the Sport, and go so far for it, often return with an *Essex* Ague on their Backs, which they find a heavier Load than the Fowls they have shot.

'Tis on this Shoar, and near this Creek, that the greatest Quantity of fresh Fish is caught, which supplies not this Country only, but *London* Markets also: On the Shoar beginning a little below *Candy Island*, or rather below *Leigh* Road, there lies a great Shoal or Sand called the *Black Tayl*, which runs out near three Leagues into the Sea due East; at the End of it, stands a Pole or Mast, set up by the *Trinity-House* Men of *London*, whose Business is, to lay Buoys, and set up Sea Marks for the Direction of the Sailors; this is called *Shoo-Bacon*, from the Point of Land where this Sand begins, which is call'd *Shoo-berry-Ness*, and that from the Town of *Shoo-berry*, which stands by it. From this Sand, and on the Edge of *Shoo-berry*, before it, or South-West of it, all along, to the Mouth of *Colchester* Water, the Shoar is full of Shoals and Sands,



Sands, with some deep Channels between ; all which are so full of Fish, that not only the *Barking* fishing-Smacks come hither to Fish, but the whole Shoar is full of small fisher-Boats in very great Numbers, belonging to the Villages and Towns on the Coast, who come in every Tide with what they take ; and selling the smaller Fish in the Country, send the best and largest away upon Horses, which go Night and Day to *London* Market.

*N. B.* I am the more particular in my Remark on this Place, because in the course of my Travels the Reader will meet with the like in almost every Place of Note through the whole Island, where it will be seen how this whole Kingdom, as well the People, as the Land, and even the Sea, in every Part of it, are employ'd to furnish something, and I may add, the best of every thing, to supply the City of *London* with Provisions ; I mean by Provisions, Corn, Flesh, Fish, Butter, Cheese, Salt, Fewel, Timber, &c. and Cloths also ; with every thing necessary for building, and Furniture for their own Use, or for Trade ; of all which in their Order.

On this Shoar also are taken the best and nicest, tho' not the largest Oysters in *England* ; the Spot from whence they have their common Appellation is a little Bank called *Woelfleet*, scarce to be called an Island, in the Mouth of the River *Crouch*, now called *Crooksea Water* ; but the chief Place where the said Oysters are now had, is from *Wyvenboo* and the Shoars adjacent whither they are brought by the Fishermen, who take them at the Mouth of, that they call

call, *Colchester* Water, and about the Sand they call the *Spits*, and carry them up to *Wyvenboo*, where they are laid in Beds or Pits on the Shoar to Feed, as they call it; and then being barrell'd up, and carried to *Colchester*, which is but three Miles off, they are sent to *London* by Land, and are, from thence, called *Colchester* Oysters.

The chief Sort of other Fish which they carry from this part of the Shoar to *London*, are Soals, which they take sometimes exceeding large, and yield a very good Price at *London* Market: Also sometimes midling Turbet, with Whittings, Codling, and large Flounders; the small Fish as above, they sell in the Country.

In the several Creeks and Openings, as above, on this Shoar, there are also other Islands, but of no particular Note, except *Mersey*, which lies in the middle of the Two Openings, between *Malden* Water and *Colchester* Water; being of the most difficult access, so that 'tis thought a Thousand Men well provided, might keep Possession of it against a great Force, whether by Land or Sea; on this Account, and because if possessed by an Enemy, it would shut up all the Navigation and Fishery on that side: The Government formerly built a Fort on the *South-East* Point of it: And generally in Case *Dutch* War, there is a strong Body of Troops kept there to defend it.

At this Place may be said to End what we call the Hundreds of *Essex*; that is to say, the three Hundreds or Divisions, which include the marshy Country, viz. *Barnstable* Hundred, *Rochford* Hundred, and *Dengy* Hundred.

I have

I have one Remark more, before I leave this damp part of the World, and which I cannot omit on the Womens Account; namely, that I took notice of a strange Decay of the Sex here; infomuch, that all along this County it was very frequent to meet with Men that had had from five or six, to fourteen or fifteen Wives; nay, and some more; and I was inform'd that in the Marshes on the other Side the River over-against *Candy Island*, there was a Farmer, who was then living with the five and Twentieth Wife, and that his Son who was but about 35 Years old, had already had about fourteen; indeed this part of the Story, I only had by Report, tho' from good Hands too; but the other is well known, and easie to be inquired in to, about *Fobbing, Curringham, Thundersly, Benfleet, Prittlewell, Wakering, Great Stambridge, Cricksea, Burnham, Dengy*, and other Towns of the like Situation: The reason, as a merry Fellow told me, who said he had had about a Dozen and half of Wives, (tho' I found afterwards he Fibb'd a little) was this; That they being bred in the Marshes themselves, and season'd to the Place, did pretty well with it; but that they always went up into the Hilly Country, or to speak their own Language into the Uplands for a Wife: That when they took the young Lasses out of the wholesome and fresh Air, they were healthy, fresh, and clear, and well; but when they came out of their native Air into the Marshes among the Fogs and Damps, there they presently chang'd their Complexion, got an Ague or two, and seldom held it above half a Year, or a Year at most; and then, *said he*, we go to the Uplands again, and fetch another; so that marrying of Wives was reckon'd a kind of  
good

good Farm to them : It is true, the Fellow told this in a kind of Drollery, and Mirth ; but the Fact, for all that, is certainly true ; and that they have abundance of Wives by that very means : Nor is it less true, that the Inhabitants in these Places do not hold it out, as in other Countries, and as first you seldom meet with very antient People among the Poor, as in other Places we do, so, take it one with another, not one half of the Inhabitants are Natives of the Place ; but such as from other Countries, or in other Parts of this County settle here for the Advantage of good Farms ; for which I appeal to any impartial Enquiry, having myself Examin'd into it critically in several Places.

From the Marshes, and low Grounds, being not able to Travel without many Windings, and Indentures, by Reason of the Creeks, and Waters, I came up to the Town of *Malden*, a noted Market Town situate at the Conflux or Joyning of two principal Rivers in this County, the *Chelm* or *Chemler*, and the Black-water, and where they enter into the Sea. The Channel, as I have noted, is call'd by the Sailors *Malden-Water*, and is Navigable up to the Town, where, by that Means, is a great Trade for carrying Corn by Water to *London* ; the County of *Essex* being (especially on all that side) a great Corn Country.

When I have said this, I think I have done *Malden* Justice, and said all of it that there is to be said, unless I should run into the old Story of its Antiquity, and tell you it was a *Roman* Colony in the time of *Vespasian*, and that it was call'd *Camolodunum*. How the *Britons* under Queen *Boadicia*, in Revenge for the *Romans* ill Usage

Usage of her, for indeed they used Her Majesty ill; they stripp'd her naked, and whipped her publickly thro' their Streets for some Affront she had given them. I say, how for this, she rais'd the Britons round the Country, over-powered, and cut in peices the Tenth Legion, killed above eighty Thousand Romans, and destroyed the Colony; but was afterwards over-thrown again in a great Battle, and sixty Thousand Britons slain. I say, unless I should enter into this Story, I have nothing more to say of *Malden*, and as for that Story, it is so fully related by Mr. *Camden*, in his History of the Romans in Britain, at the Beginning of his *Britannia*, that I need only refer the Reader to it, and go on with my Journey.

Being obliged to come thus far into the Uplands, *as above*, I made it my Road to pass thro' *Witham*, a pleasant well situated Market-Town, in which, and in its Neighbourhood, there are as many Gentlemen of good Fortunes, and Families, as I believe can be met with in so narrow a Compass in any of the Three Counties, of which I make this Circuit.

In the Town of *Witham* dwells the Lord *Pasely*, eldest Son of the Earl of *Abercorne* of Ireland, (a Branch of the noble Family of *Hamilton*, in Scotland :) His Lordship has a small, but a neat well built new House, and is finishing his Gardens in such a manner, as few in that Part of *England* will exceed them.

Nearer *Chelmsford*, hard by *Boreham*, lives the Lord Viscount *Barrington*, who tho' not born to the Title, or Estate, or Name which he now possesses, had the Honour to, be Twice made Heir to the Estates of Gentlemen, not at  
all

all related to him, at least One of them, as is very much to his Honour mention'd in his Patent of Creation. His Name was *Shute*, his ~~Father~~ <sup>Uncle</sup> a Linnen Draper in *London*, and serv'd Sheriff of the said City, in very troublesome Times. He chang'd the Name of *Shute*, for that of *Barrington*, by an Act of Parliament, obtain'd for that Purpose, and had the Dignity of a Baron of the Kingdom <sup>of Ireland</sup> conferr'd on him by the Favour of King *GEORGE*. His Lordship is a Dissenter, and seems to love Retirement. He was a Member of Parliament for the Town of *Berwick upon Tweed*.

On the other side of *Witham*, at *Fauburn*, an antient Mansion House, built by the *Romans*, lives Mr. *Bullock*, whose Father married the Daughter of that eminent Citizen, Sir *Josiah Child* of *Wansted*, by whom she had three Sons, the eldest enjoys the Estate, which is considerable.

It is observable, that in this part of the Country, there are several very considerable Estates purchas'd, and now enjoy'd by Citizens of *London*, Merchants, and Tradesmen, as Mr. *Western* an Iron Merchant, near *Kelvedon*, Mr. *Cresnor*, a <sup>Kelvedon</sup> Wholesale Grocer, who was, a little before, he died, nam'd for Sheriff at *Earls Coln*, Mr. *Olemus*, a Merchant at *Braintree*, Mr. *Westcomb*, near *Malden*, Sir *Thomas Webster* at *Copthall*, near *Waltham*, and several others.

I mention this, to observe how the present encrease of Wealth in the City of *London*, spreads it self into the Country, and plants Families and Fortunes, who in another Age will equal the Families of the antient Gentry, who perhaps were bought out. I shall take Notice of this in a general Head, and when I have run thro'

thro' all the Counties, Collect a List of the Families of Citizens and Tradesmen thus established in the several Counties, especially round *London*.

The Product of all this part of the Country is Corn, as that of the Marshy feeding Grounds mention'd above, is Grass, where their chief Business is breeding of Calves, which I need not say are the best and fattest, and the largest Veal in *England*, if not in the World; and as an Instance, I eat part of a Veal or Calf, fed by the late Sir *Josiah Child* at *Wansted*, the Loyn of which weigh'd above 30 l. and the Flesh exceeding white and fat.

From hence I went on to *Colchester*: The Story of *Kill-Dane*, which is told of the Town of *Kelvedon*, three Miles from *Witham*, namely, That this is the Place where the Massacre of the *Danes* was begun by the Women, and that therefore it was call'd *Kill-Dane*. I say of it, as we generally say of improbable News, *it wants Confirmation*. The true Name of the Town is *Kelvedon*, and has been so for many hundred Years. Neither does Mr. *Camden*, or any other Writer I meet with worth naming, insist on this piece of empty Tradition, the Town is commonly called *Keldon*.

**COLCHESTER** is an antient Corporation; the Town is large, very populous; the Streets fair and beautiful; and tho' it may not be said to be finely built, yet there are abundance of very good and well-built Houses in it: It still mourns, in the Ruins of a Civil War; during which, or rather after the heat of the War was over, it suffer'd a severe Siege; which, the *Garrison making a resolute Defence*, was turn'd into a Blockade, in which the Garrison and Inhabitants also, suffer'd the utmost extremity of Hunger, and

and were at last oblig'd to surrender at Discretion, when their two Chief Officers, Sir *Charles Lucas*, and Sir *George Lisle*, were shot to Death under the Castle-wall. The Inhabitants had a Tradition, that no Grass would grow upon the Spot where the Blood of those two gallant Gentlemen was spilt; and they shew'd the Place bare of Grass for many Years, but whether for this Reason, I will not affirm; the Story is now dropp'd, and the Grass, I suppose, grows there as in other Places.

However, the batter'd Walls, the Breaches in the Turrets, and the ruin'd Churches still remain, except that the Church of *St. Mary's* (where they had the Royal Fort) is rebuilt; but the Steeple, which was two Thirds batter'd down, because the Besieged had a large Culverine upon it, that did much Execution, remains still in that Condition.

There is another Church which bears the Marks of those Times, namely, on the South-side of the Town, in the way to the Hithe, of which more hereafter.

The Lines of Contravallation, with the Forts built by the Besiegers, and which surrounded the whole Town, remain very visible in many Places; but the chief of them are demolish'd.

The River *Coln*, which passes through this Town, compasses it on the North and East-sides, and serv'd in those Times for a compleat Defence on those Sides. They have three Bridges over it, one called North-Bridge, at the North Gate, by which the Road leads into *Suffolk*; one call'd *East-Bridge*, at the Foot of the High-street, over which lies the Road to *Harwich*, and one at the *Hithe*, as above.



The River is Navigable within three Miles of the Town for Ships of large Burthen; a little lower it may receive even a Royal Navy: And up to that Part called the *Hithe*, close to the Houses, it is Navigable for Hoys and small Barks. This *Hithe* is a long Street, passing from West to East, on the South-side of the Town; at the West-end of it, there is a small intermission of the Buildings, but not much; and towards the River it is very Populous; (it may be call'd the *Wapping* of *Colchester*;) there is one Church in that Part of the Town, a large Key by the River, and a good Custom-House.

The Town may be said chiefly to subsist by the Trade of making Bays, which is known over most of the trading Parts of *Europe*, by the Name of *Colchester Bays*, tho' indeed all the Towns round carry on the same Trade, namely, *Kelvedon*, *Whittham*, *Coggshall*, *Braintree*, *Bocking*, &c. and the whole County, large as it is, may be said to be employ'd, and in part maintain'd, by the spinning of Wool for the Bay Trade of *Colchester*, and its adjacent Towns. The Account of the Siege, *Anno* 1648, with a DIARY of the most remarkable Passages, are as follows, which I had from so good a Hand, as that I have no Reason to question its being a true Relation.









A

# DIARY:

Or, an Account of the

## SIEGE and BLOCKADE of *Colchester*, An. 1648.

**O**N the 4th of *June*, we were alarm'd in the Town of *Colchester*, that the Lord *Goring*, the Lord *Capel*, and a Body of 2000 of the Loyal Party, who had been in Arms in *Kent*, having left a great Body of an Army in Possession of *Rochester* Bridge, where they resolv'd to fight the Lord *Fairfax*, and the Parliament Army; had given the said General *Fairfax* the slip, and having pass'd the *Thames* at *Greenwich*, were come to *Stratford*, and were advancing this Way: Upon which News, Sir *Charles Lucas*, Sir *George Lisle*, Col. *Cook*, and several Gentlemen of the Loyal Army, and all that had Commissions from the King, with a gallant Appearance of Gentlemen Voluntiers, drew together from all Parts of the Country, to join with them.

The 8th, we were further informed, that they were advanc'd to *Chelmsford*, to *New-Hall* House, and to *Witham*; and the 9th, some of the Horse arriv'd in the Town, taking Possession of the Gates, and having Ingeneers with them, told us, that General *Goring* had resolv'd to make this Town his head Quarters, and would cause it to be well fortified; they also caused the Drums to beat for Voluntiers; and a good Number of the Poor Bay-Weavers, and such-like People, wanting Employment, listed: So that they compleated Sir *Charles Lucas's* Regiment, which was but thin, to near 800 Men.

On the 10th we had News, that the Lord *Fairfax* having beaten the Royalists at *Maidstone*, and re-taken *Rocheſter*, had pass'd the *Thames* at *Gravesend*, tho' with great Difficulty, and with some Loss, and was come to *Horndon on the Hill*, in order to gain *Colcheſter* before the Royalists; but that hearing Sir *Charles Lucas* had prevented him, had order'd his Rendezvouz at *Billerecay*, and intended to possess the Pass at *Malden* on the 11th, where Sir *Thomas Honnywood*, with the County Trained bands, was to be the same Day.

The same Evening the Lord *Goring*, with all his Forces, making about 5600 Men, Horse and Foot, came to *Colcheſter*, and Encamping without the Suburbs, under Command of the Cannon of *St. Mary's* Fort, made Disposition to fight the Parliament Forces, if they came up.

The 12th, the Lord *Goring* came into *Colcheſter*, viewed the Fort in *St. Mary's* Church-yard, order'd more Cannon to be planted upon it; Posted two Regiments in the Suburbs without

out the Head-Gate ; let the Town know he would take them into his Majesty's Protection ; and that he would fight the Enemy in that Situation. The same Evening, the Lord *Fairfax*, with a strong Party of 1000 Horse, came to *Lexden*, at two small Miles Distance, expecting the rest of his Army there, the same Night.

The Lord *Goring* brought in Prisoners the same Day, Sir *William Masham*, and several other Gentlemen of the County, who were secured under a strong Guard ; which the Parliament hearing, order'd twenty Prisoners of the Royal Party to be singl'd out, declaring, that they should be used in the same manner as the Lord *Goring* used Sir *William Masham*, and the Gentlemen Prisoners with him.

On the 13th, early in the Morning, our Spies brought Intelligence, that the Lord *Fairfax*, all his Forces being come up to him, was making Dispositions for a March, resolving to attack the Royalists in their Camp : Upon which, the Lord *Goring* drew all his Forces together resolving to Fight. The Engineers had offer'd the Night before to entrench his Camp, and to draw a Line round it in one Night's time ; but his Lordship declined it ; and now there was no time for it : Whereupon the General, Lord *Goring*, drew up his Army in Order of Battle, on both sides the Road, the Horse in the open Fields on the Wings ; the Foot were drawn up, one Regiment in the Road ; one Regiment on each side, and two Regiments for Reserve in the Suburb, just at the Entrance of the Town, with a Regiment of Voluntiers, advanc'd as a Forlorn Hope, and a Regiment of Horse at the Head-Gate, ready to support the Reserve, as Occasion should require. About

About Nine in the Morning we heard the Enemy's Drums beat a March, and in half an Hour more their first Troops appeared on the higher Grounds towards *Lexden*; immediately the Cannon from *St. Mary's* fir'd upon them, and put some Troops of Horse into Confusion, doing great Execution; which, they not being able to shun it, made them quicken their Pace, <sup>to</sup> fall on, when our Cannon were oblig'd to cease firing, least we should hurt our own Troops, as well as the Enemy: Soon after, their Foot appeared, and our Cannon saluted them in like manner, and killed them a great many Men.

Their first Line of Foot was led up by Col. *Barkstead*, and consisted of three Regiments of Foot, making about 1700 Men, and these charged our Regiment in the Lane, commanded by Sir *George Lisle*, and Sir *William Champion*: They fell on with great Fury, and were receiv'd with as much Gallantry, and three times repulsed; nor could they break in here, tho' the Lord *Fairfax* sent fresh Men to support them, till the Royalists Horse, oppress'd with Numbers on the Left, were oblig'd to retire, and at last, to come full gallop into the Street, and so on into the Town: Nay, still the Foot stood firm, and the Volunteers, being all Gentlemen, kept their Ground with the greatest Resolution: But the left Wing being routed, as above, Sir *William Champion* was oblig'd to make a Front to the Left; and lining the Hedge with his Musqueteers, made a stand with a Body of Pikes against the Enemy's Horse, and prevented them entering the Lane. Here that gallant Gentleman was kill'd with a Carabine Shot; and after a very gallant Resistance, the Horse on  
the

the Right being also over-power'd, the Word was given to retreat ; which however was done in such good Order, the Regiments of Reserve standing drawn up at the end of the Street, ready to receive the Enemy's Horse upon the points of their Pikes, that the Royal Troops came on in the Openings between the Regiments, and entered the Town with very little Loss, and in very good Order.

By this, however, those Regiments of reserve, were brought, at last, to sustain the Efforts of the Enemy's whole Army, till being overpower'd by Numbers, they were put into Disorder, and forced to get into the Town in the best manner they could ; by which means near 200 Men were kill'd or made Prisoners.

Encouraged by this Success, the Enemy push'd on, supposing they should enter the Town Pelmel with the rest ; nor did the Royalists hinder them, but let good Part of *Barksteads* own Regiment enter the Head Gate ; but then sallying from St. Mary's with a choice Body of Foot on their Left, and the Horse rallying in the High-street, and Charging them again in the Front, they were driven Back quite into the Street of the Suburb, and most of those that had so rashly enter'd, were cut in pieces.

Thus they were repulsed at the South Entrance into the Town ; and tho' they attempted to Storm three times after that with great Resolution, yet they were as often beaten back, and that with great havock of their Men ; and the Cannon from the Fort all the while did Execution upon those who stood drawn up to support them : So that at last seeing no good to



to be done, they retreated, having small Joy of their pretended Victory.

They lost in this Action Colonel *Needham*, who commanded a Regiment call'd the *Tower Guards*, and who fought very desperately; Capt. *Cox*, an old experienc'd Horse Officer, and several other Officers of Note, with a great many private Men, tho' as they had the Field, they concealed their Number, giving out, that they lost but an Hundred, when we were assured, they lost near a Thousand Men besides the Wounded.

They took some of our Men Prisoners, occasion'd by the Regiment of Colonel *Farr*, and two more, sustaining the Shock of their whole Army, to secure the retreat of the main Body, as above.

The 14th, the Lord *Fairfax* finding he was not able to carry the Town by Storm, without the formality of a Siege, took his Head Quarters at *Lexden*, and sent to *London*, and to *Sussex* for more Forces; also he order'd the Trained Bands to be rais'd, and posted on the Roads, to prevent Succours; notwithstanding which, divers Gentlemen, with some Assistance of Men and Arms, found Means to get into the Town.

The very same Night they began to break Ground; and particularly, to raise a Fort between *Colchester* and *Lexden*, to cover the Generals Quarter from the Salleys from the Town; for the Royalists having a good Body of Horse, gave them no Rest, but scour'd the Fields every Day, and falling all that were found straggling from their Posts, and by this Means kill'd a great many.

The

The 17th, Sir *Charles Lucas* having been out with 1200 Horse, and detaching Parties toward the Sea-side, and towards *Harwich*, they brought in a very great Quantity of Provisions, and abundance of Sheep and Black Cattle, sufficient for the supply of the Town for a considerable time; and had not the *Suffolk* Forces advanced over *Cataway* Bridge to prevent it, a larger Supply had been brought in that way; for now it appeared plainly, that the Lord *Fairfax* finding the Garrison strong and resolute, and that he was not in a Condition to reduce them by Force, at least without the loss of much Blood, had resolved to turn his Siege into a Blockade, and reduce them by Hunger; their Troops being also wanted to oppose several other Parties, who had, in several Parts of the Kingdom, taken Arms for the King's Cause.

This same Day General *Fairfax* sent in a Trumpet, to propose exchanging Prisoners, which the Lord *Goring* rejected, expecting a Reinforcement of Troops, which were actually coming to him, and were to be at *Linton* in *Cambridge-shire* as the next Day.

The same Day two Ships brought in a quantity of Corn and Provisions, and 56 Men from the Shore of *Kent* with several Gentlemen, who all landed, and came up to the Town, and the greatest Part of the Corn was with the utmost Application unloaded the same Night into some Hoys, which brought it up to *the Hithe*, being apprehensive of the Parliaments Ships which lay at *Harwich*, who having Intelligence of the said Ships, came the next Day into the Mouth of the River, and took the said two Ships, and what Corn was left in them. The Besieg'd sent  
out

out a Party to help the Ships, but having no Boats they could not assist them.

18. Sir *Charles Lucas* sent an Answer about Exchange of Prisoners, accepting the Conditions offer'd, but the Parliaments General returned that he would not Treat with Sir *Charles*, for that he Sir *Charles* being his Prisoner upon his Parole of Honour, and having appear'd in Arms contrary to the Rules of War, had forfeited his Honour and Faith, and was not capable of Command or Trust in Martial Affairs : To this Sir *Charles* sent back an Answer, and his Excuse for his Breach of his Parole, but it was not accepted, nor would the Lord *Fairfax* enter upon any Treaty with him.

Upon this second Message, Sir *William Masham*, and the Parliament Committee and other Gentlemen, who were Prisoners in the Town, sent a Message in writing under their Hands to the Lord *Fairfax*, intreating him to enter into a Treaty for Peace ; but the Lord *Fairfax* returned, he could take no Notice of their Request, as supposing it forced from them under restraint ; but, that, if the Lord *Goring* desir'd Peace, he might write to the Parliament, and he would cause his Messenger to have a safe Conduct to carry his Letter : There was a Paper sent enclosed in this Paper, sign'd *Capel, Norwich, Charles Lucas*, but to that the General would return no Answer, because it was sign'd by Sir *Charles*, for the Reasons above.

All this while, the Lord *Goring*, finding the Enemy strengthning themselves, gave Order for fortifying the Town, and drawing Lines in several

veral Places, to secure the Entrance, as particularly without the East Bridge, and without the North-Gate and Bridge, and to plant more Cannon upon the Works: To which End, some great Guns were brought in from some Ships at *Weevenboe*.

The same Day, our Men sally'd out in three Places, and attack'd the Besiegers, first at their Fort, call'd *Essex*; then at their New Works, on the South of the Town; a third Party sallying at the East Bridge, brought in some Booty from the *Suffolk* Troops, having killed several of their Straglers on the *Harwich* Road: They also took a Lieutenant of Horse Prisoner, and brought him into the Town.

19. This Day we had the unwelcome News, that our Friends at *Linton* were defeated by the Enemy, and Major *Muschamp*, a Loyal Gentleman, Kill'd.

The same Night, our Men gave the Enemy Alarm at their new *Essex* Fort, and thereby drew them out as if they would fight, till they brought them within reach of the Cannon of *St. Mary's*, and then our Men retiring, the great Guns let fly among them, and made them Run: Our Men shouted after them; several of them were kill'd on this Occasion, one Shot having kill'd three Horsemen in our fight.

20. We now found the Enemy in order to a perfect Blockade, resolv'd to draw a Line of Circumvallation round the Town; having receiv'd a Train of forty Pieces of heavy Cannon from the Tower of *London*.

This Day the Parliament sent a Messenger to their Prisoners, to know how they far'd, and how they were used; who return'd Word, that they  
far'd

far'd indifferent well, and were very civilly used, but that Provisions were scarce, and therefore Dear.

This Day a Party of Horse with 300 Foot, sally'd out, and marched as far as the Fort on the Isle of *Mersey*, which they made a shew of attacking, to keep in the Garrison; mean while the rest took a good Number of Cattle from the Country, which they brought safe into the Town, with five Waggon's loaden with Corn: This was the last they could bring in that way, the Lines being soon finished on that side.

This Day the Lord *Fairfax* sent in a Trumpet to the Earl of *Norwich*, and the Lord *Goring*, offering Honourable Conditions to them all; allowing all the Gentlemen their Lives and Arms, exemption from Plunder; and Passes, if they desir'd to go beyond Sea; and all the Private Men Pardon, and leave to go peaceably to their own Dwellings; but the Lord *Goring* and the rest of the Gentlemen rejected it, and laughed at them: Upon which the Lord *Fairfax* made Proclamation, that his Men should give the Private Soldiers in *Colchester* free leave to pass through their Camp, and go where they pleased without molestation, only leaving their Arms, but that the Gentlemen should have no Quarter: This was a great Loss to the Royalists, for now the Men foreseeing the great Hardships they were like to suffer, began to slip away, and the Lord *Goring* was obliged to forbid any to Desert on Pain of present Death, and to keep Parties of Horse continually Patrolling to prevent them; notwithstanding which, many got away.

21. The Town desir'd the Lord *Goreing* to give them Leave to send a Message to Lord *Fairfax*, to desire they might have Liberty to carry on their Trade and sell their Bays and Says, which Lord *Goreing* granted; but the Enemy's General return'd, that they should have consider'd that before they let the Royalists into the Town: That to desire a free Trade from a Town besieg'd, was never heard of, or at least, was such a Motion, as was never yet granted: That however, he would give the Bay-makers Leave to bring their Bays and Says, and other Goods, once a Week, or oftener, if they desire it, to *Lexden Heath*, where they should have a free Market, and might sell them or carry them back again, if not sold, as they found Occasion.

22. The Besieg'd sally'd out in the Night with a strong Party, and disturb'd the Enemy in their Works, and partly ruin'd one of their Forts, call'd *Ewer's Fort*, where the Besiegers were laying a Bridge over the River *Coln*; Also they sally'd again at *East-Bridge*, and faced the *Suffolk* Troops, who were now declared Enemies, these brought in six and fifty good Bullocks, and some Cows, and they took and kill'd several of the Enemy.

23. The Besiegers began to fire with their Cannon from *Essex* Fort, and from *Barksted's* Fort, which was built upon the *Malden* Road, and finding that the Besieged had a Party in Sir *Harbottle Grimston's* House, call'd, *The Fryery*, they fir'd at it with their Cannon, and batter'd it almost down, and then the Soldiers set it on Fire.

This

This Day upon the Townsmen's Treaty for the Freedom of the Bay Trade, the Lord *Fairfax* sent a second Offer of Conditions to the Besieg'd, being the same as before, only excepting Lord *Goring*, Lord *Capel*, Sir *George Lisle*, and Sir *Charles Lucas*.

This Day we had News in the Town, that the *Suffolk* Forces were advanc'd to assist the Besiegers and that they began a Fort call'd *Fort Suffolk*, on the North Side of the Town, to shut up the *Suffolk* Road towards *Stratford*. This Day the Besieg'd sally'd out at *North-Bridge*, attack'd the Out-Guards of the *Suffolk* Men on *Mile-End Heath*, and drove them into their Fort in the Woods.

This Day the Lord *Fairfax* sent a Trumpet, complaining of chew'd and poison'd Bullets being shot from the Town, and threatening to give no Quarter if that Practice was allow'd; but Lord *Goring* return'd Answer, with a Protestation, that no such Thing was done by his Order or Consent.

24th, They fir'd hard from their Cannon against *St. Mary's Steeple*, on which was planted a large Calverin, which annoy'd them even in the General's Head Quarters at *Lexden*. One of the best Gunners the Garrison had, was kill'd with a Cannon Bullet. This Night the Besieg'd sally'd towards *Audly*, on the *Suffolk* Road, and brought in some Cattle.

25. Lord *Capell* sent a Trumpet to the Parliament-General, but the Rogue ran away, and came not back, nor sent any Answer; whether they receiv'd his Message or not, was not known.

26. This Day having finish'd their new Bridge, a Party of their Troops pass'd that  
Bridge

Bridge, and took Post on the Hill over-against *Mile-End* Church, where they built a Fort, call'd *Fothergall's Fort*, and another on the East Side of the Road, call'd *Rainsbro's Fort*, so that the Town was entirely shut in, on that Side, and the Royalists had no Place free but over East Bridge, which was afterwards cut off by the Enemy's bringing their Line from the *Hithe* within the River to the Stone Causeway leading to the East Bridge.

July 1. From the 26th to the 1st, the Besiegers continu'd finishing their Works, and by the 2d the whole Town was shut in; at which the Besiegers gave a general Salvo from their Cannon at all their Forts; but the Besieged gave them a Return, for they sally'd out in the Night, attack'd *Barkstead's Fort*, Scarce finish'd, with such Fury, that they twice enter'd the Work Sword in Hand, kill'd most Part of the Defendant's, and spoil'd Part of the Forts cast up; but fresh Forces coming up, they retir'd with little Loss, bringing eight Prisoners, and having slain, as they reported, above 100.

On the Second, Lord *Fairfax* offer'd Exchange for Sir *William Masbam* in particular, and afterwards for other Prisoners, but the Lord *Goring* refus'd.

5. The Besieged sally'd with two Regiments, supported by some Horse, at Midnight; They were commanded by Sir *George Lisle*; They fell on with such Fury, that the Enemy were put into Confusion, their Works at *East-Bridge* ruin'd, and two Pieces of Cannon taken, Lieutenant Col. *Sambrook*, and several other Officers, were kill'd, and our Men retir'd into the  
D Town,



Town, bringing the Captain, two Lieutenants, and about 50 Men with them Prisoners into the Town; but having no Horse, we could not bring off the Cannon, but they spiked them, and made them unfit for Service.

From this time to the 11th, the Besieged, sally'd almost every Night, being encourag'd by their Successes, and they constantly cut off some of the Enemy, but not without Loss also on their own side.

About this time we receiv'd by a Spy, the bad News of defeating the King's Friends almost in all Parts of *England*, and particularly several Parties which had good Wishes to our Gentlemen, and intended to relieve them.

Our Batteries from St. *Mary's* Fort and Steeple, and from the North-Bridge, greatly annoy'd them, and kill'd most of their Gunners and Fire-men. One of the Messengers who brought News to Lord *Fairfax* of the defeat of one of the Parties in *Kent*, and the taking of *Weymer* Castle, slip'd into the Town, and brought a Letter to the Lord *Goring*, and lifted in the Regiment of the Lord *Capel's* Horse.

14. The Besiegers attack'd and took the *Hith* Church, with a small Work the Besieged had there, but the Defenders retir'd in time; some were taken Prisoners in the Church, but not in the Fort: Sir *Charles Lucas's* House was attack'd by a great Body of the Besiegers; the Besieged defended themselves with good Resolution for some time, but a Hand-Grenado thrown in by the Assailants, having fir'd the Magazine, the House was blown up, and most of the gallant Defenders buried in the Ruines. This was a great Blow to the Royalists,  
for

for it was a very strong Pass, and always well guarded.

15. The Lord *Fairfax* sent offers of honourable Conditions to the Soldiers of the Garrison, if they would surrender, or quit the Service; upon which the Lords *Goring* and *Capel*, and Sir *Charles Lucas*, returned an Answer signed by their Hands, that it was not Honourable or agreeable to the Usage of War, to offer Conditions separately to the Soldiers, exclusive of their Officers, and therefore civilly desir'd his Lordship to send no more such Messages or Proposals, or if he did, that he would not take it ill if they hang'd up the Messenger.

This Evening all the Gentlemen Volunteers, with all the Horse of the Garrison, with Sir *Charles Lucas*, Sir *George Lisle*, and Sir *Bernard Gascoign* at the Head of them, resolved to break through the Enemy, and forcing a Pass to advance into *Suffolk* by *Nayland* Bridge; to this purpose, they pass'd the River near *Middle-Mill*; but their Guides having mislead them, the Enemy took the Alarm; upon which their Guides, and some Pioneers which they had with them, to open the Hedges, and level the Banks, for their passing to *Boxted*, all run away; so the Horse were obliged to retreat; the Enemy pretended to pursue, but thinking they had retreated by the North Bridge, they miss'd them; upon which being Enraged, they fir'd the Substrs without the Bridge, and burn'd them quite down.

18. Some of the Horse attempted to escape the same way; and had the whole Body been there as before, they had effected it; but there being but two Troops, they were

obliged to retire. Now the Town began to be greatly distress'd, Provisions failing; and the Town's People, which were numerous, being very uneasy, and no way of breaking through being found practicable, the Gentlemen would have joined in any Attempt wherein they might die gallantly with their Swords in their Hands, but nothing presented; they often Sally'd and cut off many of the Enemy, but their Numbers were continually supplied, and the Besieged diminished; their Horse also sunk and became unfit for Service, having very little Hay, and no Corn; and at length they were forced to kill them for Food; so that they began to be in a very miserable Condition, and the Soldiers deserted every Day in great Numbers, not being able to bear the want of Food, as being almost starved with Hunger.

22. The *Ld. Fairfax* offered again an Exchange of Prisoners, but the *Lord Goring* rejected it, because they refused Conditions to the Chief Gentlemen of the Garrison.

During this time, Two Troops of the Royal Horse sallied out in the Night, resolving to break out or Die: The first rode up full Gallop to the Enemy's Horse-Guards on the side of *Malden Road*, and exchanged their Pistols with the advanced Troops, and wheeling, made as if they would retire to the Town; but finding they were not immediately pursued, they wheeled about to the Right, and passing another Guard at a Distance, without being perfectly discovered, they went clean off, and passing towards *Tiptree Heath*, and having good Guides, they made their Escape towards *Cambridge-shire*, in which length of Way they found Means to disperse

disperse without being attack'd, and went every Man his own way as Fate directed; nor did we hear that many of them were Taken: They were led, as we are informed, by Sir *Bernard Gascoigne*.

Upon these attempts of the Horse to break out, the Enemy built a small Fort in the Meadow right against the Ford, in the River, at the Middle Mill, and once set that Mill on Fire, but it was extinguished without much Damage; however the Fort prevented any more Attempts that way.

22. The Parliament General sent in a Trumpet, to propose again the Exchange of Prisoners, offering the Lord *Capel's* Son for one, and Mr. *Asburnham*, for Sir *William Masbam*; but the Lord *Capel*, Lord *Goring*, and the rest of the Loyal Gentlemen rejected it; and Lord *Capel* in particular sent the Lord *Fairfax* Word, it was Inhuman to surprize his Son, who was not in Arms, and offer him to insult a Father's Affection, but that he might Murther his Son if he pleased, he would leave his Blood to be revenged as Heaven should give Opportunity; and the Lord *Goring* sent Word, that as they had reduced the King's Servants to eat Horse-flesh, the Prisoners should feed as they fed.

The Enemy sent again to complain of the Royalists shooting poison'd Bullets, and sent two Affidavits of it made by two Deserters, swearing it was done by the Lord *Norwich's* Direction: The Generals in the Town returned under all their Hands, that they never gave any such Command or Direction; that they disown'd the Practice; and that the Fellows

who swore it were Perjured before in running from their Colours, and the Service of their King, and ought not to be credited again: But they added, that for shooting rough-cast Slugs they must excuse them, as Things stood with them at that time.

About this time a Porter in a Soldier's Habit got through the Enemy's Leaguer, and passing their Out-guards in the Dark, got into the Town, and brought Letters from *London*, assuring the Royalists, that there were so many strong Parties up in Arms for the King, and in so many Places, that they would be very suddenly reliev'd: This they caus'd to be read to the Soldiers to encourage them; and particularly it related to the Rising of the Earl of *Holland*, and the Duke of *Buckingham*, who with 500 Horse were gotten together in Arms about *Kingston* in *Surrey*; but we had Notice in a few Days after, that they were defeated, and the Earl of *Holland* taken, who was afterwards Beheaded.

26. The Enemy now began to batter the Walls, and especially on the West-side, from *St. Mary's* towards the North Gate; and we were assured they intended a Storm; on which the Ingeniers were directed to make<sup>s</sup> Trenches behind the Walls where the Breaches should be made, that in case of a Storm, they might meet with a warm reception: Upon this, they gave over the Design of Storming. The Lord *Goring* finding that the Enemy had set the Suburbs on Fire right against the *Hithe*, ordered the remaining Houses, which were empty of Inhabitants, from whence their Musketeer fir'd against the Town, to be burn'd also.

31. A Body of Foot sall'y'd out at Mid-night, to discover what the Enemy were doing at a Place where they thought a new Fort raising; they fell in among the Workmen, and put them to flight, cut in pieces several of the Guard, and brought in the Officer who commanded them Prisoner.

Aug. 2. The Town was now in a miserable Condition, the Soldiers searched and rifled the Houses of the Inhabitants for Victuals; they had liv'd on Horse flesh several Weeks, and most of that also was lean as Carrion, which not being well salted bred ~~Wens~~<sup>xx</sup> *worms*; and this want of Diet made the Soldiers sickly, and many died of Fluxes, yet they boldly rejected all offers of Surrender, unless with Safety to their Officers: However, several Hundreds got out, and either pass'd the Enemy's Guards, or surrender'd to them, and took Passes.

Aug. 7. The Town's People became very uneasy to the Soldiers, and the Mayor of the Town, with the Aldermen, waited upon the General, desiring Leave to send to the Lord Fairfax, for Leave to all the Inhabitants to come out of the Town, that they might not Perish; to which the Lord Goring consented; but the Lord Fairfax refused them.

12. The Rabble got together in a vast Crowd about the Lord Goring's Quarters, clamouring for a Surrender, and they did this every Evening, bringing Women and Children, who lay howling and crying on the Ground for Bread; the Soldiers beat off the Men, but the Women and Children would not stir, bidding the Soldiers kill them, saying they had rather be Shot than be Starv'd.

16. The General mov'd by the Cries and Distress of the poor Inhabitants, sent out a Trumpet to the Parliament General, demanding leave to send to the Prince, who was with a Fleet of 19 Men of War in the Mouth of the *Thames*, offering to Surrender, if they were not reliev'd in 20 Days. The Lord *Fairfax* refused it, and sent them Word, he would be in the Town in Person, and Visit them in less than 20 Days, intimating that they were preparing for a Storm. Some tart Messages and Answers were exchanged on this Occasion. The Lord *Goring* sent Word, they were willing, in Compassion to the poor Town's People, and to save that effusion of Blood, to surrender upon Honourable Terms, but that as for the storming them, which was threaten'd, they might come on when they thought fit, for that they (the Royalists) were ready for them. This held to the 19.

20. The Lord *Fairfax* return'd, what he said, was his last Answer, and should be the last offer of Mercy : The Conditions offered were, That upon a peaceable Surrender, all Soldiers and Officers under the Degree of a Captain, in Commission, should have their Lives, be exempted from Plunder, and have Passes to go to their respective Dwellings : All the Captains and superior Officers, with all the Lords and Gentlemen, as well in Commission as Volunteers, to surrender Prisoners at Discretion, only that they should not be plundered by the Soldiers.

21. The Generals rejected those Offers ; and when the People came about them again for Bread, set open one of the Gates, and bid them

go out to the Enemy, which a great many did willingly ; upon which the Lord *Goring* order'd all the rest that came about his Door, to be turn'd out after them : But when the People came to the Lord *Fairfax's* Camp, the Out-Guards were order'd to fire at them, and drive them all back again to the Gate ; which the Lord *Goring* seeing, he order'd them to be receiv'd in again. And now, altho' the Generals and Soldiers also, were resolute to die with their Swords in their Hands, rather than yield, and had maturely resolv'd to abide a Storm ; yet the Mayor and Aldermen having petitioned them, as well as the Inhabitants, being wearied with the Importunities of the distressed People, and pitying the deplorable Condition they were reduced to, they agreed to enter upon a Treaty, and accordingly, sent out some Officers to the Lord *Fairfax*, the Parliament General, to Treat ; and with them was sent Two Gentlemen of the Prisoners upon their Parole to return.

Upon the return of the said Messengers with the Lord *Fairfax's* Terms, the Lord *Goring*, &c. sent out a Letter, declaring they would die with their Swords in their Hands, rather than yield without Quarter for Life, and sent a Paper of Articles, on which they were willing to Surrender : But in the very interim of this Treaty, News came, that the Scots Army under Duke *Hamilton*, which was enter'd into *Lancashire*, and was joyn'd by the Royalists in that County, making 21000 Men, were entirely defeated. After this, the Ld. *Fairfax* would not grant any abatement of Articles, viz. To have all above Lieutenants surrender at Mercy.

Upon



Upon this, the Lord *Goring* and the General refused to submit again, and proposed a general Sally, and to break through or die, but found upon preparing for it, that the Soldiers, who had their Lives offered them, declined it, fearing the Gentlemen would escape, and they should be left to the Mercy of the Parliament Soldiers; and that upon this they began to Mutiny, and talk of surrendering the Town, and their Officers too. Things being brought to this pass, the Lords and General laid aside that Design, and found themselves oblig'd to submit: And so the Town was surrendered the 28th of *August*, 1648, upon Conditions, as follows,

The Lords and Gentlemen all Prisoners at Mercy.

The common Soldiers had Passes to go Home to their several Dwellings, but without Arms, and an Oath not to serve against the Parliament.

The Town to be preserv'd from Pillage, paying 14000 *l.* ready Money.

The same Day a Council of War being call'd about the Prisoners of War, it was Resolv'd, That the Lords should be left to the disposal of the Parliament. That Sir *Charles Lucas*, Sir *George Lisle*, and Sir *Marmaduke Gascoign*, should be shot to Death, and the other Officers Prisoners, to remain in Custody till farther Order.

The Two first of the Three Gentlemen were shot to Death, and the Third respited.

Thus ended the Siege of COLCHESTER.

N. B. Notwithstanding the Number killed in the Siege, and Dead of the Flux, and other Distempers, occasioned by bad Diet, which were

were very many, and notwithstanding the Number which Deserted and Escap'd in the time of their Hardships, yet there remained at the time of the Surrender,

<i>Earl of Norm. (Goring)</i>	69	<i>Ensigns</i>
<i>Lord Capell.</i>	183	<i>Serj. and Corpor.</i>
<i>Lord Loughbro'</i>	3067	<i>Private Soldiers</i>
11 <i>Knights</i>	65	<i>Servants to the</i>
9 <i>Colonels</i>		<i>Lords and General</i>
8 <i>Lieut. Colonels</i>		<i>Officers and Gentle-</i>
9 <i>Majors</i>		<i>men.</i>
30 <i>Captains</i>		
72 <i>Lieutenants</i>	3503.	<i>in all.</i>

The Town of *Colchester* has been suppos'd to contain about 40000 People, including the Out-Villages which are within its Liberty, of which there are a great many, the Liberty of the Town being of a great extent: One sad Testimony of the Town being so populous is, that they bury'd upwards of 5259 People in the Plague Year, 1665. But the Town was severely visited indeed, even more in Proportion than any of its Neighbours, or than the City of *London*.

The Government of the Town is by a Mayor, High Steward, a Recorder, or his Deputy, eleven Aldermen, a Chamberlain, a Town-Clerk, Assistants, and Eighteen Common-Council-Men. Their High-Steward (this Year, 1722.) is Sir *Isaac Rebow*, a Gentleman of a good Family and known Character, who has generally, for above 30 Years, been one of their Representatives in Parliament: He has a very good House at the Entrance in at the South, or Head Gate of the

the Town, where he has had the Honour, several Times, to lodge and entertain the late King *William*, of glorious Memory, in his returning from *Holland*, by way of *Harwich* to *London*. Their Recorder is Earl *Cowper*, who has been twice Lord High-Chancellor of *England*: But his Lordship not residing in those Parts, has put in for his Deputy, — — *Price*, Esq; Barrister at Law, and who dwells in the Town. There are in *Colchester* Eight Churches, besides those which are damag'd, and Five Meeting-Houses, whereof two for Quakers; besides a *Dutch Church* and a *French Church*.

Publick Edifices are,

1. *Bay-Hall*, an ancient Society kept up for ascertaining the Manufactures of Bays; which are, or ought to be, all brought to this Hall, to be viewed and Sealed according to their Goodness, by the Masters; and to this Practice has been owing the great Reputation of the *Colchester Bays* in Foreign Markets; where to open the side of a Bale and shew the Seal, has been enough to give the Buyer a Character of the Value of the Goods without any farther Search; and so far as they abate the Integrity and Exactness of their Method, which, I am told, of late is much omitted; I say, so far, that Reputation will certainly abate in the Markets they go to, which are principally in *Portugal* and *Italy*. This Corporation is govern'd by a particular set of Men who are call'd Governors of the *Dutch Bay Hall*. And in the same Building is the *Dutch Church*.

2. The

2. The *Guild Hall* of the Town, called by them the *Moot Hall*; to which is annex'd the Town Goal.
3. The *Work-House*, being lately enlarg'd, and to which belongs a Corporation, or a Body of the Inhabitants, consisting of Sixty Persons incorporated by Act of Parliament Anno 1698, for taking Care of the Poor: They are incorporated by the Name and Title of *The Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, and Guardians, of the Poor of the Town of Colchester*. They are in Number Eight and Forty; to whom are added the Mayor and Aldermen for the time being, who are always Guardians by the same Charter: These make the Number of Sixty, as above.

There is also a Grammar Free-School, with a good Allowance to the Master, who is chosen by the Town.

4. *The Castle of Colchester* is now become only a Monument shewing the Antiquity of the Place, it being built as the Walls of the Town also are, with *Roman Bricks*; and the *Roman Coins* dug up here, and ploughed up in the Fields adjoining, confirm it. The Inhabitants boast much, that *Helena*, the Mother of *Constantine the Great*, first Christian Emperor of the *Romans*, was born there; and it may be so for ought we know; I only observe what *Mr. Camden* says of the *Castle of Colchester*, viz.

\* *In the middle of this City stands a Castle ready to fall with Age.*

Tho' this Castle has stood an hundred and twenty Years from the Time Mr. *Camden* wrote that Account, and it is not fallen yet; nor will another hundred and Twenty Years, I believe, make it look one jot the older: And it was observable, that in the late Siege of this Town, a ~~common~~ Cannon Shot, which the Besiegers made at this old Castle, were so far from making it fall, that they made little or no Impression upon it; for which Reason, it seems, and because the Garrison made no great use of it against the Besiegers, they fir'd no more at it.

There are Two CHARITY SCHOOLS set up here, and carried on by a generous Subscription, with very good Success.

The Title of *Colchester* is in the Family of *Earl Rivers*; and the eldest Son of that Family, is called *Lord Colchester*; tho', as I understand, the Title is not settled by the Creation, to the eldest Son, till he enjoys the Title of *Earl* with it; but that the other is by the Courtesy of *England*; however this I take *ad referendum*.

From *Colchester*, I took another step down to the Coast, the Land running out a great way into the Sea, South, and S. E. makes that Promontory of Land called the *Nase*, and well known to Sea-men, using the Northern Trade. Here one sees a Sea open as an Ocean, without any opposite Shore, tho' it be no more than the Mouth of the *Thames*. This Point call'd the *Nase*, and the N. E. Point of *Kent*, near *Margate*, call'd the *North Foreland*, making (what they

they call) the Mouth of the River, and the Port of *London*, tho' it be here above 60 Miles over.

At *Walton*, under the *Nase*, they find on the Shoar, Copperas-Stone in great Quantities; and there are several large Works call'd Copperas Houses, where they make it with great Expencc.

On this Promontory is a new <sup>sea</sup> Mark, erected by the *Trinity-House Men*, and at the Publick Expencc, being a round Brick Tower, near 80 Foot high. The Sea gains so much upon the Land here, by the continual Winds at S. W. that within the Memory of some of the Inhabitants there, they have lost above 30 Acres of Land in one Place.

From hence we go back into the County about four Miles, because of the Creeks which lie between; and then turning East again, come to *Harwich*, on the utmost Eastern Point of this large Country.

*Harwich* is a Town so well known, and so perfectly describ'd by many Writers, I need say little of it: 'Tis strong by Situation, and may be made more so by Art. But 'tis many Years since the Government of *England* have had any occasion to fortify Towns to the Landward; 'tis enough that the Harbour or Road, which is One of the best and securest in *England*, is cover'd at the Entrance by a strong Fort, and a Battery of Guns to the Seaward, just as at *Tilbury*, and which sufficiently defend the Mouth of the River: And there is a particular Felicity in this Fortification, *viz.* That tho' the Entrance or Opening of the River into the Sea, is very wide, especially at High-water, at least two Miles,

Miles, if not Three over; yet the Channel, which is deep, and in which the Ships must keep and come to the Harbour, is narrow, and lies only on the side of the Fort; so that all the Ships which come in, or go out, must come close under the Guns of the Fort; that is to say, under the command of their Shot.

The Fort is on the *Suffolk* side of the Bay, or Entrance, but stands so far into the Sea upon the Point of a Sand or Shoal, which runs out toward the *Essex* side, as it were, laps over the Mouth of that Haven like a Blind to it; and our Surveyors of the Country affirm it to be in the County of *Essex*. The making this Place, which was formerly no other than a Sand in the Sea, solid enough for the Foundation of so good a Fortification, has not been done but by many Years Labour, often Repairs, and an infinite Expence of Money, but 'tis now so firm, that nothing of Storms and high Tides, or such Things, as make the Sea dangerous to these kind of Works, can affect it.

The Harbour is of a vast Extent; for, as two Rivers empty themselves here, *viz.* *Stour* from *Mainingtree*, and the *Orwel* from *Ipswich*; the Channels of both are large and deep, and safe for all Weathers; so where they joyn they make a large Bay or Road, able to receive the biggest Ships, and the greatest Number that ever the World saw together; I mean, Ships of War. In the old *Dutch* War, great Use has been made of this Harbour; and I have known that there has been 100 Sail of Men of War and their Attendants, and between three and four hundred Sail of Collier Ships, all in this Harbour at a time, and yet none of them crowding, or riding in Danger of one another.

*Har-*

*Harwich* is known for being the Port where the Packet-Boats, between *England* and *Holland*, go out and come in : The Inhabitants are far from being fam'd for good Usage to Strangers, but on the contrary, are blamed for being extravagant in their Reckonings, in the Publick Houfes, which has not a little encourag'd the setting up of Sloops, which they now call Passage-Boats, to *Holland*, to go directly from the River of *Thames* ; this, tho' it may be something the longer Passage, yet as they are said to be more obliging to Passengers, and more reasonable in the Expence, and as some say also the Vessels are better Sea Boats, has been the Reason why so many Passengers do not go or come by the way of *Harwich*, as formerly were wont to do ; infomuch, that the Stage-Coaches, between this Place and *London*, which ordinarily went twice or three times a Week, are now entirely laid down, and the Passengers are left to hire Coaches on purpose, take Post-Horses, or hire Horses to *Colchester*, as they find most convenient.

The Account of a petrifying Quality in the Earth here, tho' some will have it to be in the Water of a Spring hard by, is very strange : They boast that their Town is Wall'd, and their Streets pav'd with Clay, and yet, that one is as Strong, and the other as clean as those that are built or pav'd with Stone : The Fact is indeed true, for there is a sort of Clay in the Cliff, between the Town and the Beacon-Hill adjoining, which when it falls down into the Sea, where it is beaten with the Waves and the Weather, turns gradually into Stone : But the chief Reason assign'd, is from the Water of



a certain Spring or Well, which rising in the said Cliff, runs down into the Sea among those pieces of Clay, and petrifies them as it runs; and the Force of the Sea often stirring, and perhaps, turning the lumps of Clay, when Storms of Wind may give Force enough to the Water, causes them to harden every where alike; otherwise those which were not quite sunk in the Water of the Spring, would be petrify'd but in Part. These Stones are gathered up to pave the Streets, and build the Houses, and are indeed very hard: 'Tis also Remarkable, that some of them taken up before they are thoroughly petrify'd, will, upon breaking them, appear to be hard as a Stone without, and soft as Clay in the Middle; whereas others, that have layn a due time, shall be thorough Stone to the Center, and as exceeding hard within, as without: The same Spring is said to turn Wood into Iron: But this I take to be no more or less than the Quality, which as I mention'd of the Shoar at the *Nefs*, is found to be in much of the Stone, all along this Shoar, (*viz.*) Of the Copperas kind; and 'tis certain, that the Copperas Stone (so call'd) is found in all that Cliff, and even where the Water of this Spring has run; and I presume, that those who call the harden'd Pieces of Wood, which they take out of this Well by the Name of Iron, never try'd the Quality of it with the Fire or Hammer; if they had, perhaps they would have given some other Account of it.

On the Promontory of Land, which they call *Beacon-Hill*, and which lies beyond, or behind the Town, towards the Sea, there is a Light-House, to give the Ships Directions in  
their

their sailing by, as well as their coming into the Harbour in the Night. I shall take Notice of these again all together, when I come to speak of the Society of *Trinity House*, as they are called, by whom they are all directed upon this Coast.

This Town was erected into a Marquisate, in Honour of the truly Glorious Family of *Schomberg*, the eldest Son of Duke *Schomberg*, who landed with King *William*, being stiled Marquis of *Harwich*; but that Family (in *England* at least) being extinct, the Title dies also.

*Harwich* is a Town of Hurry and Business, not much of Gaiety and Pleasure; yet the Inhabitants seem warm in their Nests, and some of them are very Wealthy: There are not many (if any) Gentlemen or Families of Note, either in the Town, or very near it. They send two Members to Parliament; the present are, Sir *Peter Parker*, and *Humphrey Parsons*, Esq;

And now being at the Extremity of the County of *Essex*, of which I have given you some View, as to that side next the Sea only; I shall break off this Part of my Letter, by telling you, that I will take the Towns which lie more towards the Center of the County, in my return by the North and West Part only, that I may give you a few Hints of some Towns which were near me in my Rout this way, and of which being so well known, there is but little to say.

On the Road from *London* to *Colchester*, before I came into it at *Whitham*, lie four good Market-Towns at equal Distance from one another; namely, *Rumford*, Noted for two Markets, (*viz.*) One for Calves and Hogs, the other for

Corn and other Provisions ; most, if not all, bought up for *London* Market. At the farther End of the Town, in the middle of a stately Park, stood *Guldy Hall*, vulgarly *Giddy Hall*, an antient Seat of one *Coke*, sometime Lord-Mayor of *London*, but forfeited, on some Occasion, to the Crown : It is since pull'd down to the Ground, and there now stands a noble stately Fabrick or Mansion-House, built upon the Spot by *Sir John Eyles*, a wealthy Merchant of *London*, and chosen Sub-Governor of the South-Sea Company, immediately after the Ruin of the former Sub-Governor and Directors, whose Overthrow makes the History of these Times famous.

*Brent-Wood* and *Ingarstone*, and even *Chelmsford* itself, have very little to be said of them, but that they are large thorough-fair Towns, full of good Inns, and chiefly maintained by the excessive Multitude of Carriers and Passengers, which are constantly passing this way to *London*, with Drovers of Cattle, Provisions, and Manufactures for *London*.

The last of these Towns is indeed the County-Town, where the County Jail is kept, and where the Assizes are very often held ; it stands on the Conflux of two Rivers, the *Chelmer*, whence the Town is called, and the *Cann*.

At *Lees*, or *Lee's Priory*, as some call it, is to be seen an antient House, in the middle of a beautiful Park, formerly the Seat of the late Duke of *Manchester*, but since the Death of the Duke, it is sold to the Dutchess Dowager of *Buckinghamshire* ; the present Duke of *Manchester*, retiring to his antient Family Seat at *Kimbolton* in *Huntingdonshire*, it being a much finer

finer Residence. His Grace is lately married to a Daughter of the Duke of *Montagu* by a Branch of the House of *Marlborough*.

Four Market-Towns fill up the rest of this Part of the Country; *Dunmow*, *Braintree*, *Thaxted*, and *Coggsball*; all noted for the Manufacture of *Bays*, as above, and for very little else, except I shall make the Ladies laugh, at the famous old Story of the Flich of Bacon at *Dunmow*, which is this:

One *Robert Fitz-Walter*, a powerful Baron in this County, in the time of *Hen. III.* on some merry Occasion, which is not preserv'd in the rest of the Story, instituted a Custom in the Priory here; That *whatever married Man did not repent of his being marry'd, or quarrel, or differ and dispute with his Wife, within a Year and a Day after his Marriage, and would swear to the Truth of it, kneeling upon two hard pointed Stones in the Church yard, which Stones he caus'd to be set up in the Priory Church-yard, for that Purpose: The Prior and Convent, and as many of the Town as would, to be present, such Person should have a Flich of Bacon.*

I do not remember to have read, that any one ever came to demand it; nor do the People of the Place pretend to say, of their own Knowledge, that they remember any that did so; a long time ago several did demand it, as *they say*, but they know not who; neither is there any Record of it; nor do they tell us, if it were now to be demanded, who is obliged to deliver the Flich of Bacon, the Priory being dissolved and gone.

The Forest of *Epping* and *Henalt*, spreads a great Part of this Country still : I shall speak again of the former in my return from this Circuit. Formerly, ('tis thought) these two Forests took up all the West and South Part of the County ; but particularly we are assur'd, that it reach'd to the River *Chelmer*, and into *Dengy Hundred* ; and from thence again West to *Epping* and *Waltham*, where it continues to be a Forest still.

Probably this Forest of *Epping* has been a Wild or Forest ever since this Island was Inhabited, and may shew us, in some parts of it, where *Enclosures and Tillage has not broken in upon it*, what the Face of this Island was before the *Romans* Time ; that is to say, before their landing in *Britain*.

The Constitution of this Forest is best seen, I mean, as to the Antiquity of it, by the merry Grant of it from *Edward the Confessor*, before the *Norman* Conquest to *Randolph Peperking*, one of his Favourites, who was after called *Pe-verell*, and whose Name remains still in several Villages in this County ; as particularly that of *Hatfield Peverell*, in the Road from *Chelmsford* to *Witham*, which is suppos'd to be originally a Park, which they call'd a Field in those Days ; and *Hartfield* may be as much as to say a Park for Deer ; for the Stags were in those Days call'd *Harts* ; so that this was neither more nor less than *Randolph Peperking's Hartfield* ; that is to say, *Ralph Peverell's Deer-Park*.

*N. B.* This *Ralph Randolph*, or *Ralph Peverell*, (call him as you please) had, it seems, a most Beautiful Lady to his Wife, who was Daughter of *Ingelrick*, one of *Edward the Confessor's* Noblemen :

blemen : He had two Sons by her, *William Peverell*, a fam'd Soldier, and Lord or Governor of *Dover* Castle; which he surrender'd to *William* the Conqueror, after the Battle in *Sussex*; and *Pain Peverell*, his youngest, who was Lord of *Cambridge* : When the eldest Son delivered up the Castle, the Lady his Mother, above nam'd, who was the celebrated Beauty of the Age, was it seems there; and the Conqueror fell in Love with her, and whether by Force, or by Consent, took her away, and she became his Mistress, or what else you please to call it : By her he had a Son, who was call'd *William*, after the Conqueror's Christian Name, but retain'd the Name of *Peverell*, and was afterwards created by the Conqueror, Lord of *Nottingham*.

This Lady afterwards, as is supposed, by way of Penance, for her yielding to the Conqueror, founded a Nunnery at the Village of *Hatfield-Peverell*, mentioned above, and there she lies Buried in the Chapel of it, which is now the Parish-Church, where her Memory is preserv'd by a Tomb stone under one of the Windows.

Thus we have several Towns, where any antient Parks have been plac'd, call'd by the Name of *Hatfield* on that very Account.

As *Hatfield Broad Oak* in this County.

*Bishop's Hatfield* in *Hertfordshire*, and several others.

But I return to King *Edward's* merry Way, as I call it, of granting this Forest to this *Ralph Peperking*, which I find in the antient Records, in the very Words it was pass'd in, as follows : Take my Explanations with it, for the sake of those that are not us'd to the antient English.

*The GRANT in Old English.**The Explanation in Modern English.*

Iche EDWARD Koning,  
 Have given of my Forrest  
 the kepen of the Hundred of  
*Chelmer and Dancing,*  
 To RANDOLPH LEPERKING,  
 And to his kindling,  
 With Heorte and Hind, Doe  
 and Bocke,  
 Hare and Fox, Cat and Brock  
 Wild Fowle with his Flock ;  
 Parrich, Pheasant Hen, and  
 Pheasant Cock,  
 With green and winkl Stub and  
 Stock,  
 To kepen and to yemen with  
 all her might,  
 Both by Day, and eke by Night ;

And Hounds for to hold,  
 Good and Swift, and Bold ;  
 Four Greyhound, and six Raches,  
 For Hare and Fox, and Wild  
 Cattes,

And therefore Iche made him  
 my Book

Wirnes, the Bishop of *Wolston,*  
 And Book yrede many on,

And *Sweyne* of *Essex,* our Bro-  
 ther,

And taken him many other

And our Steward *Howelin,*  
 That *By-sought* me for him.

I EDWARD the King,  
 Have made Ranger of my Fo-  
 rest of *Chelmsford* Hundred,  
 and *Deering* Hundred,  
*Ralph Peverell,* for him and his  
 Heirs for ever ;  
 With both the red and fallow  
 Deer,  
 Hare and Fox, Otter and Badger ;  
 Wild Fowl of all sorts,  
 Partridges and Pheasants,  
 Timber and Underwood Roots  
 and Tops ;  
 With Power to preserve the Fo-  
 rest,  
 And watch it against Deer steal-  
 ers, and others :

With a Right to keep Hounds  
 of all sorts,

Four Grey-Hounds, and six Ter-  
 riers,

Harriers and Fox-Hounds, and  
 other Hounds.

And to this End I have Regi-  
 stred this my Grant, in the  
 Crown Rolls or Books ;

To which the Bishop has set his  
 Hand as a Witness for any  
 one to read ;

Also Signed by the King's Bro-  
 ther, (or, as some think, the  
 Chancellor *Sweyn,* then Earl  
 or Count of *Essex*)

He might call such other Wit-  
 nesses to Sign as he thought fit.

Also the King's High Steward  
 was a Witness, at whose request  
 this Grant was obtained of  
 the King.

There are many Gentlemen's Seats on this  
 side the Country, and a great Assemblée set up  
 at *New-Hall,* near this Town much resorted to  
 by the Neighbouring Gentry. I shall next  
 proceed to the County of *Suffolk,* as my first  
 Design directed me to do.

From

From *HARWICH* therefore, having a mind to view the Harbour, I sent my Horses round by *Maningtree*, where there is a Timber Bridge over the *Stour*, called *Cataway Bridge*, and took a Boat up the River *Orwell*, for *Ipswich*; a Traveller will hardly understand me, especially a Seaman, when I speak of the River *Stour* and the River *Orwell* at *Harwich*, for they know them by no other Names than those of *Maningtre-Water*, and *Ipswich-Water*; so while I am on salt Water, I must speak as those who use the Sea may understand me, and when I am up in the Country among the In-land Towns again, I shall call them out of their Names no more.

It is Twelve Miles from *Harwich* up the Water to *Ipswich*: Before I come to the Town, I must say something of it, because speaking of the River requires it: In former times, *that is to say*, since the writer of this remembers the Place very well, and particularly just before the late *Dutch Wars*, *Ipswich* was a Town of very good Business; particularly it was the greatest Town in *England* for large Colliers or Coal-ships, employed between *New Castle* and *London*: Also they built the biggest Ships and the best, for the said fetching of Coals of any that were employ'd in that Trade: They built also there so prodigious strong, that it was an ordinary thing for an *Ipswich* Collier, if no Disaster happen'd to him, to reign (as Seamen call it) forty or fifty Years, and more.

In the Town of *Ipswich* the Masters of these Ships generally dwelt, and there were, as they then told me, above a hundred Sail of them, belonging to the Town at one time, the least  
of



of which carried Fifteen-score, *as they compute it*, that is, 300 Chaldron of Coals; this was about the Year 1668 (when I first knew the Place) This made the Town be at that time so populous, for those Masters, as they had good Ships as Sea, so they had large Families, who liv'd plentifully, and in very good Houses in the Town, and several Streets were chiefly Inhabited by such.

The loss or decay of this Trade, accounts for the present pretended decay of the Town of *Ipswich*, of which I shall speak more presently: The Ships wore out, the Masters died off, the Trade took a new Turn, *Dutch* Flyboats taken in the War, and made free Ships by Act of Parliament, thrust them selves into the Coal-Trade for the Interest of the Captors, such as the *Tarmouth* and *London* Merchants, and others; and the *Ipswich* Men dropt gradually out of it, being discouraged by those *Dutch* Flyboats: These *Dutch* Vessels which cost nothing but the *Caption*, were bought cheap, carried great Burthens, and the *Ipswich* building fell off for want of Price, and so the Trade decay'd, and the Town with it; I believe this will be own'd for the true beginning of their Decay, if I must allow it to be call'd a Decay.

But to return to my Passage up the River. In the Winter time those great Collier-Ships, abovemention'd, are always laid up, as they call it: *That is to say*, the Coal Trade abates at *London*, the Citizens are generally furnish'd, their Stores taken in, and the Demand is over; so that the great Ships, the Northern Seas and Coast being also dangerous,  
the

the Nights long, and the Voyage hazardous, go to Sea no more, but lie by, the Ships are unrigg'd, the Sails, &c. carry'd a Shore, the Top-Masts struck, and they ride Moor'd in the River, under the advantages and security of sound Ground, and a high Woody Shore, where they lie as safe as in a wet Dock; and it was a very agreeable Sight to see, perhaps two Hundred Sail of Ships, of all sizes lye in that Posture every Winter: All this while, which was usually from *Michaelmas* to *Lady day*, The Masters liv'd calm and secure with their Families in *Ipswich*; and enjoying plentifully, what in the Summer they got laboriously at Sea, and this made the Town of *Ipswich* very Populous in the Winter; for as the Masters, so most of the Men, especially their Mates, Boatswains, Carpenters, &c. were of the same Place, and liv'd in their Proportions, just as the Masters did; so that in the Winter there might be perhaps a Thousand Men in the Town more than in the Summer, and perhaps a greater Number.

To justify what I advance here, that this Town was formerly very full of People, I ask leave to refer to the Account of Mr. *Camden*, and what it was in his time, his Words are these.

“ *Ipswich* has a Commodious Harbour, has  
 “ been fortified with a Ditch and Ram-  
 “ part, has a great Trade, and is very Po-  
 “ pulous; being adorned with fourteen  
 “ Churches, and large Private Buildings.

This

This Confirms what I have mentioned of the former State of this Town; but the present State is my proper Work; I therefore return to my Voyage up the River.

The sight of these Ships thus laid up in the River, *as I have said*, was very agreeable to me in my Passage from *Harwich*, about five and Thirty Years before the present Journey; and it was in its Proportion equally Melancholly to hear, that there were now scarce 40 Sail of good Colliers that belong'd to the whole Town.

In a Creek in this River call'd *Lavington-Creek* we saw at low Water, such Shoals, or Hills rather, of Muscles that great Boats might have loaded with them, and no miss have been made of them. Near this Creek Sir *Samuel Barnadiston* had a very fine Seat, as also a Decoy for wild Ducks, and a very noble Estate; but it is divided into many Branches since the Death of the antient Possessor; but I proceed to the Town, which is the first in the County of *Suffolk* of any Note this Way.

*Ipswich* is seated, at the distance of 12 Miles from *Harwich*, upon the Edge of the River, which taking a short Turn to the West, the Town forms, there, a kind of Semi-Circle, or half Moon upon the Bank of the River: It is very remarkable, that tho' Ships of 500 Tun may upon a Spring Tide come up very near this Town, and many Ships of that Burthen have been built there; yet the River is not Navigable any farther then the Town itself, or but very little; no not for the smallest Boats, nor does the Tide, which rises sometimes 13 or 14 Foot, and gives them 24 Foot Water very near the Town, flow much farther up the River

ver than the Town, or not so much as to make it worth speaking of.

He took little Notice of the Town, or at least of that Part of *Ipswich*, who published in his wild Observations on it, that Ships of \*200 Tun are built there: I affirm, that I have seen a Ship of 400 Tun launch'd at the Building-yard, close to the Town; and I appeal to the *Ipswich* Colliers (those few that remain) belonging to this Town, if several of them carrying Seventeen score of Coals, which must be upward of 400 Tun, have not formerly been built here; but superficial Observers, must be superficial Writers, if they write at all; and to this Day, at *John's Ness*, within a Mile and half of the Town it self, Ships of any Burthen may be built and launched even at neap Tides.

I am much mistaken too, if since the Revolution, some very good Ships have not been built at this Town, and particularly the *Melford* or *Milford-Gally*, a Ship of 40 Guns; as the *Greyhound* Frigate, a Man of War of 36 to 40 Guns, was at *John's Ness*. But what is this towards lessening the Town of *Ipswich*, any more than it would be to say, they do not build Men of War, or *East-India* Ships, or Ships of 500 Tun Burthen, at *St. Catherines*, or at *Battle-Bridge* in the *Tbames*? when we know that a Mile or two lower, (*viz.*) at *Radcliffe*, *Limehouse*, or *Deptford*, they build Ships of 1000 Tun, and might build First-rate Men of War too, if there was Occasion; and the like might be done in this River of *Ipswich*,

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\* *Familiar Letters*, Vol. 1. pag. 9.

within about Two or three Miles of the Town ; so that it would not be at all an out-of-the-way speaking to say, such a Ship was built at *Ipswich*, any more than it is to say, as they do, that the *Royal Prince*, the Great Ship lately built for the South-Sea Company, was *London* built, because she was built at *Lime-house*.

And why then is not *Ipswich* capable of building and receiving the greatest Ships in the Navy, seeing they may be built and brought up again Laden, within a Mile and half of the Town ?

But the neighbourhood of *London*, which sucks the Vitals of Trade in this Island to itself, is the chief Reason of any decay of Business in this Place ; and I shall in the Course of these Observations, hint at it, where many good Sea-Ports and large Towns, tho' farther off than *Ipswich*, and as well fitted for Commerce, are yet swallow'd up by the immense Indraft of Trade to the City of *London* ; and more decay'd beyond all Comparison, than *Ipswich* is suppos'd to be ; as *Southampton*, *Weymouth*, *Dartmouth*, and several others which I shall speak to in their Order : And if it be otherwise at this time, with some other Towns, which are lately increas'd in Trade and Navigation, Wealth, and People, while their Neighbours Decay, it is because they have some particular Trade or Accident to Trade, which is a kind of *Nostrum* to them, inseparable to the Place, and which fixes there by the Nature of the Thing ; as the Herring-Fishery to *Yarmouth* ; the Coal Trade to *New-Castle* ; the *Leeds* Cloathing-Trade ; the export of Butter and Lead, and the great Corn Trade for  
Hol-

*Holland*, is to *Hull*; the *Virginia* and *West-India* Trade at *Liverpool*; the *Irish* Trade at *Bristol*, and the like; Thus the War has brought a flux of Business and People, and consequently of Wealth, to several Places, as well as to *Portsmouth*, *Chatham*, *Plymouth*, *Falmouth*, and others; and were any Wars like those, to continue 20 Years with the *Dutch*, or any Nation whose Fleets lay that way, as the *Dutch* do, it would be the like perhaps at *Ipswich* in a few Years, and at other Places on the same Coast.

But at this present Time an Occasion offers to speak in favour of this Port; namely, the *Greenland* Fishery, lately propos'd to be carry'd on by the *South-Sea* Company: On which Account I may freely advance this, without any Compliment to the Town of *Ipswich*, no Place in *Britain*, is equally qualified like *Ipswich*; whether we respect the cheapness of building and fitting out their Ships and Shal-loups; also furnishing, Victualling, and providing them with all kind of Stores, Convenience for laying up the Ships after the Voyage; room for erecting their Magazines, Ware-Houses, Roap-walks, Cooperages, &c. on the easiest Terms; and especially for the noisome Cookery, which attends the boiling their Blubber, which may be on this River, (as it ought to be) remote from any Places of Resort; Then their nearness to the Market for the Oil when 'tis made; and, which above all, ought to be the chief thing considered in that Trade, the easiness of their putting out to Sea when they

they begin their Voyage, in which the same Wind that carries them from the Mouth of the Haven, is fair to the very Seas of *Greenland*.

I could say much more to this Point, if it were needful, and in few Words could easily prove, that *Ipswich* must have the preference of all the Port Towns of *Britain*, for being the best Center of the *Greenland* Trade, if ever that Trade fall into the management of such a People as perfectly understand, and have a due honest regard to its being managed with the best Husbandry, and to the prosperity of the Undertaking in general : But whether we shall ever arrive at so happy a Time, as to recover so useful a Trade to our Country, which our Ancestors had the Honour to be the first Undertakers of, and which has been lost only thro' the Indolence of others, and the encreasing Vigilance of our Neighbours, that is not my Business here to dispute.

What I have said, is only to let the World see, what Improvement this Town and Port is capable of ; I cannot think, but that Providence, which made nothing in vain, cannot have reserv'd so useful, so convenient a Port to lie vacant in the World, but that the Time will some time or other come (especially considering the improving Temper of the present Age) when some peculiar beneficial Business may be found out, to make the Port of *Ipswich* as useful to the World, and the Town as flourishing, as Nature has made it proper and capable to be.

As for the Town, it is true, it is but Thinly inhabited, in comparison of the Extent of it ; but to say, there are hardly any People to be seen there,

there, is far from being true in Fact, and whoever thinks fit to look into the Churches and Meeting-Houses on a Sunday, or other publick Days, will find there are very great Numbers of People there : Or if he thinks fit to view the Market, and see how the large Shambles, call'd Cardinal *Wolfey's Butchery*, are furnish'd with Meat, and the rest of the Market stock'd with other Provisions, must acknowledge that it is not for a few People that all those Things are provided : A Person very Curious, and on whose Veracity I think I may depend, going thro' the Market in this Town, told me, that he reckon'd upwards of 600 Country People on Horseback and on Foot, with Baskets and other Carriage, who had all of them brought something or other to Town to sell, besides the Butchers, and what came in Carts and Waggon.

It happen'd to be my Lot to be once at this Town, at the time when a very fine new Ship, which was built there, for some Merchants of *London*, was to be Launched ; and if I may give my Guess at the Numbers of People which appeared on the Shore, in the Houses, and on the River, I believe I am much within Compass, if I say there were 20,000 People to see it ; but this is only a Guess, or they might come a great way to see the Sight, or the Town may be declin'd farther since that : But a View of the Town is one of the surest Rules for a gross Estimate.

It is true, here is no settled Manufacture : The *French Refugees*, when they first came over to *England*, began a little to take to this Place ; and some Merchants attempted to set up a Linnen Manufacture in their favour ; but



it has not met with so much Success as was expected, and at present I find very little of it. The poor People are however employ'd, as they are all over these Counties, in spinning Wool for other Towns where Manufactures are settled.

The Country round *Ipswich*, as are all the Counties so near the Coast, is applied chiefly to Corn, of which a very great Quantity is continually shipped off for *London*; and sometimes they load Corn here for *Holland*, especially if the Market abroad is encouraging. They have 12 Parish-Churches in this Town, with three or four Meetings; but there are not so many Quakers here as at *Colchester*, and no Anabaptists, or Anti-pædo Baptists, that I could hear of, at least there is no Meeting-House of that Denomination: There is one Meeting House for the *Presbyterians*, one for the *Independants*, and one for the *Quakers*; the first is as large and as fine a Building of that kind as most on this side of *England*, and the inside the best finished of any I have seen, *London* not excepted; that for the *Independants* is a handsome new-built Building, but not so gay or so large as the other.

There is a great deal of very good Company in this Town; and tho' there are not so many of the Gentry here as at *Bury*, yet there are more here than in any other Town in the County; and I observ'd particularly, that the Company you meet with here, are generally Persons well informed of the World, and who have something very Solid and Entertaining in their Society: This may happen, perhaps, by their frequent conversing with those who have been  
abroad,

abroad, and by their having a Remnant of Gentlemen and Masters of Ships among them, who have seen more of the World than the People of an Inland Town are likely to have seen. I take this Town to be one of the most agreeable Places in *England*, for Families who have liv'd well, but may have suffered in our late Calamities of Stocks and Bubbles, to retreat to, where they may live within their own Compass; and several things indeed recommend it to such;

1. Good Houses, at very easie Rents.
2. An airy, clean, and well govern'd Town.
3. Very agreeable and improving Company almost of every Kind.
4. A wonderful plenty of all manner of Provisions, whether Flesh or Fish, and very Good of the Kind.
5. Those Provisions very Cheap; so that a Family may live cheaper here, than in any Town in *England* of its bigness, within such a small distance from *London*.
6. Easie Passage to *London*, either by Land or Water, the Coach going through to *London* in a Day.

The Lord Viscount *Hereford*, has a very fine Seat and Park in this Town; the House indeed is old built, but very commodious; 'tis call'd *Christ-Church*, having been as 'tis said, a Priory, or Religious House in former Times: The Green and Park is a great addition to the Pleasantsness of this Town, the Inhabitants being allowed to Divert themselves there with Walking, Bowling, &c.

The large Spire Steeple which formerly stood upon that they call the *Tower-Church*, was blown down by a great Storm of Wind many Years ago, and in its Fall did much Damage to the Church.

The Government of this Town is by two Bailiffs, as at *Tarmouth*: Mr. *Camden* says they are chosen out of twelve Burgeses called *Portmen*, and two Justices out of Twenty-four more. There has been lately a very great Struggle between the two Parties for the choice of these two Magistrates, which had this amicable Conclusion, namely, that they chose one of either Side; so that neither Party having the Victory, 'tis to be hoped it may be a Means to allay the Heats and un-neighbourly Feuds, which such things breed in Towns so large as this is. They send two Members to Parliament, whereof those at this time, are Sir *William Thompson*, Recorder of *London*, and Colonel *Negus*, Deputy-Master of the Horse to the King.

There are some Things very curious to be seen here, however some superficial Writers have been ignorant of them. Dr. *Beefton*, an Eminent Physician, began, a few Years ago, a Physick Garden adjoining to his House in this Town; and as he is particularly Curious, and as I was told exquisitely skill'd in Botanick Knowledge, so he has been not only very diligent, but successful too, in making a Collection of rare and exotick Plants, such as are scarce to be equal'd in *England*.

One Mr. *White*, a Surgeon, resides also in this Town; But before I speak of this Gentleman, I must observe, that I say nothing from  
Personal

Personal Knowledge; Tho' if I did, I have too good an Opinion of his Sense to believe he would be pleas'd with being flattered, or complimented in Print: But I must be true to Matter of Fact; This Gentleman has begun a Collection, or Chamber of Rarities, and with good Success too. I acknowledge I had not the Opportunity of seeing them; But I was told there are some things very Curious in it, as particularly a *Sea Horse* carefully preserv'd, and perfect in all its Parts; Two *Roman URNS* full of Ashes of Human Bodies, and suppos'd to be above 1700 Years old; besides a great many valuable Medals, and antient Coins. My Friend who gave me this Account, and of whom I think I may say he speaks without Byass, mentions this Gentleman, Mr. *White*, with some Warmth, as a very valuable Person in his particular Employ, of a Surgeon, I only repeat his Words; "Mr. *White*, says he, to whom the " whole Town and Country are greatly indebted and obliged to pray for his Life, is our " most skilful Surgeon. These I say are his own Words, and I add nothing to them but this, that 'tis happy for a Town to have such a Surgeon, as it is for a Surgeon to have such a Character.

The Country round *Ipswich*, as if qualify'd on purpose to accommodate the Town for building of Ships, is an inexhaustable Store-House of Timber, of which now their Trade of building Ships is abated, they send very great Quantities to the King's Building yards at *Chatham*, which by Water is so little a way, that they often run to it from the Mouth of the River at *Harwich* in one Tide.

From *Ipswich* I took a Turn into the Country to *Hadley*, principally to satisfy my Curiosity, and see the Place where that famous Martyr, and Pattern of Charity and Religious Zeal in Queen *Mary's* time, Dr. *Rowland Taylor*, was put to Death; the Inhabitants, who have a wonderful Veneration for his Memory, shew the very Place where the Stake which he was bound to, was set up, and they have put a Stone upon it, which no Body will remove; but it is a more lasting Monument to him that he lives in the Hearts of the People; I say more lasting than a Tomb of Marble would be, for the Memory of that good Man will certainly never be out of the poor Peoples Minds, as long as this Island shall retain the Protestant Religion among them; how long that may be, as things are going, and if the detestable Conspiracy of the Papists now on Foot, should succeed, I will not pretend to say.

A little to the left is *Sudbury*, which stands upon the River *Stour*, mentioned above; a River which parts the Counties of *Suffolk* and *Essex*, and which is within these few Years made Navigable to this Town, tho' the Navigation does not (it seems) answer the Charge, at least not to Advantage.

I know nothing for which this Town is remarkable, except for being very Populous and very Poor. They have a great Manufacture of *Says* and *Perpetuana's*; and multitudes of poor People are employ'd in working them; but the Number of the Poor is almost ready to eat up the Rich: However this Town sends two Members to Parliament, tho' it is under no Form of Government particularly to itself, other than

as a Village, the Head Magistrate whereof is a Constable.

Near adjoining to it, is a Village call'd *Long-Melfort*; and a very long one it is, from which I suppose it had that addition to its Name; it is full of very good Houses, and, as they told me, is richer, and has more wealthy Masters of the Manufacture in it than in *Sudbury* itself.

Here and in the Neighbourhood, are some antient Families of good Note; particularly here is a fine Dwelling, the antient Seat of the *Cordells*; whereof Sir *William Cordell* was Master of the Rolls in the time of Queen *Elizabeth*; but the Family is now extinct; the last Heir, Sir *John Cordell*, being killed by a Fall from his Horse, died unmarried, leaving three Sisters Co-heiresses to a very noble Estate most of which, if not all, is now center'd in the only surviving Sister, and with her in Marriage is given to Mr. *Firebrass*, eldest Son of Sir *Basil Firebrass*, formerly a flourishing Merchant in *London*, but reduc'd by many Disasters. His Family now rises by the good Fortune of his Son, who proves to be a Gentleman of very agreeable Parts, and well esteem'd in the Country.

From this part of the Country I return'd North-West by *Lenham*, to visit *St. Edmund's Bury*, a Town of which other Writers have talk'd very largely, and perhaps a little too much: It is a Town fam'd for its pleasant Situation and wholesome Air, the *Montpelier* of *Suffolk*, and perhaps of *England*; this must be attributed to the Skill of the Monks of those Times, who chose so beautiful a Situation for the Seat of their Retirement; and who built

here the greatest and in its time, the most flourishing Monastery in all these Parts of *England*, I mean the Monastery of *St. Edmund* the Martyr: It was, if we believe Antiquity, a House of Pleasure in more antient Times; or to speak more properly, a Court of some of the *Saxon* or *East-Angle* Kings; and, as *Mr. Camden* says, was even then call'd a *Royal Village*; tho' it much better merits that Name now; it being the Town of all this Part of *England*, in proportion to its bigness, most thronged with Gentry, People of the best Fashion, and the most polite Conversation: This Beauty and healthiness of its Situation, was no doubt the Occasion which drew the Clergy to settle here, for they always chose the best Places in the Country to build in, either for richness of Soil, or for Health and Pleasure in the Situation of their religious Houses.

For the like Reason, I doubt not, they translated the Bones of the Martyr'd King *St. Edmund*, to this Place; for it is a Vulgar Error to say he was Murther'd here; his Martyrdom, it is plain was at *Hoxon* or *Henilsdon*, near *Harlston*, on the *Wavenry*, in the farthest northern Verge of the County; but *Segebert*, King of the *East Angles*, had built a religious House in this pleasant rich Part of the County; and as the *Monks* began to taste the Pleasure of the Place, they procur'd the Body of this Saint to be remov'd hither, which soon encreas'd the Wealth and Revenues of their House, by the Zeal of that Day, in going on Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the blessed *St. Edmund*.

We read however, that after this, the *Danes* under King *Sveno*, over-running this part of the Country,

Country, destroy'd this Monastery and burnt it to the Ground, with the Church and Town; But see the Turn Religion gives to Things in the World; His Son King *Canutus*, at first a Pagan and a Tyrant, and the most cruel Ravager of all that Crew, coming to turn Christian; and being touch'd in Conscience for the Soul of his Father, in having robb'd God and his holy Martyr *St. Edmund*, sacrilegiously destroying the Church, and plundering the Monastery; I say, touch'd with Remorse, and, as the Monks pretend, terrify'd with a Vision of *St. Edmund* appearing to him, he rebuilt the House, the Church, and the Town also, and very much added to the Wealth of the Abbot and his Fraternity, offering his Crown at the Feet of *St. Edmund*, giving the House to the Monks, Town and all; so that they were absolute Lords of the Town, and govern'd it by their Steward for many Ages. He also gave them a great many good Lordships, which they enjoy'd till the general suppression of Abbies, in the time of *Henry VIII*.

But I am neither writing the History, or searching the Antiquity, of the Abbey, or Town, my Business is the present State of the Place.

The Abbey is demolish'd; its Ruins are all that is to be seen of its Glory: Out of the old Building, two very beautiful Churches are built, and serve the two Parishes, into which the Town is divided, and they stand both in one Church-yard. Here it was, in the Path-way between these two Churches, that a Tragical and almost unheard of Act of Barbarity was committed, which made the Place less pleasant for some time, than it us'd to be, when *Arundel Coke*,  
Esq;



Esq; a Barrister at Law; of a very antient Family, attempted, with the assistance of a barbarous Assassin, to Murther in cold Blood, and in the Arms of Hospitality, *Edward Crisp*, Esq; his Brother-in-Law, leading him out from his own House, where he had invited him, his Wife and Children, to Supper; I say, leading him out in the Night, on pretence of going to see some Friend that was known to them both; but in this Church-yard, giving a Signal to the Assassin he had hir'd, he attack'd him with a Hedge Bill, and cut him, as one might say, almost in Pieces; and when they did not doubt of his being Dead, they left him: His Head and Face was so mangled, that it may be said to be next to a Miracle that he was not quite killed: Yet so Providence directed for the exemplary Punishment of the Assassins, that the Gentleman recover'd to detect them, who, (tho' he out-lived the Assault) were both Executed as they deserv'd, and Mr. *Crisp* is yet alive. They were Condemned on the Statute for Defacing and Dismembring, called the *Coventry Act*.

But this Accident does not at all lessen the Pleasure and agreeable delightful shew of the Town of *Bury*; it is crouded with Nobility and Gentry, and all sorts of the most agreeable Company; and as the Company invites, so there is the Appearance of Pleasure upon the very Situation; and they that live at *Bury*, are supposed to live there for the sake of it.

The Lord *Fermin*, afterwards Lord *Dover*, and since his Lordship's Decease, Sir *Robert Davers*, enjoy'd the most delicious Seat of *Rushbrook*, near this Town,

The

The present Members of Parliament for this Place are, *Fermyn Davers*, and *James Reynolds*, Esquires.

Mr. *Harvey*, afterwards created Lord *Harvey*, by King *William*, and since that, made Earl of *Bristol* by King *George*, liv'd many Years in this Town, leaving a noble and pleasantly situated House in *Lincolnshire*, for the more agreeable living on a Spot so compleatly qualified for a Life of Delight as this of *Bury*.

The Duke of *Grafton*, now Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, has also a stately House at *Euston*, near this Town, which he enjoys in Right of his Mother, Daughter to the Earl of *Arlington*, one of the chief Ministers of State in the Reign of King *Charles II.* and who made the second Letter in the Word *CABAL*; a Word form'd by that famous Satirerist *Andrew Marvell*, to represent the five Heads of the Politicks of that time, as the Word *SMECTYMNUS* was on a former Occasion.

I shall believe nothing so scandalous of the Ladies of this Town and the County round it, as a late \* Writer insinuates: That the Ladies round the Country appear mighty Gay and agreeable at the time of the Fair in this Town, I acknowledge; one hardly sees such a Show in any Part of the World; but to suggest they come hither as to a *Market*, is so coarse a Jest that the Gentlemen that wait on them hither, (*for they rarely come but in good Company*) ought to resent and Correct him for it.

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\* *Familiar Letters*, Vol. I. p. 7. He says, *An infinite Number of Knights Daughters from Norfolk, Cambridge, and Suffolk, come here to Market; intimating that they come to be Bought, or to Buy.*

It is true, *Bury-Fair*, like *Bartholomew Fair*, is a Fair for Diversion, more than for Trade; and it may be a Fair for Toys and for Trinkets, which the Ladies may think fit to lay out some of their Money in, as they see Occasion: But to judge from thence, that the Knights Daughters of *Norfolk*, *Cambridge shire*, and *Suffolk*, that is to say, for it cannot be understood any otherwise, the Daughters of all the Gentry of the three Counties, come hither to be Pick'd up, is a way of speaking I never before heard any Author have the Assurance to make use of in Print.

The Assemblée he justly commends for the Bright appearance of the Beauties; but with a Sting in the Tail of this Compliment, where he says, They seldom end without some considerable Match or Intrigue; and yet he owns, that during the Fair, these Assemblées are held every Night. Now that these fine Ladies go Intriguing every Night, and that too after the Comedy is done, which is after the Fair and Ruffling is over for the Day; so that it must be very late. This is a terrible Character for the Ladies of *Bury*, and intimates in short, that most of them are Whores, which is a horrid abuse upon the whole Country.

Now, tho' I like not the Assemblées at all, and shall in another Place give them something of their Due; yet having the Opportunity to see the Fair at *Bury*, and to see that there were indeed abundance of the finest Ladies, or as fine as any in *Britain*, yet I must own, the Number of the Ladies at the Comedy, or at the Assemblée, is no way equal to the Number that are seen in the Town, much less are they

they equal to the whole Body of the Ladies in the three Counties ; and I must also add, that tho' it is far from true, that all that appear at the Assemblée, are there for Matches or Intrigues, yet I will venture to say, that they are not the worst of the Ladies who stay away ; neither are they the fewest in Number, or the meanest in Beauty, but just the contrary ; and I do not at all doubt, but that the scandalous Liberty some take at those Assemblées, will in time bring them out of Credit with the virtuous part of the Sex here, as it has done already in *Kent* and other Places ; and that those Ladies who most value their Reputation, will be seen less there than they have been ; for tho' the Institution of them has been Innocent and Virtuous, the ill use of them, and the scandalous Behaviour of some People at them, will in time arm Virtue against them, and they will be lay'd down as they have been set up, without much Satisfaction.

But the Beauty of this Town consists in the Number of Gentry who dwell in and near it, the Polite Conversation among them ; the Affluence and Plenty they live in ; the sweet Air they breathe in, and the pleasant Country they have to go abroad in.

Here is no Manufacturing in this Town, or but very little, except Spinning ; the chief Trade of the Place depending upon the Gentry who live there, or near it, and who cannot fail to cause Trade enough by the Expence of their Families and Equipages, among the People of a County Town. They have but a very small River, or rather but a very small Branch of a small River, at this Town, which runs from hence to *Milden-Hall*, on the Edge of the Fens.

Fens. However, the Town and Gentlemen about, have been at the Charge, or have so encourag'd the Engineer who was at the Charge, that they have made this River Navigable to the said *Milden-Hall*, from whence there is a Navigable Dyke, call'd *Milden Hall Dreyne*, which goes into the River *Ouse*, and so to *Lynn*; so that all their Coal and Wine, Iron, Lead, and other heavy Goods, are brought by Water from *Lynn*, or from *London*, by the way of *Lynn*, to the great Ease of the Tradesmen.

This Town is famous for two great Events, One was that in the Year 1447, in the 25th Year of *Henry* the VIth, a Parliament was held here.

The other was, That at the Meeting of this Parliament, the Great *Humphry*, Duke of *Glocester*, Regent of the Kingdom, during the Absence of King *Henry* the VIth, and the Minority of *Henry* the VIth, and to his last Hour, the Safeguard of the whole Nation, and Darling of the People, was basely Murthered here; by whose Death, the Gate was opened to that dreadful War between the Houses of *Lancaster* and *York*, which ended in the Confusion of that very Race, who are supposed to have contrived that Murther.

From *St. Edmund's Bury* I returned by *Stow-Market* and *Needham*, to *Ipswich*, that I might keep as near the Coast as was proper to my design'd Circuit or Journey; and from *Ipswich*, to visit the Sea again, I went to *Woodbridge*, and from thence to *Orford*, on the Sea-side.

*Woodbridge* has nothing Remarkable, but that it is a considerable Market for Butter and Corn to be Exported to *London*; for now begins that  
Part

Part which is ordinarily called *High-Suffolk*; which being a rich Soil, is for a long tract of Ground, wholly employed in Daries, and they again famous for the best Butter, and perhaps the worst Cheefe, in *England*: The Butter is Barrelled, or often pickled up in small Casks, and sold, not in *London* only, but I have known a Firkin of *Suffolk* Butter sent to the *West-Indies*, and brought back to *England* again, and has been perfectly Good and Sweet, as at first.

The Port for the Shipping off their *Suffolk* Butter is chiefly *Woodbridge*, which for that Reason is full of Corn-Factors, and Butter-Factors, some of whom are very considerable Merchants.

From hence turning down to the Shore, we see *Orford Ness*, a noted Point of Land for the Guide of the Colliers and Coasters, and a good Shelter for them to ride under, when a strong North-East Wind Blows and makes a foul Shore on the Coast.

South of the *Ness* is *Orford* Haven, being the Mouth of two little Rivers meeting together; 'tis a very good Harbour for small Vessels, but not capable of receiving a Ship of Burthen.

*Orford* was once a good Town, but is decay'd, and as it stands on the Land-side of the River, the Sea daily throws up more Land to it, and falls off itself from it, as if it was resolv'd to disown the Place, and that it should be a Sea-Port no longer.

A little farther lies *Albro*, as Thriving, tho' without a Port, as the other is decaying, with a good River in the Front of it.

There

There are some Gentlemen's Seats up farther from the Sea, but very few upon the Coast.

From *Albro'* to *Dunwich*, there are no Towns of Note ; even this Town seems to be in Danger of being swallowed up ; for Fame reports, that once they had Fifty Churches in the Town ; I saw but one left, and that not half full of People.

This Town is a Testimony of the decay of Publick Things, Things of the most durable Nature ; and as the old Poet expresses it,

“ *By numerous Examples we may see,*

“ *That Towns and Cities Die, as well as we.*

The Ruins of *Carthage*, of the great City of *Jerusalem*, or of antient *Rome*, are not at all Wonderful to me ; the Ruins of *Nineveh*, which are so entirely sunk, as that 'tis doubtful where the City stood ; The Ruins of *Babylon*, or the Great *Persopolis*, and many Capital Cities, which Time and the Change of Monarchies have Overthrown ; these, I say, are not at all Wonderful, because being the Capitals of great and flourishing Kingdoms, where those Kingdoms were Overthrown, the Capital Cities necessarily fell with them ; But for a Private Town, a Sea-Port, and a Town of Commerce, to Decay, as it were of itself (for we never read of *Dunwich* being Plundered, or Ruin'd, by any Disaster, at least not of late Years) ; this I must confess, seems owing to nothing but to the Fate of Things, by which we see that Towns, Kings, Countries, Families, and Persons, have all their Elevation, their Medium, their Declination, and even their  
Destruct-

Deſtruction in the Womb of Time, and the Courſe of Nature. It is true, this Town is manifeſtly decayed by the invaſion of the Waters, and as other Towns ſeem ſufferers by the Sea, or the Tide withdrawing from their Ports, ſuch as *Orford*, juſt now named; *Winchelsea* in *Kent*, and the like: So this Town is, as it were, eaten up by the Sea, *as above*; and the ſtill encroaching Ocean ſeems to threaten it with a fatal Immerſion in a few Years more.

Yet *Dunwich*, however Ruin'd, retains ſome ſhare of Trade, as particularly for the ſhipping off Butter, Cheeſe, and Corn, which is ſo great a Buſineſs in this County, that it employs a great many People and Ships alſo; and this Port lies right againſt the particular part of the County for Butter, as *Framlingham*, *Halſted*, &c. Alſo a very great Quantity of Corn is bought up hereabout for the *London* Market; for I ſhall ſtill touch that Point, how all the Counties in England contribute ſomething towards the Subſiſtence of the Great City of London, of which the Butter here is a very conſiderable Article; as alſo coarſe Cheeſe, which I mention'd before, us'd chiefly for the King's Ships.

Hereabouts they begin to talk of Herrings, and the Fiſhery; and we find in the antient Records, that this Town, which was then equal to a large City; paid, among other Tribute to the Government, 50000 of Herrings. Here alſo, and at *Swole*, or *Southole*, the next Seaport, they Cure Sprats in the ſame manner as they do Herrings at *Tarmouth*; that is to ſay, ſpeaking in their own Language, they make



*red Sprats*; or to speak good English, they make Sprats *red*.

It is Remarkable, that this Town is now so much washed away by the Sea, that what little Trade they have, is carry'd on by *Walderswick*, a little Town near *Swole*, the Vessels coming in there, because the Ruines of *Dunwich* make the Shore there unsafe and uneasy to the Boats; from whence the Northern Coasting Seamen a rude Verse of their own using, and I suppose of their own making; as follows,

*Swoul and Dunwich, and Walderswick,  
All go in at one lousie Creek.*

This lousie Creek, in short, is a little River at *Swoul*, which our late famous *Atlas*-maker calls a good Harbour for Ships, and Rendezvous of the Royal Navy; but that by the bye; the Author it seems knew no better.

From *Dunwich*, we came to *Southwold*, the Town above-named; this is a small Port-Town upon the Coast, at the Mouth of a little River call'd the *Blith*: I found no Business the People here were employ'd in, but the Fishery, as above, for Herrings and Sprats; which they Cure by the help of Smoak, as they do at *Tarmouth*.

There is but one Church in this Town, but it is a very large one and well-built, as most of the Churches in this County are, and of impenetrable Flint; indeed there is no Occasion for its being so large, for staying there one Sabbath-Day, I was surprized to see an extraordinary large Church, capable of receiving five or six thousand People, and but Twenty-seven in it  
besides

besides the Parson and the Clerk ; but at the same time the Meeting-House of the *Dissenters* was full to the very Doors, having, as I guess'd from 6 to 800 People in it.

This Town is made famous for a very great Engagement at Sea, in the Year 1672, between the *English* and *Dutch* Fleets, in the Bay opposite to the Town ; in which, not to be partial to ourselves, the *English* Fleet was worsted ; and the brave *Montague* Earl of *Sandwich*, Admiral under the Duke of *Tork*, lost his Life : The Ship *Royal Prince*, carrying 100 Guns, in which he was, and which was under him, Commanded by Sir *Edward Spragg*, was Burnt, and several other Ships lost, and about 600 Seamen ; part of those kill'd in the Fight, were, as I was told, brought on Shore here and buried in the Church-yard of this Town, as others also were at *Ipswich*.

At this Town in particular, and so at all the Towns on this Coast, from *Orford-Ness* to *Tar-mouth*, is the ordinary Place where our Summer Friends the Swallows, first land when they come to Visit us ; and here they may be said to Embark for their Return, when they go back into warmer Climates ; and, as I think the following Remark, tho' of so trifling a Circumstance, may be both Instructing, as well as Diverting, it may be very proper in this Place. The Case is this ; I was some Years before at this Place, at the latter end of the Year (*viz.*) about the beginning of *October*, and lodging in a House that looked into the Church-yard, I observ'd in the Evening an unusual multitude of Birds sitting on the Leads of the Church ; Curiosity led me to go nearer to see what they

were, and I found they were all *Swallows*; that there was such an infinite Number that they cover'd the whole Roof of the Church, and of several Houses near, and perhaps might, of more Houses which I did not see; this led me to Enquire of a grave Gentleman whom I saw near me, what the meaning was of such a prodigious Multitude of Swallows sitting there; O *SIR*, says he, turning towards the Sea, *you may see the Reason, the Wind is off Sea*. I did not seem fully informed by that Expression; so he goes on: *I perceive, Sir*, says he, *you are a Stranger to it*; you must then understand first, that this is the Season of the Year when the Swallows, *their Food here failing*, begin to leave us, and return to the Country, *where-ever it be*, from whence I suppose they came; and this being the nearest to the Coast of *Holland*, they come here to Embark; *this he said Smiling a little*; and now *Sir, says he*, the Weather being too calm, or the Wind contrary, they are waiting for a Gale, for they are all *Wind-bound*.

This was more evident to me, when in the Morning I found the Wind had come about to the North-west in the Night, and there was not one Swallow to be seen, of near a Million, which I believe was there the Night before.

How those Creatures know that this Part of the Island of *Great-Britain* is the Way to their Home, or the way that they are to go; that this very Point is the nearest Cut over, or even that the nearest Cut is best for them, that we must leave to the Naturalists to determine, who insist upon it, that *Brutes cannot Think*.

Certain

Certain it is, that the Swallows neither come hither for warm Weather, nor retire from Cold, the thing is of quite another Nature; they, like the shoals of Fish in the Sea, pursue their Prey; they are a voracious Creature, they feed flying; their Food is found in the Air, viz. the Insects; of which in our Summer Evenings, in damp and moist Places, the Air is full; they come hither in the Summer, because our Air is fuller of Fogs and Damps than in other Countries, and for that Reason, feeds great Quantities of Insects; if the Air be hot and dry, the Gnats die of themselves, and even the Swallows will be found famish'd for Want, and fall down dead out of the Air, their Food being taken from them: *In like manner*, when cold Weather comes in, the Insects all die, and then of Necessity, the Swallows quit us, and follow their Food where-ever they go; this they do in the manner I have mention'd above; for sometimes they are seen to go off in vast Flights like a Cloud; And sometimes again, when the Wind grows fair, they go away a few and a few, as they come, not staying at all upon the Coast.

*Note*, This passing and re-passing of the Swallows, is observ'd no where so much, that I have heard of, or in but few other Places, except on this Eastern Coast; namely, from above *Harwich* to the East Point of *Norfolk*, call'd *Winterton Ness*, North; which is all right against *Holland*; we know nothing of them any farther North, the Passage of the Sea being, as I suppose, too broad from *Flambro' Head*, and the Shoar of *Holderness* in *Yorkshire*, &c.

I find very little remarkable on this side of *Suffolk*, but what is on the Sea Shore as above; the Inland Country is that which they properly call *High-Suffolk*, and is full of rich feeding-Grounds and large Farms, mostly employ'd in Dayries for making the *Suffolk Butter* and Cheese, of which I have spoken already: Among these rich Grounds stand some Market-Towns, tho' not of very considerable Note; such as *Framlingham*, where was once a Royal Castle, to which Queen *Mary* retir'd, when the *Northumberland* Faction, in behalf of the Lady *Jane*, endeavour'd to Supplant her; and it was this Part of *Suffolk* where the Gospellers, as they were then called, prefer'd their Loyalty to their Religion, and Complimented the Popish Line at Expence of their Share of the Reformation; but they paid dear for it, and their Successors have learn'd better Politicks since.

In these Parts are also several good Market-Towns, some in this County, and some in the other, as *Becles*, *Bungay*, *Harleston*, &c. all on the Edge of the River *Waveney*, which parts here the Counties of *Suffolk* and *Norfolk*: And here in a Bye-place, and out of Common Remark, lies the antient Town of *Hoxon*, famous for being the Place where St. *Edmund* was Martyr'd, for whom so many Cells and Shrines have been set up, and Monasteries built; and in Honour of whom, the famous Monastery of *St. Edmund's Bury* above-mentioned, was Founded, which most People erroneously think was the Place where the said Murther was committed.

Besides the Towns mention'd above, there are *Halesworth*, *Saxmundham*, *Debenham*, *Aye*, or *Eye*, all standing in this Eastern side of *Suffolk*; in which,

which, as I have said, the whole Country is employ'd in Dayries, or in feeding of Cattle.

This part of *England* is also remarkable for being the first where the feeding and fattening of Cattle, both Sheep as well as black Cattle with Turnips, was first Practis'd in *England*, which is made a very great part of the Improvement of their Lands to this Day; and from whence the Practice is spread over most of the East and South Parts of *England*, to the great Enriching of the Farmers, and encrease of fat Cattle: And tho' some have objected against the goodness of the Flesh thus fed with Turnips, and have fancied it would taste of the Root; yet upon Experience 'tis found, that at Market there is no difference nor can they that buy, single out one Joynt of Mutton from another by the Taste: So that the Complaint which our nice Palates at first made, begins to cease of itself, and a very great Quantity of Beef, and Mutton also, is brought every Year, and every Week to *London*, from this side of *England*, and much more than was formerly known to be fed there.

I can't omit, however little it may seem, that this County of *Suffolk* is particularly famous for furnishing the City of *London*, and all the Counties round, with Turkeys; and that 'tis thought, there are more Turkeys bred in this County, and the Part of *Norfolk* that adjoins to it, than in all the rest of *England*, especially for Sale; tho' this may be reckon'd, as I say above, but a trifling thing to take notice of in these Remarks; yet, as I have hinted, that I shall observe, how *London* is in general supplied with all its Provisions from the whole

Body of the Nation, and how every Part of the Island is engaged in some degree or other of that Supply; On this Account I could not omit it; nor will it be found so inconsiderable an Article as some may imagin, if this be true which I receiv'd an account of from a Person living on the Place, (*viz.*) That they have counted 300 Drovers of Turkeys (for they drive them all in Drovers on Foot) pass in one Season over *Stratford-Bridge* on the River *Stour*, which parts *Suffolk* from *Essex*, about six miles from *Colchester* on the Road from *Ipswich* to *London*. These Drovers, as they say, generally contain from three Hundred to a Thousand each Drove; so that one may suppose them to contain 500 one with another, which is 150000 in all; and yet this is one of the least Passages, the Numbers which travel by *New-Market-Heath*, and the open Country and the Forest; and also the Numbers that come by *Sudbury* and *Clare* being many more.

For the further Supplies of the Markets of *London* with Poultry, of which these Countries particularly abound: They have within these few Years found it practicable to make the Geese Travel on Foot too, as well as the Turkeys; and a prodigious Number are brought up to *London* in Drovers from the farthest Parts of *Norfolk*; even from the Fenn-Country, about *Lynn*, *Downham*, *Wisbich*, and the *Washes*; as also from all the East-side of *Norfolk* and *Suffolk*, of whom 'tis very frequent now to meet Drovers, with a Thousand, sometimes two Thousand in a Drove: They begin to drive them generally in *August*, by which time the Harvest is almost over, and the Geese may feed  
in

in the Stubbles as they go. Thus they hold on to the end of *October*, when the Roads begin to be too stiff and deep for their broad Feet and short Leggs to march in.

Besides these Methods of driving these Creatures on Foot, they have of late also invented a new Method of Carriage, being Carts form'd on purpose, with four Stories or Stages, to put the Creatures in one above another, by which Invention one Cart will carry a very great Number; and for the smoother going, they drive with two Horses a-Breast, like a Coach, so quartering the Road for the Ease of the Gentry that thus ride; changing Horses they travel Night and Day; so that they bring the Fowls 70, 80, or 100 Miles in two Days and one Night: The Horses in this new-fashion'd Voiture go two a-Breast, *as above*, but no Perch below as in a Coach, but they are fasten'd together by a piece of Wood lying Cross-wise upon their Necks, by which they are kept even and together, and the Driver sits on the Top of the Cart, like as in the publick Carriages for the Army, &c.

In this manner they hurry away the Creatures alive, and infinite Numbers are thus carried to *London* every Year. This Method is also particular for the carrying young Turkeys, or Turkey-poults in their Season, which are Valuable, and yield a good Price at Market; as also for live Chickens in the dear Seasons; of all which a very great Number are brought in this manner to *London*, and more prodigiously out of this Country than any other part of *England*, which is the Reason of my speaking of it here.

In



In this Part, which we call *High-Suffolk*, there are not so many Families of Gentry or Nobility plac'd, as in the other side of the Country : But 'tis observ'd, that tho' their Seats are not so frequent here, their Estates are ; and the Pleasure of *West Suffolk* is much of it supported by the Wealth of *High-Suffolk* ; for the richness of the Lands, and application of the People to all kinds of Improvement, is scarce credible ; also the Farmers are so very considerable, and their Farms and Dayries so large, that 'tis very frequent for a Farmer to have a Thousand Pounds Stock upon his Farm in Cows only.

### N O R F O L K.

From *High-Suffolk*, I pass'd the *Waveney* into *Norfolk*, near *Schole-Inn* ; in my Passage I saw at *Redgrave*, (the Seat of the Family) a most exquisite Monument of Sir *John Holt*, Knight, late Lord Chief Justice of the *King's-Bench*, several Years, and one of the most eminent Lawyers of his Time. One of the Heirs of the Family is now building a fine Seat about a Mile on the South-side of *Ipswich*, near the Road.

The Epitaph, or Inscription on this Monument, is as follows.

M. S.

M. S.

D. Johannis Holt, *Equitis Aur.*  
*Totius Angliæ in Banco Regis*  
*per 21 Annos continuos*  
*Capitalis Justitiarum*  
*Gulielmo Regi Annaq; Reginae*  
*Consiliarum perpetui:*  
*Libertatis ac Legum Anglicarum*  
*Affertoris, Vindicis, Custodis,*  
*Vigilis Acris & Intrepidi,*  
*Rolandus Frater Unicus & Hæres*  
*Optime de se Merito*  
*posuit,*  
*Die Martis V<sup>to</sup>. 1709. Sublatus est*  
*ex Oculis nostris*  
*Natus 30 Decembris, Anno 1642.*

When we come into *Norfolk*, we see a Face of Diligence spread over the whole Country; the vast Manufactures carry'd on (in chief) by the *Norwich* Weavers, employs all the Country round in spinning Yarn for them; besides many thousand Packs of Yarn which they receive from other Countries, even from as far as *Torkshire*, and *Westmoreland*, of which I shall speak in its Place.

This

This side of *Norfolk* is very populous, and throng'd with great and spacious Market-Towns, more and larger than any other Part of *England* so far from *London*, except *Devonshire*, and the West-riding of *Torkshire*; for Example, between the Frontiers of *Suffolk* and the City of *Norwich* on this side, which is not above 22 Miles in breadth, are the following Market-Towns, viz.

<i>Tketford,</i>	<i>Hingham,</i>	<i>Harleston,</i>
<i>Dis,</i>	<i>WestDeerham,</i>	<i>E. Deerham,</i>
<i>Harling,</i>	<i>Attleboro',</i>	<i>Watton,</i>
<i>Bucknam,</i>	<i>Windham,</i>	<i>Loddon, &amp;c.</i>

Most of these Towns are very Populous and large; but that which is most remarkable is, that the whole Country round them is so interspers'd with Villages, and those Villages so large, and so full of People, that they are equal to Market-Towns in other Countries; in a Word, they render this Eastern part of *Norfolk* exceeding full of Inhabitants.

An Eminent Weaver of *Norwich*, gave me a Scheme of their Trade on this Occasion, by which, calculating from the number of Looms at that time employ'd in the City of *Norwich* only, besides those employ'd in other Towns in the same County, he made it appear very plain, that there were 120000 People employ'd in the Woollen and Silk and Wool Manufactures of that City only; not that the People all lived in the City, tho' *Norwich* is a very large and populous City too: But I say, they were employ'd for spinning the Yarn used for such Goods as were all made in that City. This Account is Curious enough, and very exact, but it is too long for the compass of this Work.

This

This shews the Wonderful Extent of the *Norwich* Manufacture, or Stuff-weaving Trade, by which so many thousands of Families are maintained. Their Trade indeed felt a very sensible Decay, and the Cries of the Poor began to be very loud, when the wearing of painted Callicoes was grown to such an height in *England*, as was seen about two or three Years ago ; but an Act of Parliament having been obtained, tho' not without great Struggle, in the Years 1720, and 1721, for prohibiting the use and wearing of Callico's, the Stuff Trade reviv'd incredibly; and as I pass'd this part of the Country in the Year 1723, the Manufacturers assured me, that there was not in all the Eastern and middle part of *Norfolk*, any Hand, unemploy'd, if they would Work ; and that the very Children after four or five Years of Age, could every one earn their own Bread. But I return to speak of the Villages and Towns in the rest of the County ; I shall come to the City of *Norwich* by itself.

This throng of Villages continues thro' all the East part of the Country, which is of the greatest Extent, and where the Manufacture is chiefly carry'd on: If any part of it be Waste and thin of Inhabitants, it is the West Part, drawing a Line from about *Brand*, or *Brandon*, South, to *Walsingham*, North. This part of the Country indeed is full of open Plains, and somewhat Sandy and Barren, and feeds great Flocks of good Sheep: But put it all together, the County of *Norfolk* has the most People in the least Tract of Land of any County in *England*, except about *London*, and *Exon*, and the West-Riding of *Torkshire*, as above,

Add

Add to this, that there is no single County in *England*, except as above, that can boast of three Towns so Populous, so Rich, and so famous for Trade and Navigation, as in this County : By these three Towns, I mean the City of *Norwich*, the Towns of *Tarmouth* and *Lynn* ; besides, that it has several other Sea-Ports of very good Trade, as *Wisbich*, *Wells*, *Burham*, *Clye*, &c.

**NORWICH** is the Capital of all the County, and the Center of all the Trade and Manufactures which I have just mention'd ; an antient large, rich, and populous City : If a Stranger was only to ride thro' or view the City of *Norwich* for a Day, he would have much more Reason to think there was a Town without Inhabitants, than there is really to say so of *Ipswich* ; but on the contrary, if he was to view the City, either on a Sabbath-day, or on any publick Occasion, he would wonder where all the People could dwell, the Multitude is so great : But the Case is this ; the Inhabitants being all busie at their Manufactures, dwell in their Garrets at their Looms, and in their Combing-shops, so they call them, Twisting-Mills, and other Work-Houses ; almost all the Works they are employ'd in, being done within Doors. There are in this City Thirty-two Parishes besides the Cathedral, and a great many Meeting-Houses of Dissenters of all Denominations. The publick Edifices are chiefly the Castle, antient and decayed, and now for many Years past made use of for a Jayl. The Duke of *Norfolk's* House was formerly kept well, and the Gardens preserved for the Pleasure and Diversion of the Citizens, but since feeling too sensibly the sinking Circumstances of that

that once glorious Family, who were the first Peers and Hereditary Earl-Marshals of *England*.

The Walls of this City are reckon'd three Miles in Circumference, taking in more Ground than the City of *London*; but much of that Ground lying open in Pasture-Fields and Gardens; nor does it seem to be, like some antient Places, a decayed declining Town, and that the Walls mark out its antient Dimensions; for we do not see Room to suppose that it was ever larger or more populous than it is now: But the Walls seem to be placed, as if they expected that the City would in time encrease sufficiently to fill them up with Buildings.

The Cathedral of this City is a fine Fabrick, and the Spire-Steeple very high and beautiful; it is not antient, the Bishop's See having been first at *Thetford*; from whence it was not translated hither till the Twelfth Century; yet the Church has so many Antiquities in it, that our late great Scholar and Physician, *Sir Tho. Brown*, thought it worth his while to write a whole Book to collect the Monuments and Incriptions in this Church, to which I refer the Reader.

The River *Tare* runs through this City, and is Navigable thus far without the help of any Art, (that is to say, without Locks or Stops) and being encreas'd by other Waters, passes afterwards thro' a long Tract of the richest Meadows, and the largest, take them all together, that are any where in *England*, lying for thirty Miles in length, from this City to *Yarmouth*, including the return of the said Meadows on the Bank of the *Waveney* South, and on the River *Tbyrn*, North.

Here is one thing indeed strange in itself, and more so, in that History seems to be quite ignorant

rant of the Occasion of it. The River *Waveney* is a considerable River, and of a deep and full Channel, Navigable for large Barges as high as *Beccles*; it runs for a Course of about fifty Miles, between the two Counties of *Suffolk* and *Norfolk*, as a Boundary to both; and pushing on, tho' with a gentle Stream, towards the Sea, no one would doubt, but, that when they see the River growing broader and deeper, and going directly towards the Sea, even to the Edge of the Beach; that is to say, within a Mile of the main Ocean; no Stranger, I say, but would expect to see its Entrance into the Sea at that Place, and a noble Harbour for Ships at the Mouth of it; when on a sudden, the Land rising high by the Sea-side, crosses the Head of the River, like a Dam, checks the whole Course of it, and it returns, bending its Course West, for two Miles, or thereabouts; and then turning North, thro' another long Course of Meadows (joining to those just now mention'd) seeks out the River *Tare*, that it may join its Water with her's, and find their way to the Sea together.

Some of our Historians tell a long Fabulous Story of this River's being once open, and a famous Harbour for Ships belonging to the Town of *Leostof* adjoining; But that the Town of *Tarmouth* envying the Prosperity of the said Town of *Leostof*, made War upon them; and that after many bloody Battles, as well by Sea as by Land, they came at last to a Decisive Action at Sea with their respective Fleets, and the Victory fell to the *Tarmouth* Men, the *Leostof* Fleet being Overthrown and utterly Destroyed; and that upon this Victory, the

the *Tarmouth* Men either actually did stop up the Mouth of the said River, or oblig'd the vanquish'd *Leostof* Men to do it themselves, and bound them never to attempt to open it again.

I believe my share of this Story, and I recommend no more of it to the Reader ; adding, that I see no Authority for the Relation, neither do the Relators agree either in the time of it, or in the Particulars of the Fact ; that is to say, in whose Reign, or under what Government all this happened; in what Year, and the like: So I satisfy my self with transcribing the Matter of Fact, and then leave it as I find it.

In this vast Tract of Meadows are fed a prodigious number of black Cattle, which are said to be fed up for the fattest Beef, tho' not the largest in *England*; and the Quantity is so great, as that they not only supply the City of *Norwich*, the Town of *Tarmouth*, and County adjacent, but send great Quantities of them Weekly in all the Winter Season, to *London*.

And this in particular is worthy Remark, That the gross of all the *Scots* Cattle which come yearly into *England*, are brought hither, being brought to a small Village lying North of the City of *Norwich*, call'd *St. Faiths*, where the *Norfolk* Graziers go and buy them.

These *Scots* Runts, so they call them, coming out of the cold and barren Mountains of the Highlands in *Scotland*, feed so eagerly on the rich Pasture in these Marshes, that they thrive in an unusual manner, and grow monstrously Fat; and the Beef is so delicious for Taste, that the Inhabitants prefer 'em to the *English* Cattle, which are much larger and fairer to



look at, and they may very well do so: Some have told me, and I believe with good Judgment, that there are above 40,000 of these *Scots* Cattle fed in this County every Year, and most of them in the said Marshes between *Norwich*, *Beccles*, and *Tarmouth*.

*TARMOUTH* is an antient Town, much older than *Norwich*; and at present, tho' not standing on so much Ground, yet better Built; much more Compleat; for number of Inhabitants, not much inferior; and for Wealth, Trade, and advantage of its Situation, infinitely superior to *Norwich*.

It is plac'd on a Peninsula between the River *Tare* and the Sea; the two last lying Parallel to one another, and the Town in the middle: The River lies on the West-side of the Town, and being grown very large and deep, by a conflux of all the Rivers on this side the County, forms the Haven; and the Town facing to the West also, and open to the River, makes the finest Key in *England*, if not in *Europe*, not inferior even to that of *Marseilles* itself.

The Ships ride here so close, and as it were, keeping up one another, with their Head-stafts on Shore, that for half a Mile together, they go cross the Stream with their Bol-sprits over the Land, their Bowes, or Heads, touching the very Wharf; so that one may walk from Ship to Ship as on a floating Bridge, all along by the Shore-side: The Key reaching from the Draw-Bridge almost to the *South-Gate*, is so spacious and wide, that in some Places 'tis near One hundred  
hundred

hundred Yards from the Houses to the Wharf. In this pleasant and agreeable range of Houses are some very magnificent Buildings, and among the rest, the Custom-House and Town-Hall, and some Merchants Houses, which look like little Palaces, rather than the Dwelling-Houses of Private Men.

The greatest Defect of this beautiful Town, seems to be, that tho' it is very Rich and encreasing in Wealth and Trade, and consequently in People, there is not Room to enlarge the Town by Building; which would be certainly done much more than it is, but that the River on the Land-side prescribes them, except at the North End without the Gate; and even there the Land is not very agreeable: But had they had a larger Space within the Gates, there would before now, have been many spacious Streets of noble fine Buildings erected, as we see is done in some other thriving Towns in *England*, as at *Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, Frome, &c.*

The Key and the Harbour of this Town during the Fishing-Fair, *as they call it*, which is every *Michaelmas*, One sees the Land cover'd with People, and the River with Barks and Boats, busy Day and Night, landing and carrying off the Herrings, which they catch here in such prodigious Quantities, that it is incredible. I happen'd to be there during their Fishing Fair, when I told, in one Tide, One hundred and ten Barks and fishing Vessels coming up the River, all loaden with Herrings, and all taken the Night before; and this was besides what was brought on Shore on the Dean, (that is the Seaside of the Town) by open Boats, which

they call (a) *Cobles*, and which often bring in two or three (b) *Last* of Fish at a time. The (c) *Barks* often bring in Ten *Last* a piece.

This *Fishing-Fair* begins on *Michaelmas* day, and lasts all the Month of *October*, by which time the *Herrings* draw off to Sea, shoot their *Spawn*, and are no more fit for the *Merchants* *Business*; at least not those that are taken thereabouts.

The Quantity of *Herrings* that are catch'd in this Season are diversly accounted for; some have said, that the Towns of *Yarmouth* and *Leofstow* only, have taken Forty thousand *Last* in a Season: I will not venture to confirm that Report; but this I have heard the *Merchants* themselves say, (*viz.*) That they have Cur'd, that is to say, Hang'd and Dry'd in the *Smoak*, 40,000 Barrels of merchantable *Redherrings* in one Season, which is in itself (tho' far short of the other) yet a very considerable Article; and it is to be added, that this is besides all the *Herrings* consum'd in the Country Towns of both those populous Counties, for thirty Miles from the Sea, whither very great Quantities are carry'd every *Tide* during the whole Season.

But this is only One Branch of the great Trade carry'd on in this Town; Another Part

(a) The *Cobles* are open Boats which come from the North, from *Scarbro'*, *Whitby*, &c. and come to *Yarmouth* to Let themselves out to Fish for the *Merchants* during the *Fair-time*.

(b) Note, a *Last* is ten Barrels, each Barrel containing a thousand *Herrings*.

(c) The *Barks* come from the Coast of *Kent* and *Suffex*, as from *Foulkston*, *Dover*, and *Rye* in *Kent*, and from *Brithelmston* in *Suffex*, and Let themselves out to Fish for the *Merchants* during the said *Fair*, as the *Cobles* do from the North.

of this Commerce, is in the exporting these Herrings after they are Cur'd ; and for this their Merchants have a great Trade to *Genoa, Leghorn, Naples, Messina, and Venice* ; as also to *Spain and Portugal*, also exporting with their Herring very great Quantities of Worsted Stuffs, and Stuffs made of Silk and Worsted; Camblets, &c. the Manufactures of the neighbouring City of *Norwich*, and of the Places adjacent.

Besides this, they carry on a very considerable Trade with *Holland*, whose opposite Neighbours they are ; and a vast Quantity of Woollen Manufactures they export to the *Dutch* every Year. Also they have a Fishing Trade to the North-Seas for White Fish, which from the Place are called the North-Sea Cod.

They have also a considerable Trade to *Norway*, and to the *Baltick*, from whence they bring back Deals, and Fir-Timber, Oaken Plank, Baulks, Sparrs, Oars, Pitch, Tar, Hemp, Flax, Spruce Canvas, and Sail-Cloth ; with all manner of Naval Stores, which they generally have a consumption for in their own Port, where they build a very great Number of Ships every Year, besides re-fitting and repairing the old.

Add to this the Coal Trade between *Newcastle* and the River of *Thames*, in which they are so improv'd of late Years, that they have now a greater share of it than any other Town in *England*; and have quite work'd the *Ipswich* Men out of it, who had formerly the chief share of the Colliery in their Hands.

For the carrying on all these Trades, they must have a very great Number of Ships, either of their own, or employ'd by them ; and it may in some measure be judg'd of by this, That

in the Year 1697, I had an account from the Town Register, that there was then 1123 sail of Ships using the Sea, and belong'd to the Town, besides such Ships as the Merchants of *Tarmouth* might be concern'd in, and be Part-Owners of, belonging to any other Ports.

To all this I must add, without Compliment to the Town, or to the People, that the Merchants, and even the generality of Traders of *Tarmouth*, have a very good Reputation in Trade, as well Abroad as at Home, for Men of fair and honourable Dealing, punctual and just in their performing their Engagements, and in discharging Commissions; and their Seamen, as well Masters as Mariners, are justly esteem'd among the ablest and most expert Navigators in *England*.

This Town however Populous and Large, was ever contained in one Parish, and had but one Church; but within these two Years they have built another very fine Church, near the South-end of the Town. The old Church is dedicated to *St. Nicholas*, and was built by that famous Bishop of *Norwich*, *Will. Herbert*, who flourished in the Reign of *William II*, and *Hen. I. William* of *Malmsbury* calls him *Vir pecuniosus*; he might have called him *Vir Pecuniosissimus*, considering the Times he lived in, and the Works of Charity and Munificence, which he has left as Witnesses of his Immense Riches; for he built the Cathedral Church, the Priory for Sixty Monks; the Bishop's Palace, and the Parish-Church of *St. Leonard*, all in *Norwich*; this great Church at *Tarmouth*, the Church of *St. Margaret* at *Lynn*, and of *St. Mary* at *Elmbam*. He remov'd the Episcopal See from *Thetford* to  
*Norwich*,

*Norwich*, and instituted the Cluniack Monks at *Thetford*, and gave them, or built them a House. This old Church, is very large, and has a high Spire, which is a useful Sea-Mark.

Here is one of the finest Market-places, and the best serv'd with Provisions, in *England*, *London* excepted, and the Inhabitants are so multiplied in a few Years, that they seem to want room in their Town, rather than People to fill it, as I have observ'd above.

The Streets are all exactly strait from North to South, with Lanes or Alleys, which they call *ROWS*, crossing them in strait Lines also from East to West; so that it is the most regular built Town in *England*, and seems to have been built all at once; Or, that the Dimensions of the Houses, and Extent of the Streets, were laid out by Consent.

They have particular Privileges in this Town, and a Jurisdiction by which they can Try, Condemn, and Execute in Especial Cases, without waiting for a Warrant from Above; and this they exerted once very smartly, in Executing a Captain of one of the King's Ships of War in the Reign of King *Charles II*, for a Murther committed in the Street, the Circumstance of which did indeed call for Justice; but some thought they would not have ventur'd to exert their Power as they did; however, I never heard that the Government resented it, or blamed them for it.

It is also a very well govern'd Town; and I have no where in *England* observed the Sabbath-day so exactly kept, or the breach so continu-

ally punished as in this Place, which I name to their Honour.

Among all these Regularities, it is no Wonder if we do not find abundance of Reveling, or that there is little Encouragement to *Assemblies*, Plays, and Gaming-Meetings at *Tarmouth*, as in some other Places; and yet I do not see that the Ladies here come behind any of the neighbouring Counties, either in Beauty, Breeding, or Behaviour; to which may be added too, not at all to their Disadvantage, *that they generally go beyond them in Fortunes.*

From *Tarmouth* I resolv'd to pursue my first Design, (*viz.*) To view the Sea-side on this Coast, which is particularly Famous for being one of the most dangerous and most fatal to the Sailors in all *England*, I may say in all *Britain*; and the more so, because of the great Number of Ships which are continually going and coming this Way, in their Passage between *London* and all the Northern Coasts of *Great-Britain*. Matters of Antiquity are not my Enquiry, but principally Observations on the present State of Things, and if possible, to give such Accounts of Things worthy of Recording, as have never been observed before; and this leads me the more directly to mention the Commerce and the Navigation when I come to Towns upon the Coast, as what few Writers have yet medled with.

The Reason of the Dangers of this particular Coast, are found in the Situation of the County, and in the Course of Ships sailing this Way, which I shall describe as well as I can, thus; the Shoar from the Mouth of the River of *Thames* to *Tarmouth* Road, lies in a strait  
Line

Line from *S. S. E.* to *N. N. W.* the Land being on the *W.* or Larboard Side.

From *Winterton Ness*, which is the utmost Northerly Point of Land in the County of *Norfolk*, and about four Miles beyond *Tarmouth*, the Shoar falls off for near sixty Miles to the West, as far as *Lynn* and *Boston*, till the Shoar of *Lincolnshire* tends North again for about sixty Miles more, as far as the *Humber*, whence the Coast of *Yorkshire*, or *Holderness*, which is the East Riding, shoots out again into the Sea, to the *Spurn*, and to *Flambro' Head*, as far East almost as the Shoar of *Norfolk* had given back at *Winterton*, making a very deep Gulph or Bay, between those two Points of *Winterton* and the *Spurn Head*; so that the Ships going North, are oblig'd to stretch away to Sea from *Winterton Ness*, and leaving the Sight of Land in that deep Bay which I have mention'd, that reaches to *Lynn*, and the Shoar of *Lincolnshire*, they go, I say, *N.* or still *N. N. W.* to meet the Shoar of *Holderness*, which I said runs out into the Sea again at the *Spurn*; This they leave also and the first Land they make, or desire to make, is called as above, *Flambro' Head*; so that *Winterton Ness* and *Flambro' Head*, are the two Extremes of this Course, there is, as I said, the *Spurn Head* indeed between; but as it lies too far in towards the *Humber*, they keep out to the North to avoid coming near it.

In like manner the Ships which come from the North, leave the Shoar at *Flambro' Head*, and stretch away *S. S. E.* for *Tarmouth Roads*; and the first Land they make is *Winterton Ness* (as above.) Now, the Danger of the Place is this; If the Ships coming from the North are taken



taken with a hard Gale of Wind from the *S. E.* or from any Point between *N. E.* and *S. E.* so that they cannot, as the Seamen call it weather *Winterton Nefs*, they are thereby kept in within that deep Bay ; and if the Wind blows hard, are often in Danger of running on Shoar upon the Rocks about *Cromer*, on the North Coast of *Norfolk*, or stranding upon the flat Shoar between *Cromer* and *Wells* ; all the Relief they have, is good Ground Tackle *to ride it out*, which is very hard to do there, the Sea coming very high upon them ; Or if they cannot ride it out then, to run into the Bottom of the great Bay I mention'd, to *Lynn* or *Boston*, which is a very difficult and desperate Push : So that sometimes in this Distress whole Fleets have been lost here all together.

The like is the Danger to Ships going Northward, if after passing by *Winterton* they are taken short with a North-East Wind, and cannot put back into the Roads, which very often happens, then they are driven upon the same Coast, and Embay'd just as the latter. The Danger on the North part of this Bay is not the same, because if Ships going or coming should be taken short on this side *Flambro'*, there is the River *Humber* open to them, and several good Roads to have recourse to, as *Burlington Bay*, *Grimsby Road*, and the *Spurn Head*, and others, where they ride under shelter.

The Dangers of this Place being thus consider'd, 'tis no wonder, that upon the Shoar beyond *Tarmouth*, there are no less than four Light-Houses kept flaming every Night, besides the Lights at *Castor*, North of the Town, and at *Goulston S.* all which are to direct the  
Sailors

Sailors to keep a good Offing, in Case of bad Weather, and to prevent their running into *Cromer Bay*, which the Seamen call the *Devils Throat*.

As I went by Land from *Tarmouth* Northward, along the Shoar towards *Cromer* aforesaid, and was not then fully Master of the Reason of these things, I was surpriz'd to see, in all the way from *Winterton*, that the Farmers, and Country People had scarce a Barn, or a Shed, or a Stable; nay, not the Pales of their Yards, and Gardens, not a Hogstye, not a Necessary-house, but what was built of old Planks, Beams, Wales and Timbers, &c. the Wrecks of Ships, and Ruins of Mariners, and Merchant's fortunes; and in some Places were whole Yards fill'd, and piled up very High with the same Stuff laid up, as I suppos'd to sell for the like building purposes, as there should be occasion.

About the Year 1692, (*I think is was that Year*) there was a Melancholy Example of what I have said of this Place; a Fleet of 200 Sail of light Colliers (so they call the Ships bound Northward empty to fetch Coals from *Newcastle* to *London*) went out of *Tarmouth* Roads with a fair Wind, to pursue their Voyage, and were taken short with a storm of Wind at N. E. after they were past *Winterton Ness*, a few Leagues; some of them, whose Masters were a little more wary than the rest, or perhaps, who made a better Judgment of things, or who were not so far out as the rest, Tack'd, and put back in time, and got safe into the Roads; but the rest pushing on, in hopes to keep out to Sea, and weather it, were by the Violence of the Storm driven back, when they were too far  
embay'd

embay'd to weather *Winterton Nefs*, as above ; and so were forc'd to run West, every one shifting for themselves, as well as they could ; some run away for *Lyn Deeps*, but few of them, (the Night being so dark) cou'd find their way in there ; some *but very few* rid it out, at a Distance ; the rest being above 140 Sail were all driven on shore, and dash'd to pieces, and very few of the People on Board were sav'd : At the very same unhappy Juncture, a Fleet of loaden Ships were coming from the North, and being just crossing the same Bay, were forcibly driven into it, not able to weather the *Nefs*, and so were involv'd in the same Ruin as the Light Fleet was ; also some Coasting Vessels loaden with Corn from *Lyn*, and *Wells*, and bound for *Holland*, were with the same unhappy luck just come out, to begin their Voyage, and some of them lay at Anchor ; these also met with the same Misfortune, so that in the whole, above 200 sail of Ships, and above a Thousand People perished in the Disaster of that one miserable Night, very few escaping.

*Cromer* is a Market Town close to the shoar of this dangerous Coast, I know nothing it is famous for (besides it's being thus the Terror of the Sailors) except good Lobsters, which are taken on that Coast in great Numbers, and carry'd to *Norwich*, and in such Quantities sometimes too, as to be convey'd by Sea to *London*.

Farther within the Land, and between this Place and *Norwich*, are several good Market Towns, and innumerable Villages, all diligently applying to the Woollen Manufacture, and the Country is exceeding Fruitful and Fertile, as well in Corn as in Pastures ; particularly,

cularly, (which was very pleasant to see) the Pheasants were in such great Plenty, as to be seen in the Stubbles like Cocks and Hens; a Testimony tho' (by the way) that the County had more Tradesmen than Gentlemen in it; indeed this Part is so entirely given up to Industry, that what with the Seafaring Men on the one Side, and the Manufactures on the other, we saw no idle Hands here, but every Man busie on the main Affair of Life, that is to say, getting Money: Some of the Principal of these Towns are *Alsham, North Walsham, South Walsham, Wursted, Caston, Reepham, Holt, Saxthorp, St. Faith's, Blikling*, and many others. ~~Near~~<sup>at</sup> the last Sir *John Hobart*, of an antient Family in this County, has a Noble Seat, but old Built. This is that *St. Faiths*, where the Drovers bring their black Cattle to sell to the *Norfolk* Graziers, as is observ'd above.

From *Cromer*, we ride on the Strand or open Shoar to *Weyburn Hope*, the Shoar so Flat, that in some Places the Tide ebbs out near two Miles: From *Weyburn* West lyes *Clye*, where there are large Salt-works, and very good Salt made, which is sold all over the County, and sometimes sent to *Holland*, and to the *Baltick*: From *Clye*, we go to *Masham*, and to *Wells*, all Towns on the Coast, in each whereof there is a very considerable Trade carry'd on with *Holland* for Corn, which that Part of the County is very full of: I say nothing of the Great Trade driven here from *Holland*, back again to *England*, because I take it to be a Trade carry'd on with much less Honesty than Advantage; especially while the clandestine Trade, or the Art of Smuggling was so much in Practice, what it is now, is not to my present Purpose. Near

Near this Town lye *The Seven Burnhams*, as they are call'd, that is to say Seven finall Towns, all call'd by the same Name, and each employ'd in the same Trade of carrying Corn to *Holland*, and bringing back — &c.

From hence we turn to the S. W. to *Castle-Rising*, an old decay'd Burrough Town, with perhaps not ten Families in it, which yet (to the scandal of our Prescription Right) sends two Members to the *British* Parliament, being as many as the City of *Norwich* it self, or any Town in the Kingdom, *London* excepted can do.

On our Left we see *Walsingham*, an antient Town, famous for the old Ruins of a Monastery of Note there, and the Shrine of our Lady, as noted as that of *St. Thomas a-Becket* at *Canterbury*, and for little else.

Near this Place are the Seats of the two ally'd Families of the Lord Viscount *Townsend*, and *Robert Walpole*, Esq; the latter at this Time one of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, and Minister of State, and the former one of the Principal Secretaries of State to King *GORGE*, of which again.

From hence we went to *Lyn*, another Rich and Populous Thriving Port-Town. It stands on more Ground than the Town of *Tarmouth*, and has I think Parishes, yet I cannot allow that it has more People than *Tarmouth*, if so many. It is a beautiful well built, and well situated Town, at the Mouth of the River *Ouse*, and has this particular attending it, which gives it a vast Advantage in Trade; Namely, that there is the greatest Extent of Inland Navigation here, of any Port in *England*, *London* excepted. The Reason whereof is this, that

that there are more Navigable Rivers empty themselves here into the Sea, including the Washes, which are Branches of the same Port, than at any one Mouth of Waters in *England*, except the *Thames* and the *Humber*. By these Navigable Rivers the Merchants of *Lynn* supply about six Counties wholly, and three Counties in Part, with their Goods, especially Wine, and Coals, (*viz.*) By the little *Ouse*, they send their Goods to *Brandon*, and *Thetford*, by the Lake to *Mildenhall*, *Barton-Mills*, and *St. Edmunds-Bury*; by the River *Grant* to *Cambridge*, by the Great *Ouse* it self to *Ely*, to *St. Ives*, to *St. Neots*, to *Barford-Bridge*, and to *Bedford*; by the River *Nyne*, to *Peterboro'*; by the *Dreyns* and *Washes* to *Wysbich*, to *Spalding*, *Market-Deeping*, and *Stamford*; besides the several Counties, into which these Goods are carryed by Land Carriage, from the Places where the Navigation of those Rivers ends; which has given rise to this Observation on the Town of *Lynn*, that they bring in more Coals, than any Sea-Port between *London* and *Newcastle*; and import more Wines than any Port in *England*, except *London* and *Bristol*; their Trade to *Norway*, and to the *Baltick Sea* is also great in Proportion, and of late Years they have extended their Trade farther to the Southward.

Here are more Gentry, and consequently is more Gayety in this Town than in *Tarmouth*, or even in *Norwich* it self; the Place abounding in very good Company.

The situation of this Town renders it capable of being made very strong, and in the late Wars it was so; a Line of Fortification being drawn round it at a distance from the Walls; the Ruins, or rather Remains of which Works appear very fair to this Day; nor would it be a hard Matter to restore the Bastions, with the Ravelins and Counter-scarp, upon any sudden Emergency, to a good state of Defence; and that in a little time, a sufficient Number of Workmen being employed; especially because they are able to fill all their Ditches with Water from the Sea, in such a manner as that it cannot be drawn off.

There is, in the Market-place of this Town, a very fine Statue of King *William* on Horse-back, erected at the Charge of the Town. The *Ouse* is mighty large and deep, close to the very Town itself, and Ships of good Burthen may come up to the Key; but there is no Bridge, the Stream being too strong, and the Bottom Moorish and unsound: Nor for the same Reason is the Anchorage computed the best in the World; but there are good Roads farther down.

They pass over here in Boats into the Fenn-Country, and over the famous Washes into *Lincolnshire*, but the Passage is very dangerous and uneasy, and where Passengers often miscarry and are lost; but then it is usually on their venturing at improper times, and without the Guides, which if they would be persuaded not to do, they would very rarely fail of going or coming safe.

From

From *Lynn*, I bent my course to *Downham*, where is an ugly wooden Bridge over the *Ouse*; from whence we pass'd the *Fenn* Country to *Wisbich*, but saw nothing that way to tempt our Curiosity but deep Roads, innumerable Dreyms and Dykes of Water, all Navigable, and a rich Soil, the Land bearing a vast Quantity of good Hemp; but a base unwholsom Air; so we came back to *Ely*, whose Cathedral, standing in a level flat Country, is seen far and wide; and of which Town, when the Minster, so they call it, is describ'd, every thing Remarkable is said that there is room to say; and of the Minster this is the most remarkable thing that I could hear it, namely, that some of it is so antient, totters so much with every gust of Wind, looks so like a Decay, and seems so near it, that when ever it does fall, all that 'tis likely will be thought strange in it, will be, that it did not fall a hundred Years sooner.

From hence we came over the *Ouse*, and in a few Miles to *Newmarket*: In our way near *Snaybell* we saw a noble Seat of the late Admiral *Russel*, now Earl of *Orford*, a Name made famous by the Glorious Victory obtain'd under his Command over the *French* Fleet, and the burning their Ships at *La Hogue*; a Victory equal in Glory to, and infinitely more glorious to the *English* Nation in particular, than that at *Blenheim*, and above all more to the particular Advantage of the Confederacy, because it so broke the Heart of the Naval Power of *France*, that they have not fully recover'd it to this Day: But of this Victory it must be said, it was owing to the haughty, rash, and insolent Orders given by the King of *France* to his Admiral,



(viz.) To fight the Confederate Fleet wherever he found them, without leaving Room for him to use due Caution if he found them too strong; which Pride of *France* was doubtless a Fate upon them, and gave a cheap Victory to the Confederates; the *French* coming down rashly, and with the most impolitic Bravery, with about five and forty Sail to attack between seventy and eighty Sail; by which Means they met their Ruin; whereas, had their own Fleet been join'd, it might have cost more Blood to have muster'd them, if it had been done at all.

The Situation of this House is Low, and on the Edge of the Fenn-Country, but the Building is very fine, the Avenues Noble, and the Gardens perfectly finished; the Apartments also are rich; and I see nothing wanting but a Family and Heirs, to sustain the Glory and Inheritance of the Illustrious Ancestor, who rais'd it, *sed caret pedibus*, these are wanting.

Being come to *Newmarket* in the Month of *October*, I had the opportunity to see the Horse-Races; and a great Concourse of the Nobility and Gentry, as well from *London* as from all Parts of *England*; but they were all so intent, so eager, so busy upon the sharpening Part of the Sport, their Wagers and Bets, that to me they seem'd just as so many Horse-courfers in *Smithfield*, descending (the greatest of them) from their high Dignity and Quality, to picking one another's Pockets, and Biting one another as much as possible, and that with such eagerness, as that it might be said they acted without respect to Faith, Honour, or good Manners.

There

There was Mr. *Frampton*, the oldest, and as *some say*, the cunningest Jockey in *England*, one Day he lost 1000 Guineas, the next he won two Thousand; and so alternately he made as light of throwing away Five hundred or One thousand Pounds at a time, as other Men do of their Pocket-money, and as perfectly calm, cheerful, and unconcern'd, when he had lost One thousand Pounds, as when he had won it. On the other Side, there was Sir R— *Fagg*, of *Suffex*, of whom *Fame* says he has the most in him and the least to shew for it, relating to Jockey-ship, of any Man there; yet he often carry'd the Prize; his Horses, they said, were all Cheats, how honest soever their Master was; for he scarce ever produc'd a Horse but he look'd like what he was not, and was what no Body cou'd expect him to be: If he was as light as the Wind, and could fly like a Meteor, he was sure to look as clumfie, and as dirty, and as much like a Cart-Horse as all the Cunning of his Master and the Grooms could make him; and just in this manner he bit some of the greatest Gamesters in the Field.

I was so sick of the Jockeying Part, that I left the Crowd about the Posts, and pleased myself with observing the Horses; how the Creatures yielded to all the Arts and Managements of their Masters; how they took their Airings in Sport, and play'd with the daily Heats which they ran over the course before the Grand Day; but how! as knowing the Difference equally with their Riders, would they exert their utmost Strength at the time of the Race itself; and that to such an Extremity, that one or two

of them died in the Stable when they came to be rubb'd after the first Heat.

Here I fancy'd myself in the *Circus Maximus* at *Rome*, seeing the antient Games, and the Racings of the Chariots and Horsemen; and in this warmth of my Imagination I pleas'd and diverted myself more and in a more Noble manner, than I could possibly do in the Crowds of Gentlemen at the weighing and starting Posts, and at their coming in; or at their Meetings at the Coffee-Houses and Gaming-Tables after the Races were over, where there was little or nothing to be seen, but what was the Subject of just Reproach to them, and Reproof from every Wise Man that look'd upon them. *N. B.* Pray take it with you as you go, you see no Ladies at *New-Market*, except a few of the neighbouring Gentlemen's Families who come in their Coaches on any particular Day to see a race and so go Home again directly.

As I was pleasing myself with what was to be seen here, I went in the intervals of the Sport to see the fine Seats of the Gentlemen in the neighbouring County, for this Part of *Suffolk*, being an open champian Country, and a healthy Air, is form'd for Pleasure, and all kinds of Country Diversion; Nature, as it were, inviting the Gentlemen to visit her, where she was fully prepar'd to receive them; in conformity to which kind Summons they came, for the Country is, as it were, cover'd with fine Palaces of the Nobility, and pleasant Seats of the Gentlemen.

The Earl of *Orford's* House I have mention'd already, the next is *Euston Hall*, the Seat of the Duke of *Grafton*; it lies in the open Country towards

wards the side of *Norfolk*, not far from *Thetford*; a Place capable of all that is pleasant and delightful in Nature, and improv'd by Art to every Extreme that Nature is able to produce.

From thence I went to *Rushbrook*, formerly the Seat of the Noble Family of *Fermyns*, lately Lord *Dover*, and now of the House of *Davers*. Here Nature, for the time I was there, droopt, and veil'd all the Beauties of which she once boasted; the Family being in Tears, and the House shut up; Sir *Robert Davers*, the Head thereof, and Knight of the Shire for the County of *Suffolk*, and who had married the eldest Daughter of the late Lord *Dover*, being just dead, and the Corpse lying there in its Funeral Form of Ceremony, not yet Buried; yet all look'd lovely in their Sorrow, and a numerous Issue promising and grown up, intimated that the Family of *Davers* would still Flourish, and that the Beauties of *Rushbrook*, the Mansion of the Family, were not form'd with so much Art in vain, or to die with the present Possessor.

After this we saw *Brently*, the Seat of the Earl of *Dysert*, and the antient Palace of my Lord *Cornwallis*, with several others of exquisite Situation, and adorn'd with the Beauties both of Art and Nature; so that I think, any Traveller from Abroad, who would desire to see how the *English* Gentry live, and what Pleasures they enjoy, should come into *Suffolk* and *Cambridgeshire*, and take but a light Circuit among the Country Seats of the Gentlemen on this side only, and they would be soon convinc'd, that not *France*, no not *Italy* itself, can out-do them, in Proportion to the Climate they lived in.

I had still the County of *Cambridge* to visit, to compleat this Tour of the Eastern Part of *England*, and of that I come now to speak.

We enter *Cambridgeshire* out of *Suffolk* with all the Advantage in the world ; the County beginning upon those pleasant and agreeable Plains call'd *New-Market-Heath*, where passing the *Devil's-Ditch*, which has nothing worth Notice but its Name, and that but fabulous too, from the Hills call'd *Gogmagog*, we see a rich and Pleasant Vale Westward, cover'd with Corn-Fields, Gentlemen's Seats, Villages, and at a Distance, to crown all the rest, that antient and truly famous Town and University of *Cambridge* ; Capital of the County, and receiving its Name from, if not as some say, giving Name to it ; for if it be true, that the Town takes its Name of *Cambridge* from its Bridge over the River *Cam* ; then certainly the Shire or County, upon the Division of *England* into Counties, had its Name from the Town, and *Cambridgeshire* signifies no more or less than the County of which *Cambridge* is the Capital Town.

As my Business is not to lay out the Geographical Situation of Places, I say nothing of the Buttings and Boundings of this County : It lies on the Edge of the great Level, call'd by the People here the *Fenn-Country* ; and great Part, if not all, the Isle of *Ely*, lies in this County and *Norfolk* : The rest of *Cambridgeshire* is almost wholly a Corn Country ; and of that Corn five Parts in six of all they sow, is Barly, which is generally sold to *Ware* and *Royston*, and other great Malting-Towns in *Hertfordshire*, and is the Fund from whence that vast Quantity of  
Malt,

Malt, call'd *Hertfordshire* Malt, is made, which is esteem'd the best in *England*. As *Essex*, *Suffolk*, and *Norfolk*, are taken up in Manufactures, and fam'd for Industry, this County has no Manufacture at all ; nor are the Poor, except the Husband-men, fam'd for any thing so much as Idleness and Sloth, to their Scandal be it spoken ; what the Reason of it is, I know not.

It is scarce possible to talk of any thing in *Cambridgeshire* but *Cambridge* itself; whether it be that the County has so little worth speaking of in it, or that the Town has so much, that *I leave to others* ; however, as I am making Modern Observations, not writing History, I shall look into the County as well as into the Colleges, for what I have to say.

As I said, I first had a view of *Cambridge* from *Gogmagog* Hills : I am to add, that there appears on the Mountain that goes by this Name, an antient Camp, or Fortification, that lies on the Top of the Hill, with a double or rather treble Rampart and Ditch, which most of our Writers say was neither *Roman* nor *Saxon*, but *British* : I am to add, that King *James II.* caused a spacious Stable to be built in the Area of this Camp, for his Running-Horses, and made old Mr. *Frampton*, whom I mention'd above, Master or Inspector of them : The Stables remain still there, tho' they are not often made use of. As we descended Westward, we saw the *Fenn* Country on our Right, almost all cover'd with Water like a Sea, the *Michaelmas* Rains having been very great that Year, they had sent down great Floods of Water from the Upland Countries, and those Fenns being, as may be very properly said, the Sink of no less

than thirteen Counties ; that is to say, that all the Water, or most part of the Water of thirteen Counties, falls into them, they are often thus overflow'd. The Rivers which thus empty themselves into these Fenns, and which thus carry off the Water, are the *Cam* or *Grant*, the *Great Ouse*, and *Little Ouse*, the *Nene*, the *Wel-land*, and the River which runs from *Bury* to *Milden-Hall* ; the Counties which these Rivers drain, as above, are as follows,

<i>Lincoln,</i>	<i>Warwick,</i>	<i>Norfolk,</i>
* <i>Cambridge,</i>	<i>Oxford,</i>	<i>Suffolk,</i>
* <i>Huntingdon,</i>	<i>Leicester,</i>	<i>Essex.</i>
* <i>Bedford,</i>	* <i>Northampton,</i>	
<i>Buckingham,</i>	* <i>Rutland,</i>	

N. Those Mark'd with (\*) empty all their Waters this Way, the rest but in Part.

In a Word, all the Water of the middle Part of *England* which does not run into the *Thames* or the *Trent*, comes down into these Fenns.

In these Fenns are abundance of those admirable Pieces of Art call'd *Duckoys* ; that is to say, Places so adapted for the harbour and shelter of Wild-Fowl, and then furnish'd with a Breed of those they call *Decoy-Ducks*, who are taught to allure and entice their Kind to the Places they belong to, that it is incredible what Quantities of Wild-fowl of all sorts, Duck, Mallard, Teal, Widgeon, &c. they take in those *Duckoys* every Week, during the Season ; it may indeed be guess'd at a little by this, that there is a *Duckoy* not far from *Ely*, which pays to the Landlord, Sir *Tho. Hare* 500*l.* a Year Rent, besides the Charge of maintaining a great number of Servants for the Management ; and from

from which *Duckoy* alone they assured me at *St. Ives*, (a Town on the *Ouse*, where the Fowl they took was always brought to be sent to *London*;) that they generally sent up three thousand Couple a Week.

There are more of these about *Peterbro'*, who send the Fowl up twice a Week in Waggon Loads at a time, whose Waggon before the late Act of Parliament to regulate Carriers, I have seen drawn by ten, and twelve Horses a piece, they were loaden so heavy.

As these Fenns appear cover'd with Water, so I observ'd too, that they generally at this latter part of the Year appear also cover'd with Foggs, so that when the Downs and higher Grounds of the adjacent Country were gilded with the Beams of the Sun, the Isle of *Ely* look'd as if wrapp'd up in Blankets, and nothing to be seen, but now and then, the Lanthorn or Cupola of *Ely Minster*.

One could hardly see this from the Hills and not pity the many thousands of Families that were bound to or confin'd in those Foggs, and had no other Breath to draw than what must be mix'd with those Vapours, and that Steam which so universally overspread the Country: But notwithstanding this, the People, especially those that are used to it, live unconcern'd, and as Healthy as other Folks, except now and then an Ague, which they make light of, and there are great Numbers of very antient People among them.

I now draw near to *Cambridge*, to which I fancy I look as if I was afraid to come, having made so many Circumlocutions beforehand; but I must yet make another Digression before I enter



enter the Town ; (for in my way, and as I came in from *New Market*, about the beginning of *September* ; ) I cannot omit, that I came necessarily through *Sturbridge* Fair, which was then in its height.

If it is a Diversion worthy a Book to treat of Trifles, such as the Gayety of *Bury* Fair, it cannot be very unpleasant, especially to the Trading part of the World, to say something of this Fair, which is not only the greatest in the whole Nation, but in the World ; nor, if I may believe those who have seen them all, is the Fair at *Leipsick* in *Saxony*, the *Mart* at *Frankfort* on the *Main*, or the Fairs at *Neuremberg*, or *Ausburg*, any way to compare to this Fair at *Sturbridge*.

It is kept in a large Corn-field, near *Casterton*, extending from the Side of the River *Cam*, towards the Road, for about half a Mile Square.

If the Husbandmen who rent the Land, do not get their Corn off before a certain Day in *August*, the Fair-Keepers may trample it under foot and spoil it to build their Booths, or Tents ; for all the Fair is kept in Tents, and Booths ; On the other Hand, to ballance that Severity, if the Fair-Keepers have not done their Business of the Fair, and remov'd and clear'd the Field by another certain Day in *September*, the Plowmen may come in again, with Plow and Cart, and overthrow all and trample it into the Dirt ; and as for the Filth, Dung, Straw, &c. necessarily left by the Fair-Keepers, the Quantity of which is very great, it is the Farmers Fees, and makes them full amends for the trampling riding, and carting upon, and hardening the Ground.

It

It is impossible to describe all the Parts and Circumstances of this Fair exactly ; the Shops are placed in Rows like Streets, whereof one is call'd *Cheapside* ; and here, as in several other Streets, are all sorts of Trades, who sell by Retail, and who come principally from *London* with their Goods ; scarce any Trades are omitted, Goldsmiths, Toyshops, Brasiers, Turners, Milleners, Haberdashers, Hatters, Mercers, Drapers, Pewterers, China-Warehouses, and in a word all Trades that can be named in *London* ; with Coffee-Houses, Taverns, Brandy-Shops, and Eating-houses, innumerable, and all in Tents, and Booths, as above.

This great Street reaches from the Road, which as I said goes from *Cambridge* to *New-Market*, turning short out of it to the Right towards the River, and holds in a Line near half a Mile quite down to the River-side : In another Street parallel with the Road are like Rows of Booths, but larger, and more intermingled with Wholesale Dealers, and one Side, passing out of this last Street to the Left Hand, is a formal great Square, form'd by the largest Booths, built in that Form, and which they call the *Duddery* ; whence the Name is deriv'd, and what its Signification is, I could never yet learn, tho' I made all possible search into it. The Area of this Square is about 80 to a 100 Yards, where the Dealers have room before every Booth to take down, and open their Packs, and to bring in Waggons to load and unload.

This Place is separated, and Peculiar to the Wholesale Dealers in the Woollen Manufacture. Here the Booths, or Tents are of a vast Extent, have different Apartments, and the Quantities

ties of Goods they bring are so Great, that the Insides of them look like another *Blackwell-Hall*, being as vast Ware-houses pil'd up with Goods to the Top. In this *Duddery*, as I have been inform'd, there have been sold One Hundred Thousand Pounds worth of Woollen Manufactures in less than a Week's time, besides the prodigious Trade carry'd on here, by Wholesale-Men, from *London*, and all Parts of *England*, who transact their Business wholly in their Pocket-Books, and meeting their Chapmen from all Parts, make up their Accounts, receive Money chiefly in Bills, and take Orders: These they say exceed by far the Sales of Goods actually brought to the Fair, and deliver'd in Kind; it being frequent for the *London* Wholesale Men to carry back Orders from their Dealers for ten Thousand Pounds worth of Goods a Man, and some much more. This especially respects those People, who deal in heavy Goods, as Wholesale Grocers, Salters, Brasiers, Iron-Merchants, Wine-Merchants, and the like; but does not exclude the Dealers in Woollen Manufactures, and especially in Mercery Goods of all sorts, the Dealers in which generally manage their Business in this Manner.

Here are Clothiers from *Hallifax*, *Leeds*, *Wakefield* and *Hathersfield* in *Yorkshire*, and from *Rochdale*, *Bury*, &c. in *Lancashire*, with vast Quantities of *Yorkshire* Cloths, Kerseys, Pennistons, Cottons, &c. with all sorts of *Manchester* Ware, Fustians, and things made of Cotton Wool; of which the Quantity is so great, that they told me there were near a Thousand  
Horse-

Horfe-Packs of fuch Goods from that fide of the Country, and thefe took up a fide and half of the *Duddery* at leaft ; alfo a part of a Street of Booths were taken up with Upholfterer's Ware, fuch as Tickings, Sackings, *Kidderminfter* Stuffs, Blankets, Rugs, Quilts, &c.

In the *Duddery* I faw one Ware-houfe, or Booth with fix Apartments in it, all belonging to a Dealer in *Normich* Stuffs only, and who they faid had there above Twenty Thousand Pounds value, in thofe Goods, and no other.

Western Goods had their Share here alfo, and feveral Booths were fill'd as full with Serges, Du-Roys, Druggets, Shalloons, Cantaloons, *Devonshire* Kerfies, &c. from *Exeter*, *Taunton*, *Bristol*, and other Parts West, and fome from *London* alfo.

But all this is ftill out done, at leaft in fhew, by two Articles, which are the peculiars of this Fair, and do not begin till the other Part of the Fair, *that is to fay for the Woollen Manufacture* begins to draw to a Clofe : Thefe are the WOOLL, and the HOPS, as for the Hops, there is fcarce any Price fix'd for Hops in *England*, till they know how they fell at *Sturbridge* Fair ; the Quantity that appears in the Fair is indeed prodigious, and they, *as it were*, poffefs a large Part of the Field on which the Fair is kept, to themfelves ; they are brought directly from *Chelmsford* in *Effex*, from *Canterbury* and *Maidstone* in *Kent*, and from *Farnham* in *Surrey*, befides what are brought from *London*, the growth of thofe, and other Places.

Enquiring why this Fair should be thus, of all other Places in *England*, the Center of that Trade ; and so great a Quantity of so Bulky a Commodity be carryed thither so far : I was answer'd by one thoroughly acquainted with that matter thus : The Hops said he, for this Part of *England*, grow principally in the two Counties of *Surrey* and *Kent*, with an exception only to the Town of *Chelmsford* in *Essex*, and there are very few planted any where else.

There are indeed in the West of *England* some Quantities growing ; as at *Wilton*, near *Salisbury* ; at *Hereford* and *Broomsgrrove*, near *Wales*, and the like ; but the Quantity is inconsiderable, and the Places remote, so that none of them come to *London*.

As to the North of *England*, they formerly used but few Hops there, their Drink being chiefly Pale smooth Ale, which requir'd no Hops, and consequently they planted no Hops in all that Part of *England*, North of *Trent* ; nor did I ever see one Acre of Hop-Ground planted beyond *Trent*, in my Observations ; but as for some Years past, they not only brew great Quantities of Beer in the North ; but also use Hops in the Brewing their Ale much more than they did before ; so they all come South of *Trent* to buy their Hops ; and here being vast Quantities brought, 'tis great Part of their back Carriage into *Yorkshire*, and *Northamptonshire*, *Derbyshire*, *Lancashire*, and all those Counties ; nay, of late, since the Union, even to *Scotland* it self ; for I must not omit here also to mention, that the River *Grant*, or *Cam*, which runs close by the N. W. side of the Fair in its way

way from *Cambridge* to *Ely*, is Navigable, and that by this means, all heavy Goods are brought even to the Fair-Field, by Water Carriage from *London*, and other Parts; first to the Port of *Lynn*, and then in Barges up the *Ouse*, from the *Ouse* into the *Cam*, and so, as I say to the very Edge of the Fair.

In like manner great Quantities of heavy Goods, and the Hops among the rest, are sent from the Fair to *Lynn* by Water, and shipped there for the *Humber*, to *Hull*, *Tork*, &c. and for *New-Castle* upon *Tyne*, and by *New-Castle*, even to *Scotland* it self. Now as there is still no planting of Hops in the North, tho' a great Consumption, and the Consumption increasing Daily, this, says my Friend, is one Reason why at *Sturbridge* Fair there is so great a Demand for the Hops: He added, that besides this, there were very few Hops, if any worth naming, growing in all the Counties even on this side *Trent*, which were above forty Miles from *London*; those Counties depending on *Sturbridge* Fair for their supply, so the Counties of *Suffolk*, *Norfolk*, *Cambridge*, *Huntingdon*, *Northampton*, *Lincoln*, *Leicester*, *Rutland*, and even to *Stafford*, *Warwick* and *Worcestershire*, bought most if not all of their Hops at *Sturbridge* Fair.

These are the Reasons why so great a Quantity of *Hops* are seen at this Fair, as that it is incredible, considering too, how remote from this Fair the Growth of them is, as above.

This is likewise a Testimony of the prodigious Resort of the Trading People of all Parts of *England* to this Fair; the Quantity of *Hops* that have been sold at one of these Fairs is diversly reported, and some affirm it to be so  
great

great, that I dare not copy after them ; but without doubt it is a surprizing Account, especially in a cheap Year.

The next Article brought hither, is Wool, and this of several sorts, but principally Fleece Wool, out of *Lincolnshire*, where the longest Staple is found ; the Sheep of those Countries being of the largest Breed.

The Buyers of this Wool, are chiefly indeed the Manufacturers of *Norfolk* and *Suffolk*, and *Essex*, and it is a prodigious Quantity they buy.

Here I saw what I have not observ'd in any other Country of *England*, namely, a *Pocket* of Wool. This seems to be first call'd so in Mockery, this *Pocket* being so big, that it loads a whole Waggon, and reaches beyond the most extream Parts of it hanging over both before, and behind, and these ordinarily weigh a Ton or 25 Hundred weight of Wool, all in one Bag.

The Quantity of Wool only, which has been sold at this Place at one Fair, has been said to amount to fifty or sixty Thousand Pounds in value, some say a great deal more.

By these Articles a Stranger may make some guess, at the immense Trade carry'd on at this Place ; what prodigious Quantities of Goods are bought, and sold here, and what a confluence of People are seen here from all Parts of *England*.

I might go on here to speak of several other sorts of *English* Manufactures, which are brought hither to be sold ; as all sorts of wrought Iron, and Brass Ware from *Birmingham* ; Edg'd Tools, Knives, &c. from *Sheffield* ; Glass Wares, and Stockings, from *Nottingham*, and *Leicester* ;

*Leicester* and an infinite Throng of other things of smaller value, every Morning.

To attend this Fair, and the prodigious conflux of People, which come to it, there are sometimes no less than fifty Hackney Coaches, which come from *London*, and ply Night and Morning to carry the People to and from *Cambridge*; for there the Gros of the People lodge; nay, which is still more strange, there are Wherries brought from *London* on Waggon to ply upon the little River *Cam*, and to row People up and down from the Town, and from the Fair as Occasion presents.

It is not to be wondered at, if the Town of *Cambridge* cannot Receive, or Entertain the Numbers of People that come to this Fair; not *Cambridge* only, but all the Towns round are full; nay, the very Barns, and Stables are turn'd into Inns, and made as fit as they can to Lodge the meaner Sort of People: As for the People in the Fair, they all univervally Eat, Drink and Sleep in their Booths, and Tents; and the said Booths are so Intermingled with Taverns, Coffee-Houses, Drinking-Houses, Eating-Houses, Cooks-Shops, &c. and, all in Tents too; and so many Butchers, and Higglers from all the Neighbouring Counties come into the Fair every Morning with Beef, Mutton, Fowls, Butter, Bread, Cheese, Eggs, and such things; and go with them from Tent to Tent, from Door to Door, that there's no want of any Provisions of any kind, either dress'd, or undress'd.

In a Word, the Fair is like a well Fortify'd City, and there is the least Disorder and Confusion (*I believe*) that can be seen any where, with so great a Concourse of People.



Towards the latter End of the Fair, and when the great Hurry of Wholesale Business begins to be over, the Gentry come in, from all Parts of the County round; and tho' they come for their Diversion; yet 'tis not a little Money, they lay out; which generally falls to the share of the Retailers, such as Toy-shops, Goldsmiths, Brasiers, Ironmongers, Turners, Milleners, Mercers, &c. and some loose Corns, they reserve for the Puppet-Shows, Drolls, Rope-Dancers, and such like; of which there is no want, though not considerable like the rest: The last Day of the Fair is the *Horse-Fair*, where the whole is clos'd with both Horse and Foot Races, to divert the meaner Sort of People only, for nothing considerable is offer'd of that Kind: Thus Ends the whole Fair, and in less than a Week more, there is scarce any Sign left that there has been such a thing there; except by the Heaps of Dung and Straw, and other Rubbish which is left behind, trod into the Earth, and which is as good as a Summer's fallow for Dunging to the Land; and as I have said above, pays the Husbandman well for the use of it.

I should have mention'd, that here is a Court of Justice always open, and held every Day in a Shed built on purpose in the Fair; this is for keeping the Peace, and deciding Controversies in matters Deriving from the Business of the Fair: The Magistrates of the Town of *Cambridge* are Judges in this Court, as being in their Jurisdiction, or they holding it by special Priviledge: Here they determine Matters in a Summary way, as is practis'd in those we call *Pye-Powder Courts* in other Places, or as a *Court of Conscience*; and they have a final Authority without Appeal,

I come now to the Town, and University of *Cambridge*; I say the Town and University, for tho' they are Blended together in the Situation, and the Colleges, Halls, and Houses for Literature are promiscuously scatter'd up and down among the other Parts, and some even among the meanest of the other Buildings; as *Magdalen College* over the Bridge, is in particular; yet they are all Encorporated together, by the Name of the University, and are govern'd apart, and distinct from the Town, which they are so intermix'd with.

As their Authority is distinct from the Town, so are their Priviledges, Customs, and Government; they choose Representatives, or Members of Parliament for themselves, and the Town does the like for themselves, also apart.

The Town is govern'd by a Mayor, and Aldermen. The University by a Chancellor, and Vice-Chancellor, &c. Tho' their Dwellings are mix'd, and seem a little confus'd, their Authority is not so; in some Cases the Vice-Chancellor may concern himself in the Town, as in searching Houses for the Scholars at improper Hours, removing scandalous Women, and the like.

But as the Colleges are many, and the Gentlemen entertain'd in them are a very great Number, the Trade of the Town very much depends upon them, and the Tradesmen may justly be said to get their Bread by the Colleges; and this is the surest hold the University may be said to have of the Townsmen, and by which they secure the Dependence of the Town upon them, and consequently their Submission.

I remember some Years ago a Brewer, who being very Rich and Popular in the Town, and one of their Magistrates, had in several things

so much oppos'd the University, and insulted their Vice-Chancellor, or other Heads of Houses, that in short the University having no other way to Exert themselves, and show their Resentment, they made a By-Law or Order among themselves, that for the future they would not Trade with him; and that none of the Colleges, Halls, &c. would take any more Beer of him; and what follow'd? The Man indeed brav'd it out a while, but when he found he cou'd not obtain a Revocation of the Order, he was fain to leave off his Brewhouse, and if I remember right, quitted the Town.

Thus I say, Interest gives them Authority; and there are abundance of Reasons why the Town shou'd not disoblige the University, as there are some also on the other Hand, why the University shou'd not differ to any Extremity with the Town; nor, *such is their Prudence*, do they let any Disputes between them run up to any Extremities, if they can avoid it. As for Society; to any Man who is a lover of Learning, or of Learn'd Men, here is the most agreeable under Heaven; nor is there any want of Mirth and good Company of other Kinds: But 'tis to the Honour of the University to say, that the Governors so well understand their Office, and the Governed their Duty, that here is very little Encouragement given to those Seminaries of Crime the *Assemblies*, which are so much boasted of in other Places.

Again, as Dancing, Gaming, Intriguing, are the three principal Articles which recommend those *Assemblies*; and that generally the Time for carrying on Affairs of this Kind, is the Night,

Night, and sometimes all Night; a time as unreasonable as scandalous; add to this, that the Orders of the University admit no such Excesses: I therefore say, as this is the Case, 'tis to the Honour of the whole Body of the University, that no Encouragement is given to them here.

As to the Antiquity of the University in this Town, the Originals and Founders of the several Colleges, their Revenues, Laws, Government and Governors, they are so effectually and so largely treated of by other Authors, and are so foreign to the familiar Design of these Letters, that I refer my Readers to Mr. Camden's *Britannia*, and the Author of the *Antiquities of Cambridge*, and other such learned Writers, by whom they may be fully informed.

The present Vice-Chancellor is Dr. *Snape*, formerly Master of *Baton* School near *Windsor*; and famous for his Dispute with and evident Advantage over the late Bishop of *Bangor*, in the time of his Government; the Dispute between the University and the Master of *Trinity* College has been brought to a Head, so as to employ the Pens of the Learned on both Sides; but at last Prosecuted in a judicial way, so as to deprive Dr. *Bently* of all his Dignities and Offices in the University; but the Dr. flying to the Royal Protection, the University is under a Writ of *Mandamus*, to shew Cause why they do not restore the Doctor again, to which it seems they demur, and that Demur has not, that we hear, been argued, at least when these Sheets were sent to the Press; what will be the Issue Time must shew.

From *Cambridge* the Road lies North-West, on the Edge of the Fens, to *Huntingdon*, where it joins the great North-Road; on this

side, 'tis all an agreeable Corn Country, as above; adorn'd with several Seats of Gentlemen, but the Chief is the Noble House, Seat, or Mansion of *Wimple*, or *Wimple-Hall*, formerly built at a vast Expence, by the late Earl of *Radnor*; adorn'd with all the Natural Beauties of Situation; and to which was added all the most exquisite Contrivances which the best Heads cou'd Invent to make it artificially as well as naturally pleasant.

However, the Fate of the *Radnor* Family so directing, it was bought, with the whole Estate about it, by the late Duke of *Newcastle*; in a Partition of whose immense Estate, it fell to the Right Honourable the Lord *Harley*, (Son and Heir apparent of the present Earl of *Oxford* and *Mortimer*) in Right of the Lady *Harriot Cavendish*, only Daughter of the said Duke of *Newcastle*, who is married to his Lordship, and brought him this Estate, and many other, sufficient to denominate her the richest Heiress in *Great-Britain*.

Here his Lordship resides, and has already so recommended himself to this Country, as to be by a great Majority chosen Knight of the Shire for the County of *Cambridge*.

From *Cambridge*, my Design obliging me, and the direct Road, in part concurring, I came back thro' the West part of the County of *Essex*, and at *Saffron Walden* I saw the Ruins of the once largest and most magnificent Pile in all this Part of *England*, (*viz.*) *Audley End*; built by, and decaying with the Noble Dukes and Earls of *Suffolk*.

A little North of this Part of the Country rises the River *Stour*, which for a Course of  
fifty

fifty Miles or more, parts the two Counties of *Suffolk* and *Essex*; passing thro' or near *Haveril*, *Clare*, *Cavendish*, *Halsted*, *Sudbury*, *Buers*, *Nayland*, *Stretford*, *Dedham*, *Manningtree*, and into the Sea at *Harwich*; assisting by its Waters to make one of the best Harbours for Shipping that is in *Great-Britain*; I mean *Orwell Haven*, or *Harwich*, of which I have spoken largely already.

As we came on this Side we saw at a distance *Braintree* and *Bocking*, two Towns, large, rich and populous, and made so Originally by the Bay Trade, of which I have spoken at large at *Colchester*, and which flourishes still among them.

The Manour of *Braintree* I found descended by Purchase, to the Name of *Olmeus*, the Son of a *London* Merchant of the same Name; making good what I had observ'd before, of the great Number of such who have purchas'd Estates in this County.

Near this Town is *Felsted*, a small Place, but noted for a Free-School, of an antient Foundation; for many Years under the Mastership of the late Reverend Mr. *Lydiat*, and brought by him to the Meridian of its Reputation: 'Tis now supplied, and that very worthily, by the Reverend Mr. *Hutchins*.

Near to this is the Priory of *Lees*, a delicious Seat of the late Dukes of *Manchester*, but sold by the present Duke to the Dutches Dowager of *Bucks*; his Grace the Duke of *Manchester* removing to his yet finer Seat of *Kimbolton* in *Northamptonshire*, the antient Mansion of the Family. From hence keeping the *London* Road I came to *Chelmsford*, mention'd before, and *Ingerstone*, five Miles West, which I mention a-

again; because in the Parish-Church of this Town are to be seen the antient Monuments of the Noble Family of *Petre*; whose Seat, and a large Estate, lie in the Neighbourhood; and whose whole Family, by a constant Series of Beneficent Actions to the Poor, and Bounty upon all charitable Occasions, have gain'd an affectionate Esteem thro' all that Part of the Country, such as no prejudice of Religion could wear out, or perhaps ever may; and I must confess, I think, need not; for Good and Great Actions command our Respect, let the Opinions of the Persons be otherwise what they will.

From hence we cross'd the Country to the great Forest, called *Epping Forest*, reaching almost to *London*. The Country on that side of *Essex* is called the *Roodings*, I suppose, because there are no less than ten Towns almost together, called by the Name of *Roding*, and is famous for good Land, good Malt, and dirty Roads; the latter indeed in the Winter are scarce passable for Horse or Man. In the midst of this we see *Chipping Ongar*, *Hatfield Broad-Oak*, *Epping*, and many Forest-Towns, fam'd, as I have said, for Husbandry and good Malt; but of no other Note. On the South-side of the County is *Waltham-Abby*; the Ruins of the Abby remain; and tho' Antiquity is not my proper Business, I cou'd not but observe, that King *Harold*, slain in the great Battle in *Suffex* against *William* the Conqueror, lies buried here; his Body being begg'd by his Mother, the Conqueror allow'd it to be carried hither; but no Monument was, as I can find, built for him, only a flat Grave-stone, on which was Engraven; *Harold Infelix*.

From

From hence I came over the Foreft again, *that is to fay*, over the Lower or Western Part of it, where it is fpangled with fine Villages, and thefe Villages fill'd with fine Seats, moft of them built by the Citizens of *London*, as I obferved before; but the Luftre of them feems to be entirely swallow'd up in the magnificent Palace of the Lord *Caftlemain*, whole Father, Sir *Jofiah Child*, as it were, prepar'd it in his Life for the Design of his Son, tho' altogether unforefeen; by adding to the Advantage of its Situation innumerable rows of Trees, planted in curious Order for Avenues and Vifto's, to the Houfe, all leading up to the Place where the old Houfe flood, as to a Center.

In the Place adjoining, his Lordship, while he was yet Sir *Richard Child* only, and fome Years before he began the Foundation of his New Houfe, laid out the moft delicious as well as moft fpacious pieces of Ground for Gardens that is to be feen in all this part of *England*. The Green-Houfe is an excellent Building fit to entertain a Prince; 'tis furnifh'd with Stoves and artificial Places for Heat from an Apartment, in which is a Bagnio, and other Conveniencies, which render it both ufeful and pleafant; and thefe Gardens have been fo the juft Admiration of the World, that it has been the general Diverfion of the Citizens to go out to fee them, till the Crowds grew too great, and his Lordship was oblig'd to refrain his Servants from fhewing them, except on one or two Days in a Week only.

The



The House is built since these Gardens have been finish'd : The Building is all of *Portland Stone* in the Front, which makes it look extremely Glorious and Magnificent at a distance ; it being the particular property of that Stone, except in the Streets of *London*, where it is tainted and ting'd with the Smoak of the City, to grow Whiter and Whiter the longer it stands in the open Air.

As the Front of the House opens to a long row of Trees, reaching to the Great Road at *Leighton-Stone* ; so the Back-Face, or Front, if that be proper, respects the Gardens, and with an easy Descent lands you upon the Terras, from whence is a most Beautiful Prospect to the River, which is all form'd into Canals and Openings, to answer the Views from above, and beyond the River, the Walks and Wildernesses go on to such a Distance, and in such a manner up the Hill, as they before went down, that the Sight is lost in the Woods adjoining, and it looks all like one planted Garden as far as the Eye can see.

I shall cover as much as possible the melancholy part of a Story, which touches too sensibly, many, if not most of the Great and Flourishing Families in *England* : Pity and matter of Grief is it to think that Families, by Estate, able to appear in such a Glorious Posture as this, should ever be Vulnerable by so mean a Disaster as that of Stock-Jobbing : But the General Infatuation of the Day is a Plea for it ; so that Men are not now blamed on that Account : *South-Sea* was a general Possession ; and if my Lord *Castlemain* was Wounded by that Arrow shot in  
the

the Dark, 'twas a Misfortune : But 'tis so much a Happiness, that it was not a mortal Wound, as it was to some Men, who once seem'd as much out of the reach of it ; and that Blow, be it what it will, is not remember'd for joy of the Escape ; for we see this Noble Family, by Prudence and Management rise out of all that Cloud, if it may be allow'd such a Name, and shining in the same full Lustre as before.

This cannot be said of some other Families in this County, whose fine Parks and new-built Palaces are fallen under Forfeitures and Alienations by the Misfortunes of the Times, and by the Ruin of their Masters Fortunes in that *South-Sea Deluge*.

But I desire to throw a Veil over these Things, as they come in my way ; 'tis enough that we write upon them as was written upon King *Harold's* Tomb at *Waltham-Abbey*, INFÆLIX, and let all the rest sleep among Things that are the fittest to be forgotten.

From my Lord *Castlemain's* House, and the rest of the fine Dwellings on that Side of the Forest, for there are several very good Houses at *Wanstead*, only that they seem all swallow'd up in the Lustre of his Lordship's Palace ; I say, from thence I went *South*, towards the great Road over that Part of the Forest call'd the *Flatts*, where we see a very beautiful, but retired and rural Seat of Mr. *Lethulier's*, eldest Son of the late Sir *John Lethulier*, of *Lusum* in *Kent*, of whose Family I shall speak when I come on that Side.

By

( 140 )

By this Turn I came necessarily on to  
*Stratford*, where I set out: And thus having  
finished my first Circuit, I conclude my first  
Letter; and am,

S I R,

Your Most Humble,

And Obedient Servant.





# APPENDIX.

**W**HOEVER travels, as I do, over *England*, and writes the Account of his Observations, will, as I noted before, always leave something, altering or undertaking, by such a growing, improving Nation as this, or something to discover in a Nation, where so much is hid, sufficient to employ the Pens of those that come after him, or to add, by way of Appendix to what he has already observ'd.

This is my Case, with respect to the Particulars which follow: 1. Since these Sheets were in the Press, a noble Palace of Mr. *Walpole's*, at present, First Commissioner of the *Treasury*, Privy-Counsellor, &c. to King *George*, is, as it were, risen out of the Ruins of the ancient  
Seat

Seat of the Family of *Walpole*, at *Houghton*, about 8 Miles distant from *Lynn*, and on the North Coast of *Norfolk*, near the Sea.

As the House is not yet finished, and when I pass'd by it, was but newly design'd; it cannot be expected that I should be able to give a particular Description of what it will be: I can do little more than mention, that it appears already to be exceeding magnificent, and suitable to the Genius of the Great Founder.

But a Friend of mine, who lives in that County, has sent me the following Lines, which, as he says, are to be plac'd upon the Building; whether on the Frize of the Cornish, or over the Portico, or on what Part of the Building, of that I am not as yet certain: The Inscription is as follows, *viz.*

H. M. P.

*Fundamen ut essem Domus*

*In Agro Natali Extruenda,*

*Robertus ille Walpole*

*Quem nulla nesciet Posteritas:*

*Faxit Deus.*

*Postquam Maturus Annis Dominus,*

*Diu Letatus fuerit absolutâ*

*Incolumem tueantur Incolames.*

*Ad Summam omnium Diem*

*Et nati natorum et qui nascentur ab illis,*

*Hic me Posuit.*

A second Thing proper to be added here, by way of Appendix, relates to what I have mention'd of the Port of *London*, being bounded by the *Naze* on the *Essex* Shore, and the *North Foreland* on the *Kentish* Shore, which some People, guided by the present Usage of the *Custom-House*, may pretend is not so, to answer such Objectors: The true State of that Case stands thus.

“ I. The Clause taken from the Act of Parliament establishing the Extent of the Port of *London*, and publish'd, in some of the Books of Rates, is this:

“ To prevent all future Differences and Disputes touching the Extent and Limits of the Port of *London*, the said Port is declared to extend, and be accounted, from the Promontory, or Point, call'd the *North Foreland*, in the Isle of *Thanet*, and from thence Northward in a right Line to the Point call'd the *NAZE*, beyond the *Gunfleet*, upon the Coast of *Essex*; and so continued Westward throughout the River *Thames*, and the several Channels, Streams and Rivers falling into it, to *London-Bridge*; saving the usual and known Rights, Liberties and Privileges of the Ports of *Sandwich*, and *Ipswich*, and either of them, and the known Members thereof, and of the Customers, Comptrolers, Searchers, and their Deputies, of and within the said Ports of *Sandwich* and *Ipswich*, and the several Creeks, Harbours and Havens to them, or either of them, respectively belonging, within the Counties of *Kent* and *Essex*.

“ II. Not

“ II. Notwithstanding what is above written,  
“ the Port of *London*, as in Use since the said  
“ Order, is understood to reach no farther than  
“ *Gravesend* in *Kent*, and *Tilbury Point* in *Es-*  
“ *sex*; and the Ports of *Rochester*, *Milton* and  
“ *Feversham*, belong to the Port of *Sandwich*.

“ In like Manner the Ports of *Harwich*, *Col-*  
“ *chester*, *Weevenhoe*, *Malden*, *Leigh*, &c. are said  
“ to be Members of the Port of *Ipswich*.

- This Observation may suffice for what is  
needful to be said upon the same Subject, when  
I may come to speak of the Port of *Sandwich*,  
and its Members, and their Privileges, with re-  
spect to *Rochester*, *Milton*, *Feversham*, &c. in  
my Circuit thro' the County of *Kent*.



( 1 )



## LETTER II.

S I R,



S in my first Journey I went over the Eastern Counties of *ENGLAND*, viz. *ESSEX*, *SUFFOLK*, *NORFOLK*, and *CAMBRIDGE*, and took my course on that side the River *Thames*, to view the Sea-coasts, Harbours, &c. so

being now to Traverse the Southern Counties, I begin with the other side of the *Thames*, and shall surround the Sea-coast of *KENT*, as I did that of *NORFOLK*, *SUFFOLK*, and perhaps it is as fruitful of Instructing and Diverting Observations as any of the other.

I took Boat at *Tower-Wharf*, sending my Horses round by Land to meet me at *Greenwich*, that I might begin my Journey at the beginning of the County, and here I had the Advantage of making my first Step into the County of *Kent*, which is the most delightful Spot of Ground in *Great-Britain*; Pleasant by

*at A place*

A

Situa-



Situation, those Pleasures encreas'd by Art, and all made compleatly agreeable by *the accident of* fine Buildings, the continual passing Fleets of Ships up and down the most beautiful River in *Europe*; the best Air, best Prospect, and the best Conversation in *England*.

The Royal Hospital for Seamen, tho' not yet finished; the Park, the Queen's House, the Observatory on the Hill, commonly call'd *Flamstead-House*, are all things so well known, they need no particular Description.

The Ground, part of this Hospital now stands upon, and is to stand upon, is the same on which formerly stood the Royal Palace of our Kings. Here *Henry VIII* held his Royal Feasts with Jousts and Tournaments; and the Ground which was call'd the *Tilt-yard*, is the Spot on which the Eastermost Wing of the Hospital is built; the Park, (for it was even then a Park also) was enlarg'd, wall'd about, and planted with beautiful Rows, or Walks of Trees by King *Charles II.* soon after the Restoration; and the Design or Plan of a Royal Palace was then lay'd out, one Wing of which was finished and covered, in a most magnificent Manner, and makes now the first Wing of the Hospital as you come to it from *London*: The Building is regular, the lower Part a strong Dorick, the middle Part a most beautiful Corinthian, with an Attick above all, to compleat the Height; the Front to the Water-side is extreamly Magnificent and Graceful; embellish'd with rich carv'd Work and fine Devices, such as will hardly be outdone in this, or any Age for Beauty or Art.

They

They must be very ignorant of our *English* Affairs, who have publish'd \* very lately that Queen *Elizabeth* built the Royal Palace of *Greenwich*; whereas it is evident, that it was the Palace of King *Henry VIII.* her Father, before she was Born; and this is prov'd beyond Contradiction by this particular Circumstance, that her Majesty was Born in this very Palace which she is there said to have built.

But the Beauty of *Greenwich* is owing to the Lustre of its Inhabitants, where there is a kind of Collection of Gentlemen, rather than Citizens, and of Persons of Quality and Fashion, different from most, if not all, the Villages in this Part of *England*.

Here several of the most active and useful Gentlemen of the late Armies, after having grown Old in the Service of their Country, and cover'd with the Honours of the Field, are retir'd to enjoy the remainder of their Time, and reflect with Pleasure upon the Dangers they have gone thro', and the faithful Services they have perform'd both Abroad and at Home.

Several Generals, and several of the inferior Officers, I say, having thus chosen this calm Retreat, live here in as much Honour and Delight as this World can give.

Other Gentlemen still in Service, as in the Navy, Ordnance, Docks, Yards, &c. as well while in Business, as after laying down their Employments, have here planted themselves, insomuch, that the Town of *Greenwich* begins to out-swell its Bounds, and extends itself not only on this side the Park to the top of the Heath, by the way call'd *Crum-Hill*, but now stretches out on

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\* *Familiar Letters*, Vol. pag. 79.

the East-side, where Sir *John Vanbrug* has built a House Castle-wise, and where in a little time 'tis probable, several Streets of like Buildings will be erected, to the enlarging and beautifying the Town, and encreasing the Inhabitants; who, as I have said, are already the chief Beauty and Ornament of the Place: We are told also that Leave will be obtained to build a new Church on that side; the Parish-Church, tho' new rebuilt, and very large and beautiful, not being sufficient to receive the Inhabitants, much less will it be so, if the Buildings go on to encrease, as they have done, and as they now seem to do.

The River of *Thames* is here very broad, and the Chanel deep, and the Water at some very high Spring-Tides is Salt; but in ordinary Tides, is very sweet and fresh, especially at the Tide of Ebb.

The Country behind *Greenwich* adds to the Pleasure of the Place: *Black-Heath*, both for Beauty of Situation, and an excellent Air, is not out-done by any spot of Ground so near the River and so near Land in *England*.

On the East-side stands an Hospital very particular for its Foundation or Design, tho' thro' the Misfortunes of the Times, the Generous Design of the Founder has been much straiten'd, and in great part defeated.

It was built by Sir *John Morden*, a *Turkey* Merchant of *London*, but who liv'd in a great House at the going off from the Heath, a little South of the Hospital on the Road to *Eltham*; his first Design, as I had it from his own Mouth the Year before he began to build, was to make Apartments for Forty decay'd Merchants,  
to

to whom he resolv'd to allow 40 *l. per Annum*, each ; with Coals, a Gown, (and Servants to look after their Apartments) and many other Conveniencies, so as to make their Lives as comfortable as possible, and that, as they had liv'd like Gentlemen, they might dye so.

Sir *John Morden* and his Lady lye bury'd in a Vault in the Chancel of the Chapel of this Hospital: The Chapel is a very neat Building facing the Entrance into the Court; the Lodgings for the Merchants, are on either side; two Apartments in each Stair Case, with Cellars for their Conveniencies, Coals, Beer, &c. and each Apartment consists of a Bed-Chamber, and a Study, or large Closet, for their Retreat, and to divert themselves in with Books, &c.

They have a Publick Kitchen, a Hall to Dine in, and over the Hall is a large Room for the Trustees (who manage the whole) to meet in; there is also a very good Apartment for the Chaplain, whose Salary is 50 *l.* a Year; there are also Dwellings for the Cooks, Butlers, Porter, the Women and other Servants, and reasonable salaries allow'd them: And behind the Chapel is a handsome burying Ground wall'd in; there are also very good Gardens; In a Word, it is the noblest Foundation, and most considerable single Piece of Charity that has been erected in *England* since *Sutton's* Hospital in *London*: I call it single, because it has been built and endow'd by one single Hand; the Situation is very Pleasant, and the Air very Healthy and Good.

There is erected over the Gate, since Sir *John's* Death, his Statue in Stone, set up by his

Lady, and since her Death, her own is set up near it, by the Trustees ; she having been a Benefactress to the Foundation many Ways since his Decease.

There is a Velvet Pall given, by her Ladyship in particular, to be laid up in the Chapel for the Use of the Gentlemen ; as also a large Quantity of Communion-Plate, and the Chaplain is oblig'd to read Prayers twice every Day, *viz.* at Eleven a Clock, and at Three ; at which all the Pensioners are oblig'd to attend.

On the other side of the Heath, North, is *Charleton*, a Village famous, or rather infamous, for that yearly collected Rabble of Mad-People, at *Horn-Fair* ; the Rudeness of which I cannot but think, is such as ought to be suppress'd, and indeed in a civiliz'd well-govern'd Nation, it may well be said to be unsufferable. The Mob indeed at that time take all kinds of Liberties, and the Women are especially Impudent for that Day ; as if it was a Day that justify'd the giving themselves a Loose to all manner of Indecency and Immodesty, without any Reproach, or without suffering the Censure which such Behaviour would deserve at another time.

The Introduction of this rude Assembly, or the Occasion of it, I can meet with very little Account of, in Antiquity ; and I rather recommend it to the publick Justice to be suppress'd, as a Nuisance and Offence to all sober People, than to spend any time to enquire into its Original.

There

( 7 )

There are some very good Houses lately built in this Town, and abating the Rabble and Hurry of the 19th of *October* as above, 'tis indeed a very pleasant Village; standing on the top of a high Hill, yet shelter'd on one side by *Shooter's-Hill*, which is much higher, and on the other side, over-looking the Marshes and the River *Thames*, on which it has a very agreeable Prospect from *London* almost to *Gravesend*.

Thro' this Town lies the Road to *Woolwich*, a Town on the Bank of the same River, wholly taken up by, and in a manner rais'd from, the Yards and publick Works, erected there for the publick Service. Here, when the Business of the Royal Navy encreas'd, and Queen *Elizabeth* built larger and greater Ships of War than were usually employ'd before, new Docks and Launches were erected, and Places prepared, for the building and repairing Ships of the largest Size; because, as here was a greater Depth of Water, and a freer Channel than at *Deptford*, (where the chief Yard in the River of *Thames* was before) so there was less Hazard in the great Ships going up and down; the Croud of Merchant-Ships at *Deptford*, being always such, as that it could not be so safe to come up thither, as to put in at *Woolwich*.

At this Dock the *Royal-Sovereign* was built, once the largest Ship in the whole Royal Navy, and in particular esteem'd, for so large a Ship, the best Sailor in the World. Here also was rebuilt the *Royal-Prince*, now call'd the *Queen*, a First Rate, carrying a Hundred Guns, and

several others : Close under the *South-Shore* from the West-End of *Woolwich*, the *Thames* is very deep, and the Men of War lye there moor'd, and as, we call it, laid up ; their Top-masts, and all their small Rigging taken down and laid in Ware-Houses ; this reaches as high as the Point over-against *Bow-River*, and is call'd *Bugby's-Hole*.

The Docks, Yards, and all the Buildings belonging to it, are encompassed with a high Wall, and are exceeding Spacious and Convenient ; and are also prodigious full of all manner of Stores of Timber, Plank, Masts, Pitch, Tar, and all manner of Naval Provisions to such a Degree, as is scarce to be calculated.

Besides the Building-Yards, here is a large Rope-Walk, where the biggest Cables are made for the Men of War ; and on the East or lower Part of the Town is the Gun-Yard or Place set apart for the great Guns belonging to the *Ships*, commonly call'd the *Park*, or the *Gun-Park* ; where is a prodigious Quantity of all manner of Ordnance-Stores, such as are fit for Sea-Service, that is to say, Cannon of all Sorts for the Ships of War, every Ship's Guns by themselves ; heavy Cannon for Batteries, and Mortars of all Sorts and Sizes ; in-fomuch that, as I was inform'd, here has been sometimes laid up at one time between seven and eight Thousand Pieces of Ordnance, besides Mortars and Shells without Number.

Here

Here also is the House where the Firemen and Engineers prepare their Fireworks, charge Bombs, Carcasses, and Grenades for the publick Service, in time of War; and here, (if I remember right, it was, in the time of a *Dutch* War) by Mischance, the Fire in their Lab'ratory took hold of some Combustibles, which spreading, fir'd first a Bomb or Shell, and the bursting of that Shell blew up all the Works with such a terrible Blast and Noise, as shook and shatter'd the whole Town of *Woolwich* almost in pieces, and terrify'd the People to the last Degree, but kill'd no Person as I heard of, except about Eleven Men who were in or near the Fireworking House, where it first took hold.

In this Park, close on the South Bank of the River, a large Battery of Forty Pieces of heavy Cannon was rais'd, to have saluted the *Dutch*, if they had thought fit to have ventur'd up the River in 1667. as was given out they would when they burnt our Ships at *Chatham*; and large Furnaces and Forges were erected to have furnish'd the Gunners with red hot Bullets for that Service; but the *Dutch* had no Design that way, and did their Business with far less Hazard, and as much to our Disgrace in another Place.

Here is usually a Guardship Riding, especially in time of Service; also here is a large Hulk made of the Carcass of an old Man of War, sufficiently large for setting the Masts of the biggest Ships in the Navy. The *Thames* is here at high Water near a Mile over, and the Water Salt upon the Flood; and as the Chanel lyes strait East and West for about Three Miles, the Tide runs very strong; 'tis  
entire-



entirely free from Shoals and Sands, and has seven or eight Fathom Water, so that the biggest Ships, and a great many of them, might ride here with safety even at low Water.

From this Town there is little remarkable upon the River, till we come to *Gravesend*, the whole Shore being low, and spread with Marshes and unhealthy Grounds, except with small Intervals, where the Land bends inward as at *Eritb*, *Greenhitb*, *North-Fleet*, &c. in which Places the Chalk Hills come close to the River, and from thence the City of *London*, the adjacent Counties, and, even *Holland* and *Flanders*, are supply'd with Lime for their Building, or Chalk to make Lime, and for other uses.

From these Chalky Cliffs on the River-side, the Rubbish of the Chalk, which crumbles away when they dig the larger Chalk for Lime, or, (as we might call it) the Chips of the Chalk, and which they must be at the Charge of removing to be out of their way, is bought and fetch'd away by Lighters and Hoys, and carry'd to all the Ports and Creeks in the opposite County of *Essex*, and even to *Suffolk* and *Norfolk*, and sold there to the Country Farmers to lay upon their Land; and that in prodigious Quantities; and so is it valued by the Farmers of those Counties, that they not only give from two Shillings and six Pence, to four Shillings a Load for it, according to the distance the Place is from the said Chalk-Cliffs; but they fetch it by Land-Carriage Ten Miles, nay Fifteen Miles up into the Country.

This is the Practice in all the Creeks and Rivers in *Essex*, even to *Malden*, *Colchester*, the *Nase*;

*Nase*, and into *Harwich* Harbour up to *Maning-tree*, and to *Ipswich*; as also in *Suffolk*, to *Albro*, *Orford*, *Dunwich*, *Swold*; and as high as *Yarmouth* in *Norfolk*.

Thus the Barren Soil of *Kent*, for such the Chalky Grounds are esteem'd, make the *Essex* Lands Rich and Fruitful, and the mixture of Earth forms a Composition, which out of Two Barren Extrems, makes One prolifick Medium; the strong Clay of *Essex* and *Suffolk* is made Fruitful by the soft meliorating melting Chalk of *Kent*, which fattens and enriches it.

On the back-side of these Marshy Grounds in *Kent* at a small distance, lyes the Road from *London* to *Dover*, and on that Highway, or near it, several good Towns; for Example, *Eltham*, formerly a Royal Palace when the Court was kept at *Greenwich*; and Queen *Elizabeth*, who (as before) was Born at *Greenwich*, was often carry'd, as they say, to *Eltham* by her Nurses to suck in the wholesome Air of that agreeable Place; but at present there are few or no Signs of the old Palace to be seen.

It is now a pleasant Town, very handsomely Built, full of good Houses; and many Families of rich Citizens inhabit here: (As I observ'd of the Villages adjacent to *London* in other Counties) So it is here, they bring a great deal of good Company with them: Also, abundance of Ladies of very good Fortunes dwell here, and one sees at the Church such an Appearance of the Sex, as is surprising; but 'tis complain'd of, that the Youths of these Families where those Beauties grow, are so generally or almost universally bred

bred Abroad, either in *Turkey, Italy, or Spain*, as Merchants, or in the Army or Court as Gentlemen; that for the Ladies to live at *Eltham*, is, as it were, to live Recluse, and out of Sight; since to be kept where the Gentlemen do not come, is all one as to be kept where they cannot come. This they say threatens *Eltham* with a fatal Turn, unless the Scene alters in a few Years, and they tell us, that all the Ladies will abandon the Place.

In the Neighbourhood of this Place at *LUSUM*, Sir *John Lethulier*, a *Turkey* Merchant, liv'd for many Years, and to a great Age, and has establish'd his Family in the separate Houses of three or four several Sons, to all which he has left Plentiful Estates in this Country, but especially in *Essex*, where his eldest Son has a very noble Seat, and Estate near *Barking*.

From this side of the Country, all Pleasant and Gay, we go over *Shooter's Hill*, where the Face of the World seems quite alter'd; for here we have but a Chalky Soil, and indifferently Fruitful, far from Rich; much overgrown with Wood, especially Coppice-Wood, which is cut for Faggots and Bavins, and sent up by Water to *London*. Here they make those Faggots which the Wood-mongers call *Ostrey-Wood*, and here in particular those small light Bavins which are used in Taverns in *London* to light their Faggots, and are call'd in the Taverns a Brush, the Wood-men call them Pimps; 'tis incredible what vast Quantities of these are lay'd up at *Woolwich, Erith, and Dartford*; but since the Taverns in *London* are come to make Coal-Fires in their upper Rooms; that  
Cheat

Cheat of a Trade declines; and tho' that Article would seem to be trifling in it self, 'tis not trifling to observe what an Alteration it makes in the Value of those Woods in *Kent*, and how many more of them than usual are yearly stubb'd up, and the Land made fit for the Plow.

As I passed, I saw *Gravesend* from the Hills, but having been often in the Town, I know enough to be able to say, that there is nothing considerable in it; except first that it is the Town where the great *Ferry*, (as they call it) is kept up between *London* and *East Kent*: It is hardly credible what Numbers of People pass here every Tide, as well by Night as by Day, between this Town and *London*: Almost all the People of *East Kent*, when they go for *London*, go no farther by Land than this Town; and then for Six-pence in the Tilt-boat, or One Shilling in a small Boat or Wherry, are carried to *London* by Water.

About 25 Years ago one of these Tilt-boats was cast away, occasion'd by the desperate Obstinacy and Rudeness of the Steers-man, or Master, as they call him, who would tack again, and stand over upon a Wind, in the Reach call'd *Long-Reach*, contrary to the Advice and Intreaties, not of the Passengers only, but of his own Rowers, who told him it blew a Storm, and she would founder; but he call'd them Fools, bid the Wind *Blow Devil*, (a rude Sailor's Proverb) *the more Wind the better Boat*, till coming into the Chanel where the Sea ran very high, he took in a Wave, or a Sea, as they call it, which run her down, and founder'd her, as was foretold; and himself and three and Fifty  
Passengers

Passengers were all drown'd, only about five escaping by Swimming.

The other Thing for which this Town is worth notice, is, that all the Ships which go to Sea from *London*, take, as we say, their Departure from hence; for here all Outward-bound Ships must stop, come to an Anchor, and suffer what they call a second Clearing, (*viz.*) here a Searcher of the Customs comes on Board, looks over all the Coquets or Entries of the Cargo, and may, if he pleases, rumage the whole Loading, to see if there are no more Goods than are enter'd; which however they seldom do, tho' they forget not to take a Compliment for their Civility, and, besides being well treated on Board, have generally Three or Five Guns fir'd in Honour to them when they go off.

The Method of causing all Ships to stop here before they go, is worth observing, and is as follows:

When a Merchant-Ship comes down from *London*, (if they have the Tide of Ebb under Foot, or a fresh Gale of Wind from the West, so that they have, what they call Fresh-Way, and the Ships come down apace,) they generally hand some of their Sails, haul up a Fore-Sail or Main-Sail, or lower the Fore-top-Sail, so to flaken her way, as soon as they come to the *Old Man's Head*; when they open the Reach, which they call *Gravesend* Reach, which begins about a Mile and half above the Town, they do the like, to signify that they intend to bring too, as the Sailors call it, and come to an Anchor.

As soon as they come among the Ships that are riding in the Road, (as there are always a great many) the Centinel at the Block-House, as they call it, on *Gravesend* side, fires his Musquet, which is to tell the Pilot he must *bring too*; if he comes on, as soon as the Ship passes Broad-side with the Block-House, the Centinel fires again, which is as much as to say, why don't you *bring too*? if he drives a little farther, he fires a third Time, and the Language of that is, *Bring too immediately, and let go your Anchor, or We will make you.*

If the Ship continues to drive down, and does not let go her Anchor, the Gunner of the Fort is fetch'd, and he fires a Piece of Cannon tho' without Ball; and that is still a Threat, tho' with some Patience, and is to say, *Will you come to an Anchor, or won't you?* If he still ventures to go on, by which he gives them to understand he intends to run for it; then the Gunner fires again, and with a Shot, and that Shot is a Signal to the Fortrefs over the River, (*viz.*) *Tilbury Fort*, which I described in my Account of *Essex*) and they immediately let fly at the Ship from the Guns on the East Bastion; and after from all the Guns they can bring to bear upon her; it is very seldom that a Ship will venture their Shot, because they can reach her all the way unto the *Hope*, and round the *Hope-Point* almost to *Hole-Haven*.

Yet I happen'd once to be upon the Shore just by *Tilbury-Fort*, when a Ship ventur'd to run off in spight of all those Fireings; and it being just at the first Shoot of the Ebb, and when a great Fleet of light Colliers and other Ships were under Sail too; by that time, the Ship escaping

scaping came round the *Hope-Point*, she was so hid among the other Ships, that the Gunners on the *Bastion* hardly knew who to shoot at; upon which they Mann'd out several Boats with Soldiers, in hopes to overtake her, or to make Signals to some Men of War at the *Nore*, to Man out their Boats, and stop her, but she laugh'd at them all; for as it blew a fresh Gale of Wind at *South-West*, and a Tide of Ebb strong under her Foot, she went Three Foot for their One, and by that time the Boats got down to *Hole-Haven*, the Ship was beyond the *Nore*, and as it grew Dark, they soon lost Sight of her, nor could they ever hear to this Day what Ship it was, or on what Account she ventur'd to run such a Risque.

Another time I was with some Merchants in a large Yatch, bound to *France*; they had a great quantity of Block-Tin on board, and other Goods, which had not been enter'd at the *Custom-House*; and the Master or Captain told us, he did not doubt but he would pass by *Gravesend* without coming to an Anchor; he lay, when this Thought came into his Head, at an Anchor in *Gray's Reach*, just above the *Old Man's Head*, mention'd above, which is a Point or Head of Land on the *Essex* Shore, which makes the bottom of *Gray's Reach*, and the upper End of *Gravesend Reach*: He observ'd that the Mornings were likely to be exceeding Foggy; particularly on the Morning next after his Resolution of Trying there was so thick a Fog, that it was scarce possible to see from the Main-Mast to the Bow-Sprit, even of a *Hoy*; it being High-water, he resolv'd to weigh and drive, as he call'd it, and so he did: When he came among the other  
Ships

Ships and over against the Town, his greatest Danger was running foul of them, to prevent which he kept a Man lying on his Belly at the Bow-sprit End, to look out, and so tho' not without some Danger too, he went clear: As for *Gravesend* or *Tilbury-Fort*, they could see no more of us than they could of *London-Bridge*; and we drove in this Fog undiscern'd by the Forts or Custom-House Men, as low as *Hole-Haven*, and went afterwards clear away to *Caen* in *Normandy* without being visited.

But such attempts as these, are what would very hardly be brought to pass again now, nor is the Risque worth any body's running if the value be Considerable that may be lost; and therefore one may venture to say, that all the Ships which go out of the River from *London*, are first cleared here, even the empty *Colliers* and *Coasters* go on Shore, and give an Account who they are, and take a Signal from the Custom-House Office, and pay Six-Pence, and then pass on: As for Ships coming in, they all go by here without any notice taken of them, unless it be to put Waiters on board them, if they are not supply'd before.

From *Gravesend* we see nothing Remarkable on the Road but *GAD'S-HILL*, a noted Place for robbing of Sea-Men after they have receiv'd their pay at *Charham*. Here it was that Famous Robbery was committed in the Year 1676, or thereabouts; it was about Four a Clock in the Morning when a Gentleman was robb'd by one *Nicks* on a Bay Mare, just on the declining part of the Hill, on the



West-side, for he swore to the Spot and to the Man; Mr. Nicks, who robb'd him, came away to *Gravesend*, immediately ferry'd over, and, as he said, was stop'd by the Difficulty of the Boat, and of the Passage, near an Hour; which was a great discouragement to him, but was a kind of Bait to his Horse: From thence he rode cross the County of *Essex*, thro' *Tilbury*, *Hornden*, and *Bilerecay* to *Chelmsford*: Here he stopp'd about half an Hour to refresh his Horse, and gave him some Balls; from thence to *Braintre*, *Bocking*, *Wethersfield*; then over the Downs to *Cambridge*, and from thence keeping still the cross Roads, he went by *Fenny Stanton* to *Godmanchester* and *Huntington*, where he baited himself and his Mare about an Hour; and, as he said himself, slept about half an Hour, then holding on the *North Road*, and keeping a full large Gallop most of the way, he came to *York* the same Afternoon; put off his Boots and riding Cloths, and went dress'd as if he had been an Inhabitant of the Place, not a Traveller, to the Bowling-Green, where among other Gentlemen was the Lord Mayor of the City; he singling out his Lordship, studied to do something particular that the Mayor might remember him by, and accordingly lays some odd *Bett* with him concerning the Bowls then running, which should cause the Mayor to remember it the more particularly; and then takes Occasion to ask his Lordship what a Clock it was; who pulling out his Watch, told him the Hour, which was a quarter before, or a quarter after Eight at Night.

Some

Some other Circumstances it seems he carefully brought into their Discourse, which should make the Lord Mayor remember the Day of the Month exactly, as well as the Hour of the Day.

Upon a Prosecution which happen'd afterwards for this Robbery, the whole Merit of the Case turn'd upon this single Point: The Person robb'd swore as above to the Man, to the Place, and to the Time, in which the Fact was committed: Namely, That he was robb'd on *Gad's-Hill* in *Kent*, on such a Day, and at such a Time of the Day, and on such a Part of the Hill, and that the Prisoner at the Bar was the Man that robb'd him: *Nicks*, the Prisoner denied the Fact, call'd several Persons to his Reputation, alledg'd that he was as far off as *Yorkshire* at that Time, and that particularly the Day whereon the Prosecutor swore he was robb'd, he was at *Bowles* on the publick Green in the City of *York*; and to support this, he produced the Lord Mayor of *York* to testify that he was so, and that he the Mayor acted so and so with him there as above.

This was so positive, and so well attested, that the Jury acquitted him on a bare Supposition, that it was impossible the Man could be at two Places so remote on one and the same Day. There are more Particulars related of this Story, such as I do not take upon me to affirm; namely, That King *Charles II.* prevailed on him on Assurance of Pardon, and that he should not be brought into any farther Trouble about it, to confess the Truth to him privately, and that he own'd to his Ma-

jestly that he committed the Robbery, and how he rode the Journey after it, and that upon this the King gave him the Name or Title of *Swift Nicks*, instead of *Nicks*; but these Things, I say, I do not relate as certain: I return to the Business in Hand.

From *Gad s-Hill* we come to *Rocheſter-Bridge*, the largest, highest, and the strongest built of all the Bridges in *England*, except *London-Bridge*; some indeed say, the Bridge of *Newcastle* upon *Tyne*, exceeds all the Bridges in *England* for strength; and it is indeed very firm and wide, and has a Street of Houses upon it like *London-Bridge*, and a Gate in the middle as large as a little Castle, of which in its Place; but then it is neither so high nor so long as this Bridge at *Rocheſter*.

*Rocheſter*, *Stroud*, and *Chatham*, are Three distinct Places, but Contiguous, except the Interval of the River between the two first, and a very small Marsh or Vacancy between *Rocheſter* and *Chatham*.

There's little remarkable in *Rocheſter*, except the Ruins of a very old Castle, and an ancient, but not extraordinary Cathedral; but the River, and its Appendices are the most considerable of the kind in the World. This being the Chief Arsenal of the Royal Navy of *Great Britain*. The Buildings here are indeed like the Ships themselves, surprisngly large, and in their several kinds Beautiful: The Ware-Houses, or rather Streets of Ware-Houses, and Store-Houses for laying up the Naval Treasure, are the largest in Dimension, and the most in Number that are any where to be seen in the World: The Rope-Walks

Walks for making Cables, and the Forges for Anchors and other Iron-Work, bear a proportion to the rest; as also the Wet-Dock for keeping Masts, and Yards of the greatest size, where they lye sunk in the Water to preserve them, the Boat-Yard, the Anchor-Yard; all like the whole monstrously great and extensive, and are not easily described.

We come next to the Stores themselves, for which all this Provision is made; and *first*, To begin with the Ships that are laid up there: The Sails, the Rigging, the Ammunition, Guns, Great and Small-Shot, Small-Arms, Swords, Cutlasses, Half-Pikes, with all the other Furniture belonging to the Ships that Ride at their Moorings in the River *Medway*: These take up one Part of the Place, having separate Buildings, and Store-Houses appropriated to them, where the Furniture of every Ship lies in particular Ware-Houses by themselves, and may be taken out on the most hasty Occasion without Confusion, Fire excepted.

*N. B.* The Powder is generally carry'd away to particular Magazines to avoid disaster.

Besides these, there are Store-Houses for laying up the Furniture, and Stores for Ships; but which are not appropriated, or do not belong (*as it is express'd by the Officers*) to any particular Ship; but lye ready to be delivered out for the Furnishing other Ships to be Built, or for Repairing and Supplying the Ships already there, as Occasion may require.

For this purpose there are separate and respective Magazines of *Pitch, Tarr, Hemp, Flax, Tow, Rosin, Oyl, Tallow*; also of *Sail-Cloth, Canvas, Anchors, Cables, Standing and*

Running Rigging, ready fitted, and Cordage not fitted; with all kinds of *Ship-Chandlery-Necessaries*, such as Blocks, Tackles, Runners, &c. with the Cooks, Boatswains, and Gunners Stores, and also Anchors of all sizes, Grappells, Chains, Bolts, and Spikes, Wrought and Unwrought Iron, Cast-Iron Work, such as *Potts, Caldrons, Furnaces, &c.* also Boats, Spare-Masts and Yards; with a great quantity of Lead, and Nails, and other Necessaries, (too many to be enumerated) whose Store looks as if it were inexhaustible.

To observe these Things deliberately, one wou'd almost wonder what Ships they were, and where they should be found, which cou'd either for Building, or Repairing, Fitting, or Refitting, call for such a quantity of all those Things; but when, on the other hand, one sees the Ships, and considers their Dimension, and consequently the Dimension of all Things which belong to them; how Large, how Strong every Thing must be; how much of the Materials must go to the making every Thing proportionable to the Occasion, the Wonder would change its prospect, and one would be as much amaz'd to think how and where they should be supply'd.

The Particular Government of these Yards, as they are call'd, is very Remarkable, the Commissioners, Clerks, Accomptants, &c. within Doors, the Store-Keepers, Yard-Keepers, Dock-Keepers, Watchmen, and all other Officers without Doors, with the Subordination of all Officers one to another respectively, as their Degrees and Offices require, is Admirable.

table. The Watchmen are set duly every Night at stated and certain Places, within the several Yards, with every one a Bell over his Head, which they Ring or Toll every Hour, giving so many Strokes as the Hour reckons, and then one taking it from another through every Part of the Yard, and of all the Yards, makes the Watching part be performed in a very exact and regular manner. In the River there is a Guard Boat, which, as the Main-Guard in a Garrison, goes the Grand-Rounds at certain Times, to see that every Centinel does his Duty on Board the Ships; these go by every Ship in the River, and see that the People on board are at their Post: If the Ship does not Challenge, that is to say, if the Man plac'd to look out does not call, *Who comes there?* the Guard-Boat boards them immediately, to examin who is deficient in their Duty.

They told us an odd Story of a Guard-Boat, which having not been challeng'd by the Person who ought to have been walking on the Forecastle of the Ship, boarded them on the Bow, and as the Boat's Crew was entering the Ship by the Fore-Chains, they found a Man fallen over-board, but the Lap of his Coat catching in a Block, was drawn so hard in by the running of the Rope in the Block, that it held the Man fast; but he was fallen so low, that his Head and Arms hung in the Water, and he was almost drown'd: However it seems he was not quite Dead; so that catching hold of him, and pulling him out of the Water, they saved his Life: But they added, as the main part of the Story, that the Man

could never give any Account of his Disaster, or how he came to fall over-board; only said, That it must be the Devil that threw him over-board, for nothing else could do it. How true this Passage may be, I do not undertake to enter upon the Debate of.

The Expedition that has been sometimes used here in fitting out Men of War, is very great, and as the Workmen relate it, 'tis indeed incredible; particularly, they told us, That the *Royal Sovereign*, a First Rate of 106 Guns, was riding at her Moorings, entirely unrigg'd, and nothing but her Three Masts standing, as is usual when a Ship is lay'd up, and that she was compleatly rigg'd; all her Masts up, her Yards put too, her Sails bent, Anchors and Cables on Board, and the Ship sail'd down to *Black-Stakes* in three Days, *Sir Cloudefly Shovell* being then her Captain.

I do not vouch the Thing, but when I consider, first, that every thing lay ready in her Store-Houses, and wanted nothing but to be fetch'd out and carry'd on Board; a Thousand or Fifteen Hundred Men to be employ'd in it, and more if they were wanted; and every Man knowing his Business perfectly well, Boats, Carriages, Pullies, Tackles, Cranes, and Hulk all ready, I do not know, but it might be done in one Day, if it was try'd; certain it is, the Dexterity of the *English* Sailors in those things, is not to be match'd by the World.

The Building-Yards, Docks, Timber-Yard, Deal-Yard, Mast-Yard, Gun-Yard, Rope-Walks; and all the other Yards and Places, set apart for the Works belonging to the Navy, are like a well ordered City; and tho' you

you see the whole Place as it were in the utmost Hurry, yet you see no Confusion, every Man knows his own Business; the Master Builders appoint the Working, or Converting, as they call it, of every Piece of Timber, and give to the other Head Workmen, or Foreman their Moulds for the Squaring and Cutting out of every Piece, and placing it in its proper Byrth (so they call it) in the Ship that is in Building, and every Hand is busy in pursuing those Directions, and so in all the other Works.

It is about Sixteen or Eighteen Miles from *Rochester* Bridge to *Sheerness* Fort by Water, on the River *Medway*, of this it is about Fourteen Miles to *Black-Stakes*, the Chanel is so deep all the way, the Banks so soft, and the Reaches of the River so short, that in a Word, 'tis the safest and best Harbour in the World; and we saw two Ships of Eighty Guns, each riding a float at Low-Water, within Musquet-shot of *Rochester* Bridge. The Ships ride as in a Mill-Pond, or a Wet-Dock, except that being Moor'd at the Chains, they swing up and down with the Tide; but as there is room enough, so they are moor'd in such manner, that they cannot swing foul of one another; 'tis as safe (I say) as in a Wet Dock, nor did I ever hear of any Accident that befel any of the King's Ships here, I mean by Storms and Weather; except in that dreadful Tempest in 1703, when one Ship, (*viz.*) the *Royal Catherine*, was driven on Shoar, and receiving some Damage sunk, and the Ship also being old, could not be weigh'd again; but this was such a Storm as never was known before,  
and



and 'tis hoped the like may never be known again.

There are two Castles on the Shore of this River, the one at *Upnor*, where there is a good Platform of Guns, and which guards two Reaches of the River, and is supposed to defend all the Ships which ride above, between that and the Bridge; also on the other Shore is *Gillingham* Castle, form'd for the same Purpose, and well furnish'd with Guns which command the River, besides which there is a Fort or Platform of Guns at a Place call'd the *Swamp*, and another at *Cockham* Wood. But all these are added, or at least Additions made to them, since the time that the *Dutch* made that memorable Attempt upon the Royal Navy in this River (*viz.*) on the 22d of *June*, in the Year 1667; for at that time all was left unguarded, and, as it were, secure; there were but Four Guns that could be used at *Upnor*, and scarce so many at *Gillingham*, the Carriages being rotten and broke; and in a Word, every thing concurring to invite the Enemy. There were about Twelve Guns at the Isle of *Shepey*, where since, *Sheerness* Fort is built; but the *Dutch* soon beat them from those Guns, and made the Place too hot for them, dismounting also most of the Guns, after which they went boldly up to *Black-Stakes* with their whole Squadron; and after that Seven of their biggest Men of War went up as high as *Upnor*, where they did what Mischief they could, and went away again, carrying off the *Royal Charles*, a First Rate Ship of 100 Guns, and burning the *London*, and several others, besides the damaging most of the

the Ships which were within their reach; and all things consider'd, it was a Victory, that they went away without ruining all the rest of the Navy that was in that River.

But as this is a dull Story in it self, so it is none of my present Business, farther than to introduce what follows; namely, That this Allarm gave *England* such a Sense of the Consequence of the River *Medway*, and of the Docks and Yards at *Chatham*, and of the Danger the Royal Navy lay expos'd to there, that all these Doors which were open then, are lock'd up and sufficiently barr'd since that time; and 'tis not now in the Power of any Nation under Heaven, no, tho' they should be Masters at Sea, unless they were Masters at Land too at the same time, to give us such another Affront; for besides all the Castles, Lines of Guns, and Platforms on each side the River *Medway*, as we go up, as above; there is now a Royal Fort built at the Point of the Isle of *Shepey*, call'd *Sheerness*, which guards that Entrance into the River: This is a regular, and so compleat a Fortification, and has such a Line of Heavy Cannon commanding the Mouth of the River, that no Man of War, or Fleet of Men of War would attempt to pass by as the *Dutch* did; or at least cou'd not effect it without hazard of being torn to pieces by those Batteries.

*SHEERNESS* is not only a Fortress, but a kind of Town with several Streets in it, and Inhabitants of several sorts; but chiefly such whose business obliges them to reside here: The Officers of the Ordnance have here Apartments, and an Office; they being often oblig'd

oblig'd to be here many Days together ; especially in time of War, when the Rendezvous of the Fleet is at the *Nore*, to see to the furnishing every Ship with Military Stores as need requires, and to Cheque, the Officers of the Ships in their Demands of those Stores, and the like.

Here is also a Yard for building Ships, with a Dock ; the reason of which, is to repair any Ship speedily that may meet with any Accident, either riding at the *Nore*, or in any Service at Sea near the River. But then 'tis to be observ'd, that those are but for Fifth and Sixth Rate Ships, small Frigats, Yatches, and such Vessels ; at biggest, nothing above a Fourth Rate can come in here. The *Sheerness* Galley, as I am told, was built here, and had her Name on that Occasion. This Yard is a late thing also, and built many Years since the Fort.

This Fort Commands only the Entrance into the *Medway*, or that Branch of the *Medway*, properly which they call the *West-Swale* : The *East-Swale*, not Navigable by Ships of Force, goes in by the Town of *Queenborough*, passèd East, makes the Isle of *Shepey*, parting it on the South side, and opens to the Sea, near *Feverham*, and *Swale-Cliff*, and is therefore of small Consequence : As for the Expression of a certain Author, that *Sheerness* divides the Mouth of the Two Rivers, *Thames* and *Medway*, tis not said for want of Ignorance, and cannot be true in fact ; the Mouth of the *Medway* opening into the *Thames*, and the Mouth of the *Thames*, not being within Twenty Miles of it, (*viz.*) from the *Nase* and *North-Foreland*.

At

At the *South-West* Point of the Isle of *Shepey*, where the *East-Swale* parts from the *West*, and passés on, as above, stands a Town memorable for nothing, but that which is rather a dishonour to our Country than otherwise: Namely, *Queenborough*; a miserable dirty, decay'd, poor, pitiful, fishing Town; yet vested with Corporation Privileges, has a Mayor, Aldermen, &c. and his Worship the Mayor has his Mace carry'd before him to Church, and attended in as much State and Ceremony as the Mayor of a Town Twenty times as good: I remember, when I was there, Mr. Mayor was a Butcher, and brought us a Shoulder of Mutton to our Inn himself in Person, which we bespoke for our Dinner, and afterwards he sat down and drank a Bottle of Wine with us.

But that which is still worse, and which I meant in what I said before, is, that this Town sends two Burgesies to Parliament, as many as the Burrough of *Southwark*, or the City of *Westminster*: Tho' it may be presumed all the Inhabitants are not possess'd of Estates answerable to the Rent of one good House in either of those Places I last mentioned: The chief Business of this Town, as I could understand, consists in Ale-Houses, and Oyfter-Catchers.

Here we took Boat, and went up the *East Swale* to a Town, which lies as it were hid in the County, and among the Creeks; for 'tis out of the way, and almost out of sight, as well by Water as by Land, I mean *Milton*; it lyes up so many Creeks and Windings of the Water, that no body sees it by Water, but they

they who go on purpose out of the way to it; and as to the Road, it lyes also about a Mile on the Left-Hand of the Great Road, as we pass thro' *Sittingbourn*, so that no body sees it on that side neither, unless they go on purpose out of the Road to it; and yet it is a large Town, has a considerable Market, and especially for Corn, and Fruit, and Provisions, which they send to *London* by Water.

From hence following the Coast, and the Great Road together, *for they are still within view of one another*, we come to *Feversham*, a large Populous, and as some say, a rich Town: Tho' here is no particular remarkable Trade, either for Manufacture or Navigation; the principal business we found among them, was Fishing for Oysters, which the *Dutch* fetch hence in such extraordinary quantities, that when I was there, we found Twelve large *Dutch* Hoys and Doggers lying there to load Oysters; and sometimes, as they told us, there are many more: This is greatly to the Advantage of the Place, as it employs abundance of Men and Boats in Drudging for the Oysters, which they Catch in great plenty, in the Mouth of the *East Swale*; which, as I said above, enters in this Part of the Country into the Sea, and opens very wide.

It was at the Mouth of this *Swale*, namely, at *Shell-Ness*, so call'd from the abundance of Oyster-Shells always lying there, that the Smack in which the late King *James II.* was embark'd for his Escape into *France*, ran on shoar, and being boarded by the Fishermen, the King was taken Prisoner; and I must mention it to the Reproach of the People of *Feversham*,

*Feverham*, let the Conduct of that Unfortunate Prince be what it will, that the Fishermen and Rabble can never be excus'd, who treated the King, *even after they were told who he was*, with the utmost indecency, using his Majesty; (*for he was then their Sovereign, even in the acknowledged Sense of his Enemies*) I say, using him with such Indignity in his Person, such Insolence in their Behaviour, and giving him such Opprobrious and Abusive Language, and searching him in the rudest and most indecent manner, and indeed rifling him; that the King himself said, *he was never more apprehensive of his Life than at that time*. He was afterwards carried by them up to the Town, where he was not much better treated for some time, till some Neighbouring Gentlemen in the County came in, who understood their Duty better, by whom he was at least preserv'd from farther Violence, till Coaches and a Guard came from *London*, by the *Prince of Orange's* Order, to bring him with Safety and Freedom to *London*; where he was at least for the present much better received, as in the History of those Times is to be seen.

While I was near this Town some Years ago, a most surprizing Accident happen'd, namely, the blowing up of a Powder-Mill, which stood upon the River, close to the Town; the Blast was not only frightful, but it shatter'd the whole Town, broke the Windows, blew down Chimneys, and Gable-ends not a few; also several People were kill'd at the Powder-House it self, tho' not any, as I remember, in the Town: But what was most remarkable  
in

in it all, was, that the Eldest Son of the Master of the Powder-Mill, a Youth of about Fifteen Years of Age, who was not in the Mill, or near it, when it blew up; but in a Boat upon the River, rowing cross for his Diversion, was kill'd by a Piece of the building of the Mill, which blew up into the Air by the Force of the Powder, and fell down upon him in the Boat: I know nothing else this Town is remarkable for, except the most notorious Smuggling Trade, carried on partly by the Assistance of the *Dutch*, in their Oyster-Boats, and partly by other Arts, in which they say, the People hereabouts are arriv'd to such a Proficiency, that they are grown monstrous Rich by that wicked Trade; nay, even the Owling Trade (*so they call the Clandestine Exporting of Wool*) has seem'd to be transposed from *Rumney Marsh* to this Coast, and a great deal of it has been carried on between the Mouth of the *East Swale* and the *North Foreland*.

As to the landing Goods here from *Holland* and *France*, such as Wine and Brandy from the latter, and Pepper, Tea, Coffee, Callicoes, Tobacco, and such Goods, (the Duties of which being very high in *England*, had first been drawn back by Debentures) that black Trade has not only been carried on here, as I was informed, but on both sides the River, on the *Essex* as well as the *Kentish* Shores, of which I shall speak again in its place.

From this *East-Swale*, and particularly from these last Three Towns, *Queenborough*, *Milton*, and *Feverham*, the Fish-Market at *Billingsgate* is supply'd with several sorts of Fish; but particularly

ticularly with the best and largest Oysters, such as they call Stewing Oysters: which are generally call'd also *Milton* Oysters; some of which are exceeding large, as also with a very great quantity of others of a lesser size, as they are from the *Essex* Side, with a Smaller and Greener sort, call'd *Wallfleet*; so that the whole City of *London* is chiefly supplied with Oysters from this Part of the *Thames*.

From hence also are sent by Water to *London* very great quantities of Fruit; that is to say, Apples and Cherries; which are produc'd in this County, more than in any County in *England*, especially Cherries; and this leads me to cross the Hills from *Milton* to *Maidstone*, a Town on the River *Medway*, about Ten Miles distant.

This is a considerable Town, very populous, and the Inhabitants generally Wealthy; 'tis the County Town, and the River *Medway* is Navigable to it by large Hoys, of Fifty to Sixty Tuns Burthen, the Tide flowing quite up to the Town; round this Town are the largest Cherry Orchards, and the most of them that are in any Part of *England*; and the Gross of the quantity of Cherries, and the best of them which supply the whole City of *London* come from hence, and are therefore call'd *Kentish Cherries*.

Here likewise, and in the Country adjacent, are great quantities of Hops planted, and this is call'd the Mother of Hop-Grounds in *England*; being the first Place in *England* where Hops were planted in any quantity, and long before any were planted at *Canterbury*, tho' that be now supposed to be the Chief Place in  
C *England*,



*England*, as shall be observ'd in its Place: These were the Hops, I suppose, which were planted at the beginning of the Reformation, and which gave occasion to that Old Distich.

*Hops, Reformation, Bays, and Beer,  
Came into England all in a Year.*

*Maidstone* is eminent for the Plenty of Provisions, and richness of Lands in the Country all round it, and for the best Market in the County, not *Rocheſter*, no not *Canterbury* excepted.

From this Town, and the Neighbouring Parts, *London* is ſupplied with more Particulars than from any ſingle Market Town in *England*; which I mention in purſuance of my firſt Reſolution of obſerving, how every Part of *England* furniſhes ſomething to the City of *London*.

1. From the *Wild of Kent*, which begins but about Six Miles off, and particularly from that Part which lyes this way; they bring the large *Kentiſh* Bullocks, fam'd for being generally all Red, and with their Horns crooked inward, the two points ſtanding one directly againſt the other, they are counted the largeſt Breed in *England*.
2. From the ſame Country are brought great quantities of the largeſt Timber for ſupply of the King's Yards at *Chattham*, and often to *London*; moſt of which comes by Land Carriage to *Maidſtone*.
3. From the Country adjoining to *Maidſtone*, alſo is a very great quantity of Corn brought

brought up to *London*, besides *Hops* and *Cherries*, as above.

4. Also a kind of Paving Stone, about Eight to Ten Inches Square, so durable that it scarce ever wears out; 'tis used to pave Court-Yards, and Passages to Gentlemens Houses, being the same the *Royal Exchange* at *London* is pay'd with, which has never yet wanted the least Repair.
5. Also fine white Sand for the Glafs-Houses, esteem'd the best in *England* for melting into Flint-Glafs, and Looking Glafs-Plates; and for the Stationer's use also, vulgarly call'd Writing-Sand.
6. Also very great quantities of Fruit, such as *Kentish* Pipins, Runetts, &c. which come up as the Cherries do, whole Hoy-Loads at a time to the Wharf, call'd the *Three Cranes*, in *London*; which is the greatest Pipin Market-perhaps in the World.

At *Maidstone* you begin to converse with Gentlemen, and Persons of Rank of both Sexes, and some of Quality: All that side of the County which I have mentioned already, as it is Marshy, and unhealthy, by its Situation among the Waters; so is it imbarass'd with Business, and Inhabited chiefly by Men of Business, such as Ship-Builders; Fisher-Men, Seafaring-Men, and Husband-Men, or such as depend upon them, and very few Families of Note are found among them. But as soon as we come down *Boxley Hill*, from *Rochester*, or *Hollingbourn-Hill*, from *Milton*, and descend from the poor Chalky Downs, and deep

Foggy Marshes, to the wholesome rich Soil, the well wooded, and well water'd Plain on the Banks of the *Medway*, we find the Country every where Spangl'd with populous Villages, and delicious Seats of the Nobility and Gentry; and especially on the North-side of the River, beginning at *Aylesford*, on the *Medway*, and looking East towards the Sea: This *Aylesford* was formerly the Seat of Sir *John Barks*, and since descended, by his Daughter, to *Heneage Lord Finch*, Brother to the Earl of *Nottingham*, and created Earl of *Aylesford*, which Estate he came to in Right of his said Lady: The Country this way, I say, is full of Gentlemens Houses, reckoning from this *Aylesford*, below *Maidstone*, on the *Medway* to *Eastwell*, near *Ashford*, the Seat of the Earl of *Winchelsea*, another Noble Family of the Name of *Finch* also; tho' not nearly ally'd to the *Nottingham* House.

Among these are the Antient Families of *Fane*, *Colepeper*, *Deerham*, *Honywood*, *Wotton*, *Roberts*, *Hales*, and others, with some good Families extinct and gone, whose Names however remain in Memory.

This Neighbourhood of Persons of Figure and Quality, makes *Maidstone* a very agreeable Place to live in, and where a Man of Letters, and of Manners, will always find suitable Society, both to Divert and Improve himself; so that here is, what is not often found, namely, a Town of very great Business and Trade, and yet full of Gentry, of Mirth, and of good Company.

It is to be recorded here for the Honour of the Gentry in this Part of *England*; that tho' they

they are as Sociable and Entertaining as any People are, or can be desir'd to be, and as much fam'd for good Manners, and good Humour; yet the New Mode of forming Assemblies so much, and so fatally now in Vogue, in other Parts of *England*, could never prevail here; and that tho' there was an attempt made by some loose Persons, and the Gentlemen, and Ladies, did for a little while appear there; yet they generally dislik'd the practice, soon declin'd to give their Company, as to a Thing scandalous, and so it drop'd of course.

There is not much Manufacturing in this County; what is left, is chiefly at *Canterbury*, and in this Town of *Maidstone*, and the Neighbourhood; the Manufacture of this Town is principally in Thread, that is to say, Linnen Thread, which they make to pretty good perfection, tho' not extraordinary Fine. At *Cranbrook*, *Tenterden*, *Goudhurst*, and other Villages thereabout, which are also in the Neighbourhood of this Part, on the other side the *Medway*, there was once a very considerable Cloathing Trade carry'd on, and the Yeomen of *Kent*, of which so much has been fam'd, were generally the Inhabitants on that side, and who were much enrich'd by that Clothing Trade; but that Trade is now quite decay'd, and scarce Ten Clothiers left in all the County.

These Clothiers and Farmers, and the remains of them, upon the General Elections of Members of Parliament for the County, show themselves still there, being ordinarily 4 or 1500 Freeholders brought from this side of

the County; and who for the plainness of their appearance, are call'd the *Gray Coats of Kent*; but are so considerable, that who ever they Vote for is always sure to carry it, and therefore the Gentlemen are very careful to preserve their Interest among them.

This Town of *Maidstone* is a peculiar of the Archbishoprick of *Canterbury*, and the Archbishop for the time being, is the proper Incumbent, or Parson of the Parish, and puts in a Curate to officiate for him. Here is the County Goal also, and generally the Assizes, and always the Elections are held here: Here was a hot Action in the Time of the Civil Wars, between a Party of Gentlemen who took Arms for the King, and who being defeated here, march'd boldly towards *London*, as if they had intended to go directly thither; but turn'd short, and to their Enemies surprize, unexpectedly cross'd the *Thames*, and joining some *Essex* Gentlemen of the same Party, went to *Colchester*, where they suffered a furious Siege and Blockade; and defended the Town to the last Extremity, as you have seen in my Account of that Place.

In prosecution of my Journey *East*, I went from hence to *Canterbury*; of which Town and its Antiquities so much has been said, and so accurately, that I need do no more than mention it by Recapitulation; for, as I have said, the Antiquities, and Histories of particular Places is not my business here, so much as the present State of them. However I observe here,

1. That the first Christian Bishop, if not the first Christian Preacher, that ever came to  
*England,*

*England, (for I know not what to say to the Story of Joseph of Arimathea, and his Holy Thorn at Glassenbury) landed in this Country, and settled in this Place; I mean St. Augustin, sent over by Gregory, Bishop of Rome. This Gregory it seems was a true Primitive Christian Bishop of Rome; not such as since are called so; long before they assum'd the Title of Popes, or that usurpd Honour of Universal Bishop.*

2. That, Seven Bishops of *Canterbury*, from *St. Augustine*, inclusive of himself, lye bury'd here in one Vault.

3. That *Thomas Becket*, or *Thomas a Becket*, as some call him, Arch-Bishop of this See, and several Arch-Bishops before him, Plagued, Insulted, and Tyranniz'd over the Kings of *England*, their Sovereigns, in an unsufferable manner.

4. That the first of these, having made himself intolerable to King *Henry II*, by his Obstinacy, Pride and Rebellion, was here murder'd by the Connivance, and as some say, by the Express Order of the King, and that they shew his Blood upon the Pavement to this Day.

5. That he was afterwards Canoniz'd, and his Shrine made the greatest Idol of the World; and they show the Stone-Steps ascending to his Shrine, worn away to a slope, by the Knees of the Pilgrims, and Ignorant People who came thither to Pray to him, and to desire him to Pray for them.

6. That the Bodies of King *Henry IV*. and of *Edward the Black Prince* are buried here, and the Magnificent Effigies of the latter very curiously Carv'd and Engrav'd, lyes on his

Tomb, or Monument; also that King *Stephen* should have lain here, but on some scruple of the Monks, the Corpse was stopt short on the Road, and was afterwards buried at *Fever-sham*, about Seven Miles off. What the Monks objected, or whether they had no Money offered them, is not Recorded with the rest of the Story.

7. That the Immense Wealth offer'd by Votaries, and Pilgrims, for several Ages to the Altar, or Shrine of this Mock Saint, *Thomas Becket*, was such, that *Erasmus Roterdamus*, who was in the Repository and saw it, relates of it, *That the whole Place glitter'd and shone with Gold and Diamonds.*

8. That all this Immense Treasure, with the Lands and Revenues of the whole Monastery were seiz'd upon, and taken away by King *Henry VIII*, at the general Suppression of Religious Houses, except such as are annex'd to the Dean and Chapter, and to the Revenue of the Arch-bishoprick, which are not large.

The Church is a Noble Pile of building indeed, and looks Venerable and Majestick at a distance, as well as when we come nearer to it. The Old Monastery of all, with the Church there, Dedicated to *St. Augustine*, and in the Porch of which *St. Augustine* himself, with the Six Bishops above mention'd lye buried, stands at, or rather stood at a distance, and the Ruins of it shew the place sufficiently; what remains of the Old Buildings about *Christ-Church*, or the Cathedral, are principally the Cloyster, and the Bishop's Palace, which however is rather to be call'd a Building rais'd from the Old House, than a Part of it.

Under

Under the Church is a large Protestant *French* Church, given first by Queen *Elizabeth* to the *Walloons*, who fled hither from the Persecution of the Duke *D'Alva*, and the King of *France*; and whose Number has been since very much encreased by the particular Cruelty of *Lewis XIV.*

The Closs or Circumvallation, where the Houses of the Prebendaries, and other Persons belonging to this Cathedral stand, is very spacious and fair, and a great many very good Houses are Built in it, and some with good Gardens; where those Gentlemen live at large, and among whom a very good Neighbourhood is kept up; as for the Town, its Antiquity seems to be its greatest Beauty: The Houses are truly Antient, and the many Ruins of Churches, Chapels, Oratories, and smaller Cells of Religious People, makes the Place look like a general Ruin a little recover'd.

The City, will scarce bear being call'd Populous, were it not for Two or Three Thousand *French* Protestants, which, including Men, Women and Children, they say there are in it, and yet they tell me the Number of these decreases Daily.

The Employment of those Refugees was chiefly *Broad Silk Weaving*; but that Trade was so decay'd before the first Act for Prohibiting the Wearing of *East-India* Silks pass'd, that there were not Twenty Broad Looms left in the City, of near Three Hundred that had formerly been there; upon the Passing that Act, the Trade reviv'd again, and the Number of Master Work-Men encreased, and the



the Masters encreased; and the Masters which were there before, encreasing their Works also, the Town fill'd again, and a great many Looms were employ'd; but after this by the encroaching of the Printed Callicoes, Chints, &c. and the prevailing of the Smuggling Trade as above, the Silk Trade decay'd a Second time. But now the Use and Wear of printed Callicoes and Chints, being by Act of Parliament severely prohibited, 'tis expected the Silk Trade at *Canterbury* will revive a Third time, and the Inhabitants promise themselves much from it.

But the great Wealth and Encrease of the City of *Canterbury*, is from the surprizing Encrease of the Hop-Grounds all round the Place; it is within the Memory of many of the Inhabitants now living, and that none of the oldest neither, that there was not an Acre of Ground planted with Hops in the whole Neighbourhood, or so few as not to be worth naming; whereas I was assured that there are at this time near Six Thousand Acres of Ground so planted, within a very few Miles of the City; I do not vouch the Number, and I confess it seems incredible, but I deliver it as I receiv'd it.

It is observ'd that the Ground round this City proves more particularly fruitful for the growth of Hops than of any other production, which was not at first known; but which, upon its being discover'd, set all the World, *speaking in the Language of a Neighbourhood*, a digging up their Grounds and Planting; so that now they may say without boasting, there is at *Canterbury* the greatest Plantation of Hops in the whole Island. The

The River *Stour* was made Navigable to this City, by virtue of an Act of Parliament in the Reign of King *Henry VIII.* but the Person who undertook it, not meeting with Encouragement, and failing in the carrying it on, the Locks and Sluices are all run to decay, and the Citizens are oblig'd to fetch all their heavy Goods, either from *Fordwich*, Three Miles off, or from *Whitstable* Seven Miles off; the latter they chuse for such heavy Goods as come from *London*; as Oyl, Wine, Grocery, &c. because 'tis the less hazard by Sea; but as for Coals, Deals, &c. they come by way of *Sandwich*, and are brought up the River to *Fordwich*, as above.

In the Neighbourhood of this City are some Antient Families, as *Sir Tho. Hales*, the Lord *Strangford*, *Sir Henry Oxenden*, and several others, the two former *Roman*; also *Sir George Rook*, famous for his Services at Sea against the *French*; the last of which was in the *Streights*, where the *French* Fleet was Commanded by the Count *de Tourville*, Admiral of *France*; where both sides Fought with such equal Gallantry, and Resolution, and the Strength of the Fleets were so equal, tho' the *French* the most in Number of the two, that neither seem'd to seek a second Engagement; and of which the following Lines were made by some of the Merry Wits of that Time.

The

*The Great Tourville Sir George did Beat,*  
*The Great Sir George Beat him ;*  
*But if they chance again to meet,*  
*George will his Jacket trim :*  
*They both did Fight, they both did Beat,*  
*They both did run away ;*  
*They both did strive again to meet,*  
*The clean contrary way.*

The Shore from *Whitstable*, and the *East-Swale*, affords nothing remarkable but Sea-Marks, and small Towns on the Coast, till we come to *Margate* and the *North Foreland* ; the Town of *Margate* is Eminent for nothing that I know of, but for King *William's* frequently Landing here in his returns from *Holland*, and for Shipping a vast quantity of Corn for *London* Market, most, if not all of it, the Product of the Isle of *Thanet*, in which it stands.

On the *North-East* Point of this Land, is the Promontory, or Head-land which I have often mentioned, call'd the *North Foreland* ; which, by a Line drawn due *North* to the *Nase* in *Essex*, about Six Miles short of *Harwich*, makes the Mouth of the River of *Thames*, and the Port of *London* : As soon as any Vessels pass this *Foreland* from *London*, they are properly said to be in the open Sea ; if to the *North*, they enter the *German* Ocean, if to the *South*, the *Chanel*, as 'tis call'd, that is the Narrow Seas between *England* and *France* ; and all the Towns or Harbours before we come this length, whether on the *Kentish* or *Essex*

*Essex* Shoar, are call'd Members of the Port of *London*.

From this Point *Westward*, the First Town of note is *Ramsgate*, a small Port, the Inhabitants are mighty fond of having us call it *Roman's-Gate*; pretending that the *Romans* under *Julius Casar* made their first attempt to land here, when he was driven back by a Storm; but soon return'd, and coming on Shore, with a good Body of Troops beat back the *Britains*, and fortify'd his Camp, just at the Entrance of the Creek, where the Town now stands; all which may be true for ought any one knows, but is not to be prov'd, either by them or any one else; and is of so little concern to us, that it matters nothing whether here or at *Deal*, where others pretend it was.

It was from this Town of *Ramsgate*, that a Fellow of Gigantick Strength, tho' not of extraordinary Stature, came abroad in the World, and was call'd the *English Sampson*, and who suffer'd Men to fasten the strongest Horse they could find to a Rope, and the Rope round his Loins, sitting on the Ground, with his Feet strait out against a Post, and no Horse could stir him; several other Proofs of an incredible Strength he gave before the King, and abundance of the Nobility at *Kensington*, which no other Man could equal; but his History was very short, for in about a Year he disappear'd, and we heard no more of him since.

*Sandwich* is the next Town, lying in the bottom of a Bay, at the Mouth of the River  
*Stour*,

*Stour*, an old, decay'd, poor, miserable Town, of which when I have said that it is an Ancient Town, one of the Cinque Ports, and sends two Members to Parliament; I have said all that I think can be worth any bodies reading of the Town of *Sandwich*.

From hence to *Deal* is about — Miles. This Place is famous for the Road for Shipping, so well known all over the Trading World, by the Name of the *Downs*, and where almost all Ships which arrive from Foreign Parts for *London*, or go from *London* to Foreign Parts, and who pass the *Channel*, generally stop; the Homeward-bound to dispatch Letters, send their Merchants and Owners the good News of their arrival, and set their Passengers on Shoar, and the like; and the Outward-bound to receive their last Orders, Letters, and farewells from Owners, and Friends, take in fresh Provisions, &c.

Sometimes, and when the Wind presents fair, Ships do come in here, and pass thro' at once, without coming to an Anchor; for they are not oblig'd to stop, but for their own Convenience: This Place would be a very Wild and Dangerous Road for Ships, were it not for the *South Foreland*, a Head of Land forming the East Point of the *Kentish Shoar*; and is called, the *South*, as its Situation respects the *North Foreland*; and which breaks the Sea off, which would otherwise come rowling up from the West, this and a Flat, or the Bank of Sands, which for Three Leagues together, and at about a League, or League and half distance run parallel with the Shore, and are dry at low Water,

Water, these two, I say, break all the Force of the Sea, on the East and South, and South-West; so that the *Downs* is counted a very good Road.

And yet on some particular Winds, and especially, if they over-blow, the *Downs* proves a very wild Road; Ships are driven from their Anchors, and often run on Shoar, or are forced on the said Sands, or into *Sandwich-Bay*, or *Ramsgate-Peer*, as above, in great distress; this is particularly when the Wind blows hard at S. E. or at E. by N. or E. N. E. and some other Points; and terrible havock has been made in the *Downs* at such times.

But the most unhappy Account that can be given of any Disaster in the *Downs*, is in the time of that terrible Tempest, which we call by way of distinction, *The great Storm*, being on 27th of *November* 1703, unhappy in particular; for that there chanced just at that time to be a great part of the Royal Navy under *Sir Cloudesly Shovel*, just come into the *Downs*, in their way to *Chatham*, to be laid up.

Five of the biggest Ships had the good hap to push thro' the *Downs* the Day before, finding the Wind then blow very hard, and were come to an Anchor at the *Gunsheet*; and had they had but one fair Day more, they had been all safe at the *Nore*, or in the River *Medway* at *Blackstakes*.

There remain'd in the *Downs* about Twelve Sail when this terrible blast began, at which time *England* may be said to have received the greatest Loss that ever happen'd to the Royal Navy,

Navy at one time; either by Weather, by Enemies, or by any Accident whatsoever; the short account of it, as they shewed it me in the Town, I mean of what happened in the *Downs*, is as follows.

The *Northumberland*, a Third Rate, carrying 70 Guns, and 353 Men; the *Restoration* a Second Rate, carrying 76 Guns, and 386 Men; the *Sterling-Castle*, a Second Rate, carrying 80 Guns, and 400 Men, but had but 349 Men on board; and the *Mary*, a Third Rate, of 64 Guns, having 273 Men on board; these were all Lost, with all their Men, high and low; except only one Man, out of the *Mary*, and 70 Men out of the *Sterling-Castle*, who were taken up by Boats from *Deal*.

All this was besides the Loss of Merchants Ships, which was exceeding great, not here only, but in almost all the Ports in the *South*, and *West* of *England*; and also in *Ireland*, which I shall have occasion to mention again in another Place.

From hence we pass over a pleasant *Champion* Country, with the Sea, and the Coast of *France*, clear in your view; and by the very Gates of the Antient Castle (to the Town) of *Dover*: As we go, we pass by *Deal* Castle, and *Sandown* Castle, two small Works, of no Strength by Land, and not of much use by Sea; but however maintain'd by the Government for the Ordinary Services of Salutes, and protecting Small Vessels, which can lye safe under their Cannon from *Picaroons*, *Privateers*, &c. in time of War.

Neither

Neither *Dover* nor its Castle has any Thing of Note to be said of them, but what is in common with their Neighbours; the Castle is old, useless, decay'd, and serves for little; but to give the Title and Honour of Government to Men of Quality, with a Salary, and sometimes to those that want one.

The Town, is one of the *Cinque Ports*, sends Members to Parliament, who are call'd Barons, and has it self an ill repair'd, dangerous, and good for little Harbour and Peir, very chargeable and little worth: The Packets for *France* go off here, as also those for *Nieuport*, with the Mails for *Flanders*, and all those Ships which carry Freights from *New-York* to *Holland*, and from *Virginia* to *Holland*, come generally hither, and unlade their Goods, Enter them with, and show them to the Custom-House-Officers, pay the Duties, and then Enter them again by Certificate, Reload them, and draw back the Duty by Debenture, and so they go away for *Holland*.

In the time of the late War with *France*, here was a large Victualling-Office kept for the use of the Navy, and a Commissioner appointed to manage it, as there was also at *Chatham*, *Portsmouth*, and other Places; but this is now unemploy'd: The Duke of *Queensberry* in *Scotland*, who was Lord Commissioner to the Parliament there, at the time of making the Union, was after the said Union created Duke of *Dover*, which Title is possess'd now by his Son.

From this Place the Coast affords nothing of Note; but some other small *Cinque-Ports*, such as *Hith* and *Rumney*, and *Rye*; and as we pass to



them *Folkstone*, eminent chiefly for a multitude of Fishing-Boats belonging to it, which are one part of the Year employ'd in catching Mackarel for the City of *London*: The *Folkstone* Men catch them, and the *London* and *Barking* Mackarel-Smacks, of which I have spoken at large in *Essex*, come down and buy them, and fly up to Market with them, with such a cloud of Canvas, and up so high that one would wonder their small Boats cou'd bear it and should not overset: About *Michaelmas* these *Folkstone* Barks, among others from *Shoreham*, *Brightelmston* and *Rye*, go away to *Yarmouth*, and *Leostoff*, on the Coast of *Suffolk* and *Norfolk*, to the Fishing-Fair, and catch Herrings for the Merchants there, of which I have spoken at large in my Discourse on that Subject.

As I rode along this Coast, I perceiv'd several Dragoons, riding Officers, and others Arm'd and on Horseback, riding always about as if they were Huntsmen beating up their Game; upon inquiry I found their diligence was employ'd in quest of the *Owlers*, as they call them, and *sometimes they catch some of them*; but when I came to enquire farther, I found too, that often times these are attack'd in the Night, with such Numbers, that they dare not resist, or if they do, they are wounded and beaten, and sometimes kill'd; and at other times are oblig'd, *as it were*, to stand still, and see the Wool carry'd off before their Faces, not daring to meddle; and the Boats taking it in from the very Horses backs, go immediately off, and are on the Coast of *France*, before any Notice can be given of them,

them, while the other are as Nimble to return with their Horses to their Haunts and Retreats, where they are not easily found out.

But I find so many of these desperate Fellows are of late taken up, by the Courage and Vigilance of the Soldiers, that the Knots are very much broken, and the Owling-Trade much abated, at least on that side; the *French* also finding means to be supply'd from *Ireland* with much less Hazard, and at very little more Expence.

From *Rumney-Marsh* the Shoar extends it self a great way into the Sea, and makes that Point of Land, call'd *Dengey-Nefs*; between this Point of Land and *Beachy*, it was that the *French* in the height of their Naval glory took the *English* and *Dutch* Fleets at some disadvantage, offering them Battle, when the *French* were so superior in Number, that it was not consistent with Humane Prudence to venture an Engagement, the *French* being Ninety two Ships of the Line of Battle, and the *English* and *Dutch*, put together, not Sixty Sail; the *French* Ships also generally bigger: yet such was the eagerness of both the *English* and *Dutch* Seamen, and Commanders, that it was not without infinite Murmurings, that Admiral *Herbert* stood away, and call'd off the *Dutch*, who had the *Van*, from Engaging; the *English* it seems believ'd themselves so superior to the *French* when they came to lye Broad-side and Broad-side, Yard-arm and Yard-arm, as the Seamen call it in an Engagement, that they would admit of no Excuse for not Fighting; tho' according to all the Rules of

War, no Admiral could justify hazarding the Royal Navy on such Terms; and especially the Circumstances of the Time then considered, for the King was in *Ireland*, and King *James* ready in *France*, if the *English* and *Dutch* Fleets had received a blow, to have Embark'd with an Army for *England*, which perhaps would have hazarded the whole Revolution; so that Wise Men afterwards, and as I have been told, the King himself upon a full hearing justify'd the Conduct of Admiral *Herbert*, and afterwards Created him Earl of *Torrington*.

Here, or rather a little farther, we saw the Bones of one of the *Dutch* Men of War, which was Burnt and Stranded by the *French* in that Action; the Towns of *Rye*, *Winchelsea*, and *Hastings*, have little in them to deserve more than a bare mention; *Rye* would flourish again, if her Harbour, which was once able to receive the Royal Navy, cou'd be restor'd; but as it is, the Bar is so loaded with Sand cast up by the Sea, that Ships of 200 Tuns chuse to ride it out under *Dengey* or *Beachy*, tho' with the greatest danger, rather than to run the hazard of going into *Rye* for shelter: It is true, there is now an Act of Parliament pass'd for the restoring this Port to its former state, when a Man of War of 70 Guns might have safely gone in; but 'tis very doubtful, whether it will be effectual to the main end or no, after so long a time.

Indeed our Merchants Ships are often put to great extremity hereabout, for there is not one safe Place for them to run into, between *Portsmouth* and the *Downs*; whereas in former

former Days, *Rye-Bay* was an *Asylum*, a safe Harbour, where they could go boldly in, and ride safe all Weathers, and then go to Sea again at Pleasure.

From a little beyond *Hastings* to *Bourn*, we ride upon the Sands in a strait Line for Eighteen Miles, all upon the Coast of *Sussex*, passing by *Pemsey*, or *Pevensey* Haven, and the Mouth of the River, which cometh from *Battle*, without so much as knowing that there was a River, the Tide being out, and all the Water of the ordinary Chanel of the River sinking away in the Sands: This is that famous Strand where *William* the *Norman* landed with his whole Army; and near to which, namely, at the Town of *Battle* abovenamed, which is about Nine Miles off, he Fought that Memorable Fight with *Harold*, then King of *England*; in which the fate of this Nation was determined, and where Victory gave the Crown to the Conqueror and his Race, of the particulars of all which, our Histories are full; this Town of *Battle* is remarkable for little now, but for making the finest Gun-Powder, and the best perhaps in *Europe*. Near this Town of *Battle*, they show us a Hill with a Beacon upon it, which since the Beacon was set up, indeed has been call'd Beacon Hill, as is usual in such cases; but was before that call'd *Standard-Hill*, being the place where *William* the Conqueror set up his Great Standard of Defiance, the Day before the great Battle with *Harold* and the *English*.

From the beginning of *Rumney Marsh*, that is to say, at *Sandgate*, or *Sandfoot* Castle near *Hith*, to this Place, the Country is a rich

Fertile Soil, full of feeding Grounds, and where an infinite number of large Sheep are fed every Year, and sent up to *London Market*; these *Rumney Marsh* Sheep, are counted rather larger than the *Leicester-shire* and *Lincolnshire* Sheep, of which so much is said elsewhere.

Besides the vast quantity of Sheep as above, abundance of large Bullocks are fed in this part of the Country; and especially those they call Stall'd Oxen, that is, House fed, and kept within the Farmers Sheds or Yards, all the latter Season, where they are fed for the Winter Market. This I noted, because these Oxen are generally the largest Beef in *England*.

From hence it was that, turning North, and traversing the deep, dirty, but rich Part of these two Counties, I had the curiosity to see the great Foundaries, or Iron-Works, which are in this County, and where they are carry'd on at such a prodigious Expence of Wood, that even in a Country almost all over-rur with Timber, they begin to complain of the consuming it for those Furnaces, and leaving the next Age to want Timber for building their Navies: I must own however, that I found that Complaint perfectly groundless, the Three Counties of *Kent*, *Suffex*, and *Hampshire*, (all which lye contiguous to one another) being one inexhaustible Store-House of Timber never to be destroy'd, but by a general Conflagration, and able at this time to supply Timber to rebuild all the Royal Navies in Europe, if they were all to be destroy'd, and set about the building them together. After

After I had fatigued my self in passing this deep and heavy part of the Country, I thought it would not be Foreign to my design, if I refresh'd my self with a view of *Tunbridge-Wells*, which were not then above Twelve Miles out of my way.

When I came to the Wells, which were Five Miles nearer to me than the Town, supposing me then at *Battle* to the Southward of them; I found a great deal of good Company there, and that which was more particular, was, that it happen'd to be at the time when his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales* was there with abundance of the Nobility, and Gentry of the Country, who to Honour the Prince's coming, or satisfy their own Curiosity, throng'd to that Place; so that at first I found it very difficult to get a Lodging.

The Prince appear'd upon the Walks, went into the Raffle Shops, and to every publick Place, saw every thing, and let every body see him, and went away, with the Duke of *Dorset*, and other of his Attendance for *Portsmouth*; so in Two or Three Days, things return'd all to their Ancient Chanel, and *Tunbridge* was just what it used to be.

The Ladies that appear here, are indeed the glory of the Place; the coming to the Wells to drink the Water is a meer matter of custom; some drink, more do not, and few drink Physically: But Company and Diversion is in short the main business of the Place; and those People who have nothing to do any where else, seem to be the only People who have any thing to do at *Tunbridge*.

After the Appearance is over at the Wells, (where the Ladies are all undress'd) and at the Chapel, the Company go home ; and as if it was another Species of People, or a Collection from another Place, you are surpriz'd to see the Walks covered with Ladies compleatly dress'd and gay to profusion ; where rich Cloths, Jewels, and Beauty not to be set out by (but infinitely above) Ornament, dazzles the Eyes from one end of the Range to the other.

Here you have all the Liberty of Conversation in the World, and any thing that looks like a Gentleman, has an address agreeable, and behaves with decency and good Manners, may single out whom he pleases, that does not appear engag'd, and may talk, rally, be merry, and say any decent thing to them ; but all this makes no Acquaintance, nor is it taken so, or understood to mean so ; if a Gentleman desires to be more intimate, and enter into any Acquaintance particular, he must do it by proper application, not by the ordinary meeting on the Walks, for the Ladies will ask no Gentleman there, to go off of the Walk, or invite any one to their Lodgings, except it be a sort of Ladies of whom I am not now speaking.

As for Gaming, Sharping, Intriguing ; as also Fops, Fools, Beaus, and the like, *Tunbridge* is as full of these, as can be desired, and it takes off much of the Diversion of those Persons of Honour and Virtue, who go there to be innocently recreated : However a Man of Character, and good behaviour cannot be there any time, but he may single out such  
Company

Company as may be suitable to him, and with whom he may be as merry as Heart can wish.

The Air here is excellent good, the Country Healthful, and the Provisions of all sorts very reasonable: Particularly, they are supply'd with excellent Fish, and that of almost all sorts, from *Rye*, and other Towns on the Sea-Coast; and I saw a Turbut of near 20 l. weight sold therefor 3 s.: In the Season of Mackarel they have them here from *Hastings*, within three Hours of their being taken out of the Sea, and the difference which that makes in their goodness, I need not mention.

They have likewise here abundance of Wild-Fowl, of the best sorts; such as Pheasant, Partridge, Woodcock, Snipe, Quails, also Duck, Mallard, Teal, &c. particularly they have from the *South-Downs*, the Bird call'd a *Wheatear*, or as we may call them, the English *Ortolans*, the most delicious Taste for a Creature of one Mouthful, for 'tis little more, that can be imagin'd; but these are very dear at *Tunbridge*, they are much Cheaper at *Seaford*, *Lewis*, and that side of the Country.

In a word, *Tunbridge* wants nothing that can add to the Felicities of Life, or that can make a Man or Woman compleatly happy, always provided they have Money; for without Money a Man is no-body at *Tunbridge*, any more than at any other Place; and when any Man finds his Pockets low, he has nothing left to think of, but to be gone, for he will have no Diversion in staying there any longer. And



And yet *Tunbridge* also is a Place in which a Lady *however Virtuous*, yet for want of good Conduct may as soon Shipwreck her Character as in any part of *England*; and where, when she has once injur'd her Reputation, 'tis as hard to restore it; nay, some say no Lady ever recover'd her Character at *Tunbridge*, if she first wounded it there: But this is to be added too, that a Lady very seldom suffers that way at *Tunbridge*, without some apparent Folly of her own; for that they do not seem so apt to make havock of one another's Reputation here, by Tattle and Slander, as I think they do in some other Places in the World; particularly at *Epsome*, *Hampstead*, and such like Places; which I take to be, because the Company who frequent *Tunbridge*, seem to be a Degree or two above the Society of those other Places, and therefore are not so very apt, either to meddle with other Peoples Affairs, or to Censure if they do; both which are the Properties of that more Gossiping Part of the World.

In this I shall be much misunderstood, if it is thought I mean the Ladies only, for I must own I look just the other way; and if I may be allow'd to use my own Sex so Courly, it is really among them that the Ladies Characters first, and oftneft receive unjust Wounds; and I must confess the Malice, the Reflections, the Busy Meddling, the Censuring, the Tattling from Place to Place, and the making havock of the Characters of Innocent Women, is found among the Men Gossips more than among their own Sex, and at the *Coffee-Houses* more than at the *Tea-Table*; then among the  
 Women

Women themselves, what is to be found of it there, is more among the Chamber-Maids, than among their Mistresses; slander is a meanness below Persons of Honour and Quality, and to do injustice to the Ladies, especially, is a Degree below those who have any share of Breeding and Sense: On this account you may observe, 'tis more practis'd among the Citizens than among the Gentry, and in Country Towns and Villages, more than in the City, and so on, till you come to the meer *Canail*, the Common Mobb of the Street, and there, no Reputation, no Character can shine without having Dirt thrown upon it every Day: *But this is a digression.*

I left *Tunbridge*, for the same Reason that I give, why others should leave it, when they are in my Condition; namely, that I found my Money almost gone; and tho' I had Bills of Credit to supply my self in the Course of my intended Journey; yet I had none there: so I came away, or as they call it there, I retir'd; and came to *Lewes*, through the deepest, dirtiest, but many ways the Richest, and most Profitable Country in all that Part of *England*.

The Timber I saw here was prodigious, as well in quantity as in bigness, and seem'd in some Places to be suffer'd to grow, only because it was so far off of any Navigation, that it was not worth cutting down and carrying away; in dry Summers, indeed a great deal is carry'd away to *Maidstone*, and other Places on the *Medway*; and sometimes I have seen one Tree on a Carriage, which they call there a *Tug*, drawn by Two and Twenty Oxen, and  
even

even then, 'tis carry'd so little a way, and then thrown down, and left for other *Tugs* to take up and carry on, that sometimes 'tis Two or Three Year before it gets to *Chatham*; for if once the Rains come in, it stirs no more that Year, and sometimes a whole Summer is not dry enough to make the Roads passable: Here I had a sight, which indeed I never saw in any other Part of *England*: Namely, that going to Church at a Country Village, not far from *Lewis*, I saw an Ancient Lady, and a Lady of very good Quality, I assure you, drawn to Church in her Coach with Six Oxen; nor was it done in Frolick or Humour, but meer Necessity, the Way being so stiff and deep, that no Horses could go in it.

*Lewis* is a fine pleasant Town, well built, agreeably scituated in the middle of an open Champaign Country, and on the Edge of the *South Downs*, the pleasantest, and most delightful of their kind in the Nation; it lies on the Bank of a little wholesome fresh River, within Twelve Miles of the Sea; but that which adds to the Character of this Town, is, that both the Town and the Country adjacent, is full of Gentlemen of good Families and Fortunes, of which the *Pelhams* may be named with the first, whose Chief was by King *William* made a Baron, and whose Eldest Son succeeding to the greatest part of the Estate of that *English Crassus*, the late Duke of *Newcastle*, has since brought the Title and Honour of *Newcastle* to the House of *Pelham*. Here are also the Antient Families of *Gage*, *Shelley*, &c. formerly Roman, but now Protestant, with many others.

From

From this Town, following still the Range of the *South Downs*, West ; we ride in view of the Sea, and on a fine Carpet Ground, for about Twelve Miles to *Bright Helmston*, commonly call'd *Bredhemston*, a Poor fishing Town, Old built, and on the very edge of the Sea : Here again, as I mention'd at *Folkstone* and *Dover*, the Fisher-Men having large Barks go away to *Yarmouth*, on the Coast of *Norfolk*, to the Fishing Fair there, and Hire themselves for the Season to Catch Herrings for the Merchants ; and they tell us, that these make a very good business of it.

The Sea is very unkind to this Town, and has by its continual Encroachments, so gain'd upon them, that in a little time more they might reasonably expect it would eat up the whole Town, above 100 Houses having been devoured by the Water in a few Years past ; they are now obliged to get a Brief granted them, to beg Money all over *England*, to raise Banks against the Water ; the Expence of which, the Brief expressly says, will be Eight Thousand Pounds ; which if one were to look on the Town, would seem to be more than all the Houses in it are worth.

From hence, still keeping the Coast close on the Left, we come to *Shoreham*, a Sea-faring Town, and chiefly inhabited by Ship-Carpenters, Ship Chandlers, and all the several Trades depending upon the Building and Fitting up of Ships, which is their chief Business ; and they are fam'd for neat Building, and for Building good Sea-Boats ; that is to say, Ships that are wholesome in the Sea, and good Sailors ; but for strong Building, they do

do not come up to *Tarmouth, Ipswich, and the North.*

The Builders of Ships seem'd to plant here, chiefly because of the exceeding Quantity and Cheapness of Timber in the Country behind them; being the same Wooded Country I mentioned above, which still continues thro' this County and the next also: The River this Town stands upon, tho' not Navigable for large Vessels, yet serves them to bring down this large Timber in Floats from *Bramber, Stenning*, and the Country adjacent; which is as it were all covered with Timber.

Here in the compass of about Six Miles are Three Burrough Towns, sending Members to Parliament, (*viz.*) *Shoreham, Bramber, and Stenning*: and *Shoreham, Stenning* are tolerable little Market-Towns; but *Bramber*, (a little Ruin of an Old Castle excepted) hardly deserves the Name of a Town, having not above Fifteen or Sixteen Families in it, and of them not many above asking you an Alms as you ride by; the chiefest House in the Town is a Tavern, and here, as I have been told, the Vintner, or Ale-House-Keeper rather, *for he hardly deserv'd the Name of a Vintner*, boasted, that upon an Election, *just then over*, he had made 300 l. of one Pipe of Canary.

This is the Second Town in this County, where the Elections have been so scandalously Mercenary; and of whom it is said, there was in one King's Reign more Money spent at Elections, than all the Lands in the Parishes were worth, at Twenty Years Purchase; the other Town I mean is *Winchelsea*, a Town, if it deserves the Name of a Town, which is rather

rather the Skeleton of an Ancient City than a real Town, where the Antient Gates stand near Three Miles from one another over the Fields, and where the Ruins are so bury'd, that they have made good Corn Fields of the Streets, and the Plow goes over the Foundations, nay, over the first Floors of the Houses, and where nothing of a Town but the destruction of it seems to remain; yet at one Election for this Town the Strife was such between Sir *John Banks*, Father-in-Law to the Earl of *Aylesford*, and Colonel *Draper*, a Neighbouring Gentleman, that I was told in the Country the latter spent 11000 l. at one Election, and yet lost it too; what the other spent who opposed him, may be guess'd at, seeing he that spent most was always sure to carry it in those Days.

*Bramber* is the very Exemplification of this, with this difference only, namely, that at the former they have given it over, at the latter it seems to be rather worse than ever.

Near *Steyning*, the famous Sir *John Fagg* had a Noble Antient Seat, now possess'd with a vast Estate by his Grandson, Sir *Robert Fagg*; but I mention the Antient Gentleman on this occasion, that being Entertained at his House, in the Year 1697, he show'd me in his Park four Bullocks of his own Breeding, and of his own Feeding, of so prodigious a size, and so excessively over-grown by Fat, that I never saw any thing like them; and the Bullock which Sir *Edward Blacket*, in *Yorkshire*, near *Rippon*, Fed, and caused to be shew'd about for a Sight at *Newcastle upon Tyne*, was not any way equal to the least of them, nor had

it

it so much Flesh on it by near Twenty Stone a Quarter.

While I continu'd at Sir *John's*, some *London* Butchers came down to see them, and in my hearing offer'd Sir *John* Six and Twenty Pound a Head for them, but he refused it; and when I mov'd him afterward to take the Money, he said *No*, he was resolv'd to have them to *Smithfield* himself, that he might say he had the Four biggest Bullocks in *England* at Market.

He continued positive, and did go up to *Smithfield-Market* with them; but whether it was that they sunk a little in the driving, or that the Butchers play'd a little upon him, *I cannot tell*; but he was obliged to sell them for Twenty Five Pound a Head when he came there: I knew one of the Butchers that bought them, and on a particular Occasion enquir'd of him what they weigh'd when kill'd, and he assur'd me that they weigh'd Eighty Stone a Quarter, when Kill'd and Cut-out; which is so incredible, that if I had not been well assur'd of the Truth of it, I should not have ventur'd thus to have recorded it: But by this may be judg'd something of the largeness of the Cattle in the *Wild* of *Kent* and *Suffex*, for it is all the same, of which I mention'd something before, and for this reason I tell the Story.

From hence we come to *Arundel*, a decay'd Town also; but standing near the Mouth of a good River, call'd *Arun*, which signifies, says Mr. *Cambden*, the swift, tho' the River it self is not such a Rapid Current as merits that Name; at least it did not seem to be so to me.

The

The principal advantage to the Country from this River, is the Shipping off great quantities of large Timber here; which is carry'd up the *Thames* to *Woolwich* and *Deptford*, and up the *Medway* to *Chatham*; as also Westward to *Portsmouth*, and even to *Plymouth*, to the *New Dock* there, *that is to say*, it goes to all the King's Yards, where the Business of the Navy is carry'd on: The Timber shipped off here is esteem'd the best, as it is also the largest that is brought by Sea from any part of *England*; also great quantities of Knee Timber is had here, which is valuable in its kind above the strait Timber, being not only necessary, but scarce, I mean that which is very large.

This River, and the old decay'd, *once famous* Castle at *Arundel*, which are still belonging to the Family of *Howards*, Earls of *Arundel*, a Branch of the *Norfolk* Family, is all that is remarkable here; except it be that in this River are catch'd the best *Mullets*, and the largest in *England*, a Fish very good in it self, and much valued by the Gentry round, and often sent up to *London*.

From hence to the City of *Chichester* are Twelve Miles, and the most Pleasant Beautiful County in *England*, whether we go by the Hill, *that is the Downs*, or by the Plain (*viz.*) the enclosed Country. To the North of *Arundel*, and at the bottom of the Hills, and consequently in the *Wild*, is the Town of *Petworth*, a large handsome Country Market-Town, and very Populous, and as it stands upon an Ascent, and is dry and healthy, it is full of Gentlemens Families, and good well



built Houses both in the Town and Neighbourhood; but the beauty of *Petworth*, is the Antient Seat of the Old Family of *Peirey*, Earls of *Northumberland*, now Extinct; whose Daughter, the Sole Heirefs of all his vast Estates, marry'd the present Duke of *Somerset*; of the Noble and Antient Family of *Seymour*, and among other Noble Seats brought his Grace this of *Petworth*.

The Duke pull'd down the Antient House, and on the same Spot has built from the Ground, one of the finest Piles of Building, and the best model'd Houses then in *Britain*: It has had the Misfortune to be once almost demolish'd by Fire, but the damage is fully repair'd; but another Disaster to the Family can never be repaired, which has happen'd to it, even while these Sheets were writing; Namely, the Death of the *Dutchess*, who dy'd in *November* 1722, and lies buried in the Burying Place of the Family of *Seymour*, Dukes of *Somerset*, in the Cathedral Church of *Salisbury*.

Her Grace was happy in a numerous Issue, as well as in a noble Estate; and besides Two Sons and One Daughter, which lye bury'd with her, has left One Son and Daughters still living. I shall have occasion to mention the *Northumberland* Estate again, when I come to speak of the other fine Seats, which the Duke enjoys in right of his late *Dutchess*, and the many Old Castles which were formerly part of that *Northumberland* Estate.

The Duke's House at *Petworth*, is certainly a compleat Building in it self, and the Apartments are very Noble, well contriv'd, and richly furnish'd; but it cannot be said, that

that the Situation of the House is equally design'd, or with equal Judgment as the rest; the Avenues to the Front want space, the House stands as it were with its Elbow to the Town, its Front has no *Visto* answerable, and the West Front look'd not to the Parks or fine Gardens, but to the old Stables.

To rectify this, when it was too late to order it any other way, the Duke was oblig'd to pull down those Noble Buildings; I mean the Mews, or Stables, the finest of their kind in all the South of *England*, and equal to some Noblemens whole Houses, and yet even the demolishing the Pile has done no more than open'd a Prospect over the Country, whereas had the House been set on the rising Ground, on the side of the Park, over against the North Wing of the House, and a little more to the Westward, the Front had been South to the Town, the back Front to the Parks, which were capable of Fountains, Canals, *Vistos*, and all the most Exquisite pieces of Art, that sets out the finest Gardens, whereas all now lyes on one Angle, or opposite to one Wing of the House.

But with all these disadvantages, the House it self is a Noble Pile of Building, and by far the finest in all this Part of *Britain*: From *Petworth* West, the Country is a little less Woody than the Wild, and there begin to show their Heads above the Trees, a great many fine Seats of the Nobility and Gentlemen of the Country, as the Duke of *Richmond's* Seat at *Goodwood*, near *Chichester*, (This Family also is in Tears, at the writing these Sheets, for the Death of her Grace the  
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Dutchess,

Dutchess, who dyed the beginning of the Month of *December*, and is bury'd in *Westminster Abbey*; and here the Year closing, I think 'tis very remarkable, that this Year 1722, no less than Five Dukes and Two Dutcheffes are Dead (*viz.*) The Dukes of *Bucks*, *Bolton*, *Rutland*, *Manchester*, and *Marlborough*, and the Dutcheffes of *Somerset* and *Richmond*; besides Earls, (*viz.*) the Earl of *Sunderland*, of *Stamford*, *Exeter*, and others; and since the above was written, and sent to the Press, the Duke of *Richmond* himself is also Dead.) The Seats of the late Earl of *Tankerville*, and the Earl of *Scarborough*, the Antient House of the Lord *Montacute* at *Midhurst*, an Antient Family of the Sirname of *Brown*, the Eldest Branch of the House. These and a great many more lying so near together, make the Country hereabout much more sociable and pleasant than the rest of the Woody Country, call'd *The Wild*, of which I have made mention so often; and yet I cannot say much for the City of *Chichester*, in which, if Six or Seven good Families were removed, there would not be much Conversation, except what is to be found among the Canons, and Dignitaries of the Cathedral.

The Cathedral here is not the finest in *England*, but is far from being the most ordinary: The Spire is a Piece of excellent Workmanship, but it received such a shock about        Years ago, that it was next to Miraculous, that the whole Steeple did not fall down; which in short, if it had, would almost have demolish'd the whole Church.

It was a Fire-Ball, if we take it from the Inhabitants, or, to speak in the Language of Nature, the Lightning broke upon the Steeple, and such was the irrefistible force of it, that it drove several great Stones out of the Steeple, and carry'd them clear off, not from the Roof of the Church only, but of the adjacent Houses also, and they were found at a prodigious distance from the Steeple, so that they must have been shot out of the places where they stood in the Steeple, as if they had been shot out of a Cannon, or blown out of a Mine: One of these Stones of at least a Ton weight, by Estimation, was blown over the South side, or row of Houses in the West-Street, and fell on the Ground in the Street at a Gentleman's Door, on the other side of the way; and another of them almost as big was blown over both sides of the said West-Street, into the same Gentleman's Garden, at whose Door the other Stone lay, and no hurt was done by either of them; whereas if either of those Stones had fallen upon the strongest built House in the Street, it would have dash'd it all to pieces, even to the Foundation: This account of the two Stones, I relate from a Person of undoubted Credit, who was an Eye-Witness, and saw them, but had not the Curiosity to measure them, which he was very sorry for. The breach it made in the Spire, tho' within about Forty Five Foot of the top, was so large, that as the Workmen said to me, a Coach and Six Horses might have driven through it, and yet the Steeple stood fast, and is now very substantially repair'd; withal, showing that

it was before, an admirable sound and well finished piece of Workmanship.

They have a Story in this City, that whenever a Bishop of that Diocess is to Dye, a Heron comes and sits upon the Pinnacle of the Spire of the Cathedral: This accordingly happen'd, about \_\_\_\_\_ when Dr. \_\_\_\_\_

*Williams* was Bishop: A Butcher standing at his Shop-Door, in the South-Street, saw it, and ran in for his Gun, and being a good Marks-Man shot the Heron, and kill'd it, at which his Mother was very Angry with him, and said, he had kill'd the Bishop, and the next Day News came to the Town that Dr. *Williams*, the last Bishop was Dead; this is affirm'd by many People Inhabitants of the Place.

This City is not a place of much Trade, nor is it very Populous; but they are lately fallen into a very particular way of managing the Corn Trade here, which it is said turns very well to account; the Country round it is very Fruitful, and particularly in good Wheat, and the Farmers generally speaking carry'd all their Wheat to *Farnham*, to Market, which is very near Forty Miles by Land-Carriage, and from some Parts of the Country more than Forty Miles.

But some Money d Men of *Chichester*, *Emfworth*, and other Places adjacent, have join'd their Stocks together, built large Granaries near the *Crook*, where the Vessels come up, and here they buy and lay up all the Corn which the Country on that side can spare; and having good Mills in the Neighbourhood, they grind and dress the Corn, and send it to *London* in the Meal about by *Long Sea*, as they call

call it; nor now the War is over do they make the Voyage so tedious as to do the Meal any hurt, as at first in the time of War was sometimes the Case for want of Convoys.

It is true, this is a great lessening to *Farnham* Market, but that is of no consideration in the Case; for, if the Market at *London* is supply'd, the coming by Sea from *Chichester* is every jot as much a publick good, as the encouraging of *Farnham* Market, which is of itself the greatest Corn-Market in *England*, *London* excepted. Notwithstanding all the decrease from this side of the Country, this carrying of Meal by Sea met with so just an Encouragement from hence, that it is now practis'd from several other Places on this Coast, even as far as *Shampton*.

From *Chichester* the Road lying still West, passes in view of the Earl of *Scarborough's* fine Seat at *Stansted*, a House seeming to be a retreat, being surrounded with thick Woods, thro' which there are the most pleasant agreeable Visto's cut, that are to be seen any where in *England*, particularly, because through the West opening, which is from the Front of the House, they sit in the Dining-Room of the House, and see the Town and Harbour of *Portsmouth*, the Ships at *Spithead*, and also at *St. Helens*; which when the Royal Navy happens to be there, as often happen'd during the late War, is a most glorious Sight.

This House was fatal to *Dr. Williams*, mentioned above, Bishop of *Chichester*, who having been here to make a Visit to the late Earl of *Scarborough*, was thrown out of his Coach, or rather threw himself out, being

frighted by the unruliness of his Horses, and broke his Leg in the Fall, which, his Lordship being in Years, was Mortal to him: He dy'd in a few Days after.

From hence we descend gradually to *Portsmouth*, the largest Fortification, beyond comparison, that we have in *England*, but it was not with any Consideration, that the Author before recited could say, it was the only regular Fortification in *England*; especially the same Writer owning afterwards that *Shireness*, *Languardfort*, and *Tilbury*, were all regular Fortifications, as they really are.

The Situation of this Place is such, that it is chosen, as may well be said, for the best Security to the Navy above all the Places in *Britain*; the Entrance into the Harbour is safe, but very narrow, guarded on both sides by terrible Platforms of Cannon, particularly on the *Point*; which is a Suburb of *Portsmouth* properly so call'd, where there is a Brick Platform built with Two Tire of Guns, One over another, and which can Fire so in Cover, that the Gunners cannot be beaten from their Guns, or their Guns easily dismounted; the other is from the Point of Land on the side of *Gosport*, which they call *Gilkicker*, where also they have Two Batteries.

Before any Ships attempt to enter this Port by Sea, they must also pass the Cannon of the main Platform of the Garrison, and also another at *South-Sea-Castle*; so that it is next to impossible that any Ships could match the Force of all those Cannon, and be able to force their way into the Harbour; in which I speak the Judgment of Men well acquainted  
with

with such matters, as well as my own Opinion, and of Men whose Opinion leads them to think the best of the Force of Naval Batteries too; and who have talk'd of making no Difficulty to Force their way through the *Thames*, in the Teeth of the Line of Guns at *Tilbury*; I say, they have talk'd of it, but it was but talk, as any one of Judgment would imagin, that knew the Works at *Tilbury*, of which I have spoken in its place: The reason however, which they give for the difference, have some Force in them, as they relate to *Portsmouth*, tho' not as they relate to *Tilbury*; (*viz.*) That the Mouth or Entrance into *Portsmouth* is narrow, and may be lock'd up with Booms, which before the Ships could break, and while they were lying at them to break them away, they would be torn in pieces by the Battery at the *Point*: (next) That the Guns on the said Battery at the *Point* at *Portsmouth*, are defended as above, with *Ambruziers*, and the Gunners stand cover'd, so that they cannot so soon be beaten from their Guns, or their Guns so soon dismounted by the warm Quarter of a Three Deck Ship, as at *Tilbury*, where all the Gunners and Guns too must stand open, both to small and great Shot: Besides at *Tilbury*, while some of the Ships lay Battering the Fort, others would pass behind them, close under the Town, and if one or more received damage from the Fort, the rest would pass in the Cloud of Smoke, and perhaps might compass their Design, as is the Case in all Places, where the Entrance is broad; whereas at *Portsmouth*, they would be batter'd within little more than Pistol shot,

and



and from both sides of the way ; whereas at *Tilbury* there are very few Guns on the *Gravesend* side of the River.

But to avoid comparing of Strengths, or saying what may be done in one Place, and not done in another ; 'tis evident, in the Opinion of all that I have met with, that the greatest Fleet of Ships that ever were in the Hands of one Nation at a time, would not pretend, if they had not an Army also on Shoar, to attack the whole Work, to force their Entrance into the Harbour at *Portsmouth*.

As to the Strength of the Town by Land, the Works are very large and numerous, and besides the Battery at the *Point* aforesaid, there is a large Hornwork on the South-side, running out towards *South-Sea Castle* ; there is also a good Counterscarp, and double Mote, with Ravelins in the Ditch, and double Palisadoes, and advanc'd Works to cover the Place from any approach, where it may be practicable : The Strength of the Town is also considerably augmented on the Land side, by the Fortifications raised in King *William's* Time about the Docks and Yards, which are now perfected, and those parts made a particular Strength by themselves ; and tho' they are indeed in some Sense independent one of another, yet they cover and strengthen one another, so as that they cannot be separately attack'd on that side, while they are both in the same Hands.

These Docks and Yards are now like a Town by themselves, and are a kind of Marine Corporation, or a Government of their own kind within themselves ; there being  
particular

particular large rows of dwellings, built at the publick Charge, within the New Works, for all the principal Officers of the Place; especially the Commissioner, the Agent of the Victualling, and such as these; the Tradesmen likewise have Houses here, and many of the Labourers are allow'd to live in the bounds as they can get Lodging.

The Town of *Portsmouth*, besides its being a Fortification, is a well inhabited, thriving, prosperous Corporation; and hath been greatly enrich'd of late by the Fleet's having so often and so long lain there, as well as large Fleets of Merchant-Men, as the whole Navy during the late War; besides the constant sitting out of Men here, and the often paying them at *Portsmouth*, has made a great Confluence of People thither on their private business, with other things, which the attendance on those Fleets hath requir'd: These things have not only been a great advantage to the Town, but has really made the whole Place Rich, and the Inhabitants of *Portsmouth* are quite another sort of People than they were a few Years before the Revolution; this is what Mr. *Cambden* takes notice of, even so long ago as the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*; that *Portsmouth* was *Populous in time of War, but not so in time of Peace*: But now the business of the Navy is so much encreased, and so much of it always done here, that it may be said, there is as much to do at *Portsmouth* now in time of Peace, as there was then in time of War, and more too.

There is also this Note to be put upon the Two great Arsenals of *England, Portsmouth,*  
and

and *Chatham* ; Namely, That they thrive by a War, as the War respects their Situation (*viz.*) That when a War with *France* happens, or with *Spain*, then *Portsmouth* grows Rich, and when a War with *Holland*, or any of the Powers of the *North*, then *Chatham*, and *Woolwich*, and *Deptford* are in request ; but of this I shall speak again, when I come to speak of the like Antithesis between *Plymouth* and the *Humber*, or *Portsmouth* and the *Firth of Edinburgh*.

The Government of the Place is by a Mayor and Aldermen, &c. as in other Corporations, and the Civil Government is no more interrupted by the Military, than if there was no Garrison there, such is the good Conduct of the Governors, and such it has always been, since our Sovereigns have ceas'd to encourage the Soldiery to Insult the Civil Magistrates : And we have very seldom had any Complaint on either side, either of want of Discipline among the Soldiers, or want of Prudence in the Magistrates : The Inhabitants indeed necessarily submit to such Things as are the Consequence of a Garrison Town, such as being Examined at the Gates, such as being obliged to keep Garrison Hours, and not be let out, or let in after Nine a Clock at Night, and the like ; but these are Things no People will count a Burthen, where they get their Bread by the very Situation of the Place, as is the case here.

Since the encrease of Business at this Place, by the long continuance of the War, the Confluence of People has been so great, and the Town not admitting any enlargement for Buildings,

Buildings, that a kind of a Suburb, or rather a New Town has been built on the Healthy Ground adjoining to the Town, which is so well built, and seems to encrease so fast, that in time it threatens to outdo for Numbers of Inhabitants, and beauty of Buildings, even the Town it self; and particularly by being unconfi'd by the Laws of the Garrison, as above, and unencumbered with the Corporation Burthens, Freedoms, Town Duties, Services, and the like.

From *Portsmouth West*, the Country lyes low and flat, and is full of Creeks and inlets of the Sea and Rivers, all the way to *Southampton*, so that we Ferry over Three times in about Eighteen Miles; besides going over One Bridge, Namely, at *Tichfield*, The first of these Ferries is that at *Portsmouth* it self, (*viz.*) cross the Mouth of the Harbour, from the *Point* above-mention'd to *Gosport*; from thence we Ride to *Tichfield*, as above, where we pass the River *Alre*, which rises in the same County at *Alresford*, or near it, which is not above Twenty two Miles off; and yet it is a large River here, and makes a good Road below, call'd *Tichfield Bay*: Thence at about Four Miles we pass another River at *Buffelton*, Narrow in Breadth, but exceeding Deep, and eminent for its being able to carry the biggest Ships: Here is a Building-Yard for Ships of War, and in King *William's* Time, Two Eighty Gun Ships were Launch'd here. It seems the Safety of the Creek, and the Plenty of Timber in the Country behind it, is the reason of Building so much in this Place.

From

From hence when we come opposite to *Southampton*, we pass another Creek, being the Mouth of the River which comes down from *Winchester*, and is both very broad and deep, and the Ferry Men having a very sorry Boat, we found it dangerous enough passing it: On the other Bank stands the Antient Town of *Southampton*, and on the other side of *Southampton* comes down another large River, entering *Southampton Water* by *Red-Bridge*; so that the Town of *Southampton* stands upon a Point running out into the Sea, between two very fine Rivers, both Navigable, up some length into the Country, and particularly useful for the bringing down Timber out of one of the best Wooded Counties in *Britain*; for the River on the West side of the Town in particular comes by the edge of the Great Forest, call'd *New-Forest*; here we saw a prodigious quantity of Timber, of an uncommon size, vastly large, lying on the Shoar of the River, for above two Miles in length, which they told us was brought thither from the Forest, and left there to be fetch'd by the Builders at *Portsmouth-Dock*, as they had occasion for it.

In riding over the South Part of *Hampshire*, I made this observation about that growth of Timber, which I mention in supplement to what I said before concerning our Timber being wasted and decay'd in England, (*viz.*) that notwithstanding the very great Consumption of Timber in King *William's* Reign, by Building or Rebuilding almost the whole Navy; and notwithstanding so many of the King's Ships were Built hereabouts, besides abundance of  
Large

Large Merchant Ships, which were about that time Built at *Southampton*, at *Redbridge*, and at *Bursleton*, &c. yet I saw the Gentlemens Estates, within Six, Eight, or Ten Miles of *Southampton*, so over-grown with Wood, and their Woods so full of large full grown Timber, that it seem'd as if they wanted Sale for it, and that it was of little worth to them. In one Estate at *Hursely* in particular near *Winchester*, the Estate since bought by Mr. *Cardonell*, late Manager for the Duke of *Marlborough*, and formerly belonging to Mr. *Cromwell*, Grandson to *Oliver Cromwell*, the whole Estate not above 800 *l. per Ann.* in Rent, they might have cut Twenty Thousand Pounds worth of Timber down, and yet have left the Woods in a thriving Condition; in another Estate between that and *Petersfield*, of about 1000 *l. per Ann.* they told me they could Fell a Thousand Pounds a Year in good large Timber fit for Building, for Twenty Years together, and do the Woods no harm: Colonel *Norton* also, a known Gentleman, whose Seat at *Southwick*, is within Six Miles of *Portsmouth*, and within Three Miles of the Water Carriage; this Gentleman they told me had an immense quantity of Timber, some growing within sight of the very Docks in *Portsmouth*: Farther West it is the like, and as I rode through *New-Forest*, I cou'd see the antient Oaks of many hundred Years standing, perishing with their wither'd Tops advanc'd up in the Air, and grown White with Age, and that could never yet get the favour to be cut down, and made Serviceable to their Country.

These

These in my Opinion are no signs of the decay of our Woods, or of the danger of our wanting Timber in *England*; on the contrary, I take leave to mention it again, that if we were employ'd in *England*, by the rest of the World, to build a Thousand Sail of Three Deck Ships, from 80 to 100 Guns, it might be done to our infinite Advantage, and without putting us in any danger of exhausting the Nation of Timber.

I shall give other hints of the like, when I come to speak of *Hertfordshire*, *Buckinghamshire*, *Berkshire*, and the Counties which we call Inland, where the Timber is really of small Value, for want of Water Carriage to carry it away; likewise again in the Counties Northward, bordering upon the *Humber*, and upon all the Northern Rivers, not to say a Word of *Ireland*; which is still a Store-House of Timber, more inexhaustible if possible than *England*.

*Southampton* is a truly Antient Town, for 'tis in a manner dying with Age; the decay of the Trade is the real decay of the Town; and all the Business of Moment that is transacted there, is the Trade between us and the Islands of *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, with a little of the Wine Trade, and much Smuggling: The building of Ships also is much stop'd of late; however, the Town is large, has many People in it, a noble fair High-street, a spacious Key; and if it's Trade should revive, is able to entertain great numbers of People: There is a *French* Church, and no inconsiderable Congregation, which was a help to the Town, and there are still some Merchants who Trade

to *Newfoundland*, and to the *Streights with Fish*; but for all other Trade, it may be said of as of other Towns, *London* has eaten it up. The Situation of the Town between two Rivers was to its advantage formerly in point of Strength, and the Town was Wall'd with a very strong Wall, strengthen'd with a Rampart, and a double Ditch; but I do not hear that they ever were put to make much use of them.

Whatever the Fable of *Bevis of Southampton*, and the Gyants in the Woods thereabouts may be deriv'd from, I found the People mighty willing to have those Things pass for true; and at the *North Gate* of the Town, the only Entrance from the Land side, they have the Figures of two Eminent Champions, who might pass for Gyants if they were alive now, but they can tell us very little of their History, but what is all Fabulous like the rest, so I say no more of them.

I was now at the extent of my intended Journey *West*, and thought of looking no farther this way for the present, so I came away *North East*, leaving *Winchester* a little on the Left, and came into the *Portsmouth Road* at *Petersfield*, a Town Eminent for little, but its being full of good Inns, and standing in the middle of a Country, still over-grown with a prodigious quantity of Oak-Timber. From hence we came to *Alton*, and in the Road thither, began a little to taste the Pleasure of the *Western Downs*, which reach from *Winchester* almost to *Alton*.

The Duke of *Bolton* has two very Noble Seats in this Country, one between *Al-*



ton and *Alresford* ; and one at *Basing*, of which hereafter. *Alton* is a small Market-Town, of no Note, neither is there any considerable Manufacture in all this part of *England* ; except a little Drugget and Shalloon making, which begins hereabouts, otherwise the whole Counties of *Kent*, *Suffex*, *Surrey*, and *Hampshire*, are not employ'd in any considerable Woollen Manufacture ; what there is, I have spoken of about *Cranbrook* in *Kent*, *Guilford*, and *Farnham* in *Surrey*, and a little in the North Part of *Barkshire*, all which put together, is not equal to one ordinary Manufacturing Village in *Essex* or *Norfolk*.

From *Alton* we came to *Farnham*, of which I can only say, that it is a large Populous Market-Town, the farthest that way in the County of *Surrey*, and without exception the greatest Corn-Market in *England*, *London* excepted ; that is to say, particularly for Wheat, of which so vast a quantity is brought every Market-Day to this Market, that a Gentleman told me, he once counted on a Market-Day Eleven Hundred Teams of Horse, all drawing Waggon, or Carts, loaden with Wheat at this Market ; every Team of which is supposed to bring what they call a Load, that is to say, Forty Bushel of Wheat to Market ; which is in the whole, Four and Forty Thousand Bushel ; but I do not take upon me to affirm this Relation, or to say whether it be a probable Opinion or not ; I know some have thought the quantity has been much more ; but this also was, I suppose, before the People of *Chichester* and *Emsworth* on one side, and *Southampton*, *Titchfield*, and *Red-bridge*

bridge on the other, took to the Trade of sending their Wheat in Meal to *London* by Sea, as is mentioned above.

At this Town is a Castle Eminent for this, that it was built by a Bishop of *Winchester*; and tho' its Antiquity is evident, as far back as King *Stephen*; yet it remains to the Bishops of *Winchester* to this Day. Here the said Bishops of *Winchester* usually keep their ordinary Residence, and tho' the County of *Surrey*, be generally speaking within the Diocess, they may be truly said to Reside in the middle of their Ecclesiastical Dominion. The *Farnham* People it seems, or some of the Country Folks, notwithstanding the Liberality and Bounty of the several Bishops, who, if some People may be believ'd, have been very good Benefactors to the Town; I say, notwithstanding all this, have of late been very unkind to the Bishop, in pulling down the Pale of his Park, and plundering it of the Deer, Killing, Wounding, and Disabling, even those they cou'd not carry away.

From *Farnham*, that I might take in the whole County of *Surrey*, I took the Coach-Road, over *Bagshot-Heath*, and that great Forest, as 'tis call'd, of *Windsor*: Those that despise *Scotland*, and the North Part of *England*, for being full of Wast and Barren Land, may take a view of this part of *Surrey*, and look upon it as a Foil to the Beauty of the rest of *England*; or a Mark of the just resentment shew'd by Heaven upon the *Englishmen's* Pride; I mean the Pride they shew in boasting of their Country, its Fruitfulness, Pleasant-

ness, Richness, the Fertility of the Soil, &c. whereas here is a vast Tract of Land, some of it within Seventeen or Eighteen Miles of the Capital City; which is not only Poor, but even quite steril, given up to Barrenness, horrid and frightful to look on, not only good for little, but good for nothing; much of it is a Sandy Desert, and one may frequently be put in Mind here of *Arabia Deserta*, where the Winds raise the Sands, so as to overwhelm whole Caravans of Travellers, Cattle and People together; for in passing this Heath, in a Windy Day, I was so far in danger of smothering with the Clouds of Sand, which were raised by the Storm, that I cou'd neither keep it out of my Mouth, Nose or Eyes; and when the Wind was over, the Sand appear'd spread over the adjacent Fields of the Forest some Miles distant, so as that it ruins the very Soil. This Sand indeed is check'd by the *Heath*, or *Heather*, which grows in it, and which is the common product of Barren Land, even in the very *Highlands* of *Scotland*; but the Ground is otherwise so Poor and Barren, that the Product of it feeds no Creatures, but some very small Sheep, who feed chiefly on the said *Heather*, and but very few of these, nor are there any Villages, worth mentioning, and but few Houses, or People for many Miles far and wide; this Desert lyes extended so much, that some say, there is not less than a Hundred Thousand Acres of this Barren Land that lyes all together, reaching out every way in the Three Counties of *Surrey*, *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*; besides a great quantity of Land, almost as bad as that between

tween *Godalming* and *Petersfield*, on the Road to *Portsmouth*, including some Hills, call'd the *Hind Head* and others.

Thro' this Defart, for I can call it no less, we come into the great *Western Road*, leading from *London* to *Salisbury*, *Exeter*, &c. and pass the *Thames* at *Stanes*; and here I could not but call to mind, upon viewing the Beautiful Prospect of the River, and of the Meadows, on the Banks of the River, on the Left Hand of the Road, I say, I cou'd not but call to mind those two Excellent Lines of *Sir John Denham*, in his Poem, call'd *Cooper's-Hill*, Viz.

*Tho' Deep, yet Clear, tho' Gentle, yet not Dull,  
Strong without Rage, without oe'rflowing full.*

Here I remember'd that I had yet left the Inland Towns of the Two Counties of *Kent* and *Suffex*, and almost all the County of *Surrey* out of my Account; and that having as it were taken a Circuit round the Coast only, I had a great many Places worth Viewing to give an Account of; I therefore left *Windsor*, which was within my View; on one side of the River, and *Hampton Court* on the other, as being the Subject of another Letter; and resolv'd to finish my present View, in the Order I had begun it; *That is to say*, to give an Account of the whole Country as I come on; that I may make no incongruous Transitions from one remote Part of *England* to another, at least as few as may be.

From *Stanes* therefore I turn'd S. and S. E. to *Chertsey*, another Market-Town, and where there is a Bridge over the *Thames*: This Town was made famous, by being the Burial Place of *Henry VI.* till his Bones were after removed to *Windsor* by *Henry VII.* also by being the retreat of the Incomparable *Cowley*, where he liv'd withdrawn from the Hurries of the Court and Town, and where he dy'd so much a recluse, as to be almost wholly taken up in Country business, Farming and *Cowley's Works*, Husbandry, for his Diversion, Fol. 144. not for *Bread*, according to the publick flight of his own Fancy.

From this Town wholly employ'd, either in Malting, or in Barges to carry it down the River to *London*; I went away South to *Woking*, a private Country Market-Town, so out of all Road, or Thorough-fare, as we call it, that 'tis very little heard of in *England*; it claims however some Honour, from its being once the Residence of a Royal Branch of the Family of *Plantagenet*, the Old Countess of *Richmond*, Mother to King *Henry VII.* who made her last Retreat here, where the King her Son Built, or rather Repair'd, an Old Royal House, on purpose for her Residence, and where she ended her Days in much Honour and Peace; the former part of her Life having been sufficiently expos'd to the Storms and Dangers of the Times; especially under the Tyranny and Turbulent Reign of the Two precedent Monarchs.

From hence we came to *Guilford*, a well known and considerable Market-Town: It has  
the

the Name of being the *County Town*, tho' it cannot properly be call'd so; neither the *County Goal* being here, or the *Assizes*, any more than in common with other Towns: But the Election indeed for Parliament Men for the County is always held here. The River which according to Mr. *Camden* is call'd the *Wey*, and which falls into the *Thames* at *Oatlands*, is made Navigable to this Town, which adds greatly to its Trade; and by this Navigation a very great quantity of Timber is brought down to *London*, not from the Neighbourhood of this Town only, but even from the Woody parts of *Suffex* and *Hampshire* above Thirty Miles from it, the Country Carriages bringing it hither in the Summer by Land: This Navigation is also a mighty support to the great Corn-Market at *Farnham*, which I have mentioned so often: For as the Meal-Men and other Dealers buy the Corn at that Market, much of it is brought to the Mills on this River; which is not above Seven Miles distant, and being first Ground and Dress'd, is then sent down in the Meal by Barges to *London*; the Expence of which is very small, as is practis'd on the other side of the *Thames*, for above Fifty Miles distance from *London*.

Here, as I observ'd in its Place, is a small remainder of an Old Manufacture, that is to say, of the Clothing Trade, and it extends it self to *Godalming*, *Haselmeer*, and the Vale Country, on the side of the *Holmwood*; a Place of which I shall speak on another occasion quite to *Darling*: These Cloths of a middling Price, have formerly been in great Repute, and then again were almost quite decay'd,

but by the Application and Skill of the Clothiers, maintain'd the Credit of their Make, and are encourag'd, and indeed revived in Reputation of late Years, when the Clothiers of *Cranbrook* and *Tenterden* in *Kent*, whose Goods are of the same kind, are almost sunk to nothing, as I have already observed.

This Clothing Trade, *however small*, is very assistant to the Poor of this Part of the Country, where the Lands, as I have noted, are but indifferent; except just above the great Towns, and where abundance of the Inhabitants are, what we call *Cottagers*, and live chiefly by the Benefit of the large Commons and Heath Ground, of which the quantity is so very great.

From this Town of *Guilford*, the Road to *Farnham* is very remarkable, for it runs along West from *Guilford*, upon the ridge of a high Chalky Hill, so narrow that the breadth of the Road takes up the breadth of the Hill, and the declivity begins on either Hand, at the very Hedge that bounds the Highway, and is very steep, as well as very high; from this Hill is a Prospect either way, so far that 'tis surprizing; and one sees to the North, or N. W. over the great *Black Desert*, call'd *Bagshot-Heath*, mentioned above, one way, and the other way South East into *Suffex*, almost to the *South Downs*, and West to an unbounded length, the Horizon only restraining the Eyes: This Hill being all Chalk, a Traveller feels the effect of it in a Hot Summer's Day, being scorch'd by the Reflection of the Sun from the Chalk, so as to make the Heat almost insupportable; and this I speak by my  
own

own Experience: This Hill reaches from *Guilford* Town's End to within a Mile and half of *Farnham*.

The Hill, or the going up to it from *Guilford* rather, is call'd *St. Katharine's-Hill*, and at the Top of the Ascent from the Town stands the Gallows, which is so placed, respecting the Town, that the Towns People from the High-Street may sit at their Shop Doors, and see the Criminals Executed.

The Great Road from *London* to *Chichester*, and from *London* to *Portsmouth*, lying thro' this Town; it is consequently a Town very well furnish'd with Inns for Accommodation of Travellers, as is *Godalming*, also the next Town within Three Miles of it.

From *Guilford* there lies a Cross-Road, as it may be call'd, to *London*, not frequented by Coaches or Carriers, or the ordinary Passengers to *London*; tho' 'tis by some reckon'd the nearest way, and is without question much the pleasanter Road, if it is not the pleasantest in this Part of *England*: (*Viz.*) From this Town to *Letherhead* Ten Miles, from *Letherhead* to *London*, over *Banstead Downs* Fifteen Miles, or if you please by *Epsome* Seventeen Miles; which, tho' it is call'd the farthest way, makes amends abundantly by the goodness of the Way, and the advantage and pleasantness of the Road.

The Ten Miles from *Guilford* to *Leatherhead* make one continued Line of Gentlemens Houses, lying all, or most of them, on the West side of the Road, and their Parks, or Gardens almost touching one another: Here are pleasantly seated several very considerable Persons,



Persons, as the Posterity of Sir *Tho. Bludworth*, once Lord Mayor of *London*, a Person famous for the implacable Passion he put the People of *London* in, by one rash Expression, at the time of the Great Fire: (*viz.*) *That it was nothing, and they might Piss it out*; which was only spoken at the beginning of the Fire, when neither Sir *Thomas* or the Citizens themselves cou'd foresee the length it would go; and without any design to lessen their endeavours to quench it: But this they never forgot, or forgave to him, or his Family after him; but fix'd the Expression on him, as a Mark of Indelible Reproach, even to this Day: Among the other fine Seats in this Row, is that of *Arthur Moor*, Esq; at *Fetcham*, where no Cost has been spar'd to make a most Beautiful and Delicious Situation be beholden to Art, and which is set out at an Immense Charge: Near to *Guilford*, at the Village of *Clendon*, at the West End of this line of fine Seats, is the Antient Mansion of the *Onslow's*: The Father of the present Lord, was Sir *Richard Onslow*, Baronet; several Years one of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury or Admiralty; and Created Baron *Onslow* by King *GEORGE*.

The Seat is Old, and the Estate is Old too (but the latter is much the better for its Age) for it has been many Years in the Family, as appears in *Mr. Camden*, and has gone on, encreasing from Hand to Hand. The late Lord *Onslow* Improv'd and Beauty'd both the House and the Estate too very much. The House has several times been Honour'd with the Presence of both King *William* and King *George*; the former Erected an Annual Race for

for a Royal Plate of 100 Guineas, call'd the King's Gold Plate, to be run for every Year; and the latter has been so good, as twice at least to Honour the Diversion with his Presence.

At the like distance North from *Guilford*, and on the Banks of the *Wey*, is a fine Seat, every way as fit for the Possession of a Peer as is *Clendon Park*; and belonging to a Branch of the same Family, (*viz.*) to *Dennis Onslow*, Esq; Uncle to the present Lord *Onslow*, younger Brother to his Father the first Lord: This Seat is call'd *Pyrford*, and is exceeding pleasant, especially for the most Beautiful intermixture of Wood, and Water in the Park, and Gardens, and Grounds adjoining; by which the Possessor, whose Genius lay wonderfully in improving Lands, and making Things more pleasant, brought *Pyrford* to such a Perfection, as to be inferior to very few; if any, of the finest Houses in *Surrey*; particularly in one thing, which is not found in all that Part of *England*; namely, a *Duckoy*, which adjoins to his Park, and which makes the rest inimitably agreeable.

At the North East End of this Range of fine Seats, is *Leatherhead*, a little Thorough-fare Town, with a Stone-Bridge over the River *Mole*; this River is called the *Mole*, from its remarkable sinking into the Earth, at the Foot of *Box-Hill*, near a Village call'd *Mickleham*, and working its way under Ground like a *Mole*, rising again at or near this Town of *Leatherhead*, where <sup>its</sup> wandering ~~its~~ Streams are united again, and form a pretty large River, as they were before, running together under  
*Leatherhead*

*Leatherhead* Bridge, and from thence to *Cobham*, and so it pursues its Course to the *Thames*, which it joins at *Molesey*, which takes its Name to be sure from the Name of the River *Mole*.

And here I cannot but take notice of an unaccountable Error, which all the Writers I have met with fall unwarily into, on account of this little River hiding itself in the Earth, and finding its way under Ground, from the Foot of *Beechworth*, more properly *Betsworth-Castle*, near *Box-Hill*, and then rising again at *Letherhead*, as above; as if the Water had at once ingulph'd itself in a *Chasm* of the Earth, or sunk in a Whirlpit, as is said of the *Caspian-Sea*, which they say rises again in the *Persian Gulph* with the same Violence that it ingulphs it self: 'Tis strange this Error should prevail in this manner, and with Men of Learning too; and in a Case so easily discover'd and so near. But thus it is, nor is it at all remote from the true design of this Work, to undeceive the World in the false or mistaken Accounts, which other Men have given of Things, especially when those mistakes are so demonstrably gross; and when the Subject is significant too, as in this Part now in Hand; Mr. *Camden* expresses it thus: " The *Mole*, says he, coming to *White-*  
 " *Hill*, (he should have said *Box-Hill*) hides it  
 " self, or is rather *Swallow'd* up at the Foot of  
 " it; and for that Reason the Place is call'd  
 " *Swallow*, but after two Miles it bubbles up,  
 " and rises again; then he adds, (alluding to  
 " the River *Guadiana* in *Castile*) that the In-  
 " habitants of this Tract no less than the  
 " *Spaniards*

“ *Spaniards* may boast of having a Bridge that  
 “ feeds several Flocks of Sheep. Thus far  
 “ *Mr. Camden*. The Right Reverend and  
 “ Learned Editor of the Additions to  
 “ *Mr. Camden*, makes it yet worse, speaking  
 “ of *Beechworth* Castle, which is a Mile be-  
 “ fore we come to *Darking*; and 'tis at the  
 “ Foot of this Castle here, *says his Lordship*,  
 “ that the River *Mole* being nigh to the Pre-  
 “ cipice of *Box-Hill* is Swallow'd up.

Now 'tis something strange for me to take  
 upon me, *after two such Authorities*, to say, that  
 neither of these is right. The Accounts are  
 so Positive, that many Curious People have  
 Rid thither to see this Place, call'd *Swallow*,  
 and to see this *Beechworth* Castle, at the Foot  
 of which the River is *Swallow'd up*, not doubt-  
 ing but they should see some wonderful  
 Gulph, in which a whole River should be at  
 once as it were *Bury'd alive*; for *Mr. Camden*  
*says, Swallow is the Place*: The Bishop says,  
*near Beechworth-Castle the River is Swallowed up*;  
 nay, and to make the Wonder appear more  
 conformable to the Relation, the Map of the  
 County of *Surrey*, plac'd in *Mr. Camden*,  
 makes a large Blank between the River at  
*Swallowed up*, a little off of *Darking*, and its  
 rising again as at *Leatherhead*, breaking the  
 River off abruptly, as if pouring its Waters  
 all at once into a great Gulph, like one of  
 the Common-Shores of the Streets of *London*,  
 and bringing it out again at once, just as the  
 Water of the Brook running into *Fleet-Ditch*,  
 comes out from under *Holbourn-Bridge*.

Now after all these plausible Stories, the  
 matter of Fact is *this, and no more*; and even  
 of

of this, the Thing is wonderful enough too: But I say, it is thus, and no more, (*Viz.*)

The River *Mole* passes by *Beechworth* Castle in a full Stream; and for near a Mile farther on the West of the Castle, it takes into its Stream *Darking-Brook*, as they call it, and has upon it a large Corn-Mill, call'd *Darking-Mill*; below this it runs close at the Foot of *Box-Hill*, near that part of the Hill, which is call'd the *Stomacher*; then, as if obstructed by the Hill, it turns a little South, and runs cross the Road which leads from *Darking* to *Leatherhead*, where it is apparently Rapid and Strong; and then fetches a Circuit round a Park, formerly belonging to Sir *Richard Studdolph*, and which is part of it, within sight of *Leatherhead*, and so keeps a continued Chanel to the very Town of *Leatherhead*; so that there is no such thing as a Natural Bridge, or a River lost, *no*, not *at all*; and in the Winter, in time of Floods the Stream will be very large, and rapid all the way above Ground, which I affirm of my own knowledge, having seen it so, on many Occasions.

But the true State of the Case is this, the Current of the River being much obstructed by the Interposition of those Hills, call'd *Box-Hill*, which tho' descending in a kind of Vale, as if parted to admit the River to pass, and making that Descent so low as to have the appearance of a level, near a Village call'd *Mickleham*; I say, these Hills yet interrupting the free Course of the River, it forces the Waters *as it were* to find their way thro' as well as they can; and in order to this, beginning, I say, where the River comes  
close

close to the Foot of the Precipice of *Box-Hill*, call'd the *Stomacher*, the Waters sink insensibly away, and in some Places are to be seen, (and *I have seen them*) little Channells which go out of the sides of the River, where the Water in a Stream not so big as would fill a Pipe of a quarter of an Inch Diameter, trills away out of the River, and sinks insensibly into the Ground.

In this manner it goes away, lessening the Stream for above a Mile, near two, and these they call the *Swallows*; and the whole Ground on the Bank of the River, where it is flat and low, is full of these Subterraneous Passages; so that if on any sudden Rain, the River swells over the Banks, it is observ'd not to go back into the Channell again when the Flood abates, but to sink away into the Earth in the Meadows, where it spreads; a remarkable Proof of which I shall give presently.

But now take this with you as you go, that these *Swallows*, for they are many, and not one call'd the *Swallow*, as is said in *Mr. Camden*; these *Swallows* (*I say*) tho' they diminish the Stream much, do not so drink it up as to make it disappear: But that, where it crosses the Road near *Mickleham*, it runs, as I have said, very *sharp and broad*, nor did I ever know it dry in the dryest Summer in that Place, tho' I liv'd in the Neighbourhood several Years: On the contrary I have known it so deep, that Waggon and Carriages have not dar'd to go thro'; but never knew it, *I say*, dry in the greatest time of Drought.

Below this Place the Hills rise again on the other side very high, and particularly on the  
Ridge,

Ridge, which the Country People call the *Ashcom-Hills*, and they seem to force the River again West; so it furrounds most of the Park I mentioned above, and has several Bridges upon it, *and by this time indeed*, so much of it is sunk away, that in a very dry Summer the Chanel, tho' full of Water in Pits and Holes, cannot be perceiv'd to run; but this must be, I say, in a very dry Season, and still there is the Chanel visible where it runs at other times fiercely enough.

This part which I say has the least Water, continuing about half a Mile, we then perceive the Chanel insensibly to have more Water than before: *That is to say*, that as it sunk in gradually and insensibly, so it takes vent again in the like manner in Thousands of little Springs, and unseen Places, very few in any quantity, till in another half Mile, it is a full River again, and passès in full Streams under *Leatherhead-Bridge*, as above, and for the truth of this, I appeal to the Knowledge of the Inhabitants of *Darking, Mickleham, Leatherhead*, and all the Country round.

A farther Proof of this, and which is the Account which I promised above, relating to the gradual sinking away of the Water, take as follows: It was in the Year 1676, in the Month of *October*, or thereabouts, that there happen'd a very sudden hasty Land Flood, which swell'd the River to a very great height; and particularly so high, that at *Beechworth-Castle*, and other Gentlemen's Seats, near the River, where they had Fish-Ponds that were fed by the River, it over-flowed their Ponds, and carry'd off all their Fish, or at least they  
thought

thought so: Sir *Adam Brown* liv'd then at *Beechworth-Castle*, a Gentleman in those Days, well known in the Country, for he was many Years Knight of the Shire, of the Family of *Browns*, a Branch of the House of *Montacutes* at *Midhurst*, mentioned before, but a Collateral Line; another of the *Browns* liv'd at *Bucknal*, another at *Darking*, which I mention chiefly, because some Ignorant Writers, particularly the late *Atlas*, has confounded the Title of *Montacute* with the Surname of *Montague*, which is quite another Family, and Generation, not at all ally'd, and nothing near so Antient, *but this by the by.*

Sir *Adam Brown's* Son, and the Young Gentlemen of these, and other Neighbouring Families, disturb'd at the loss of their Fish, and mov'd by the report, came all down to *Darking*; where they rais'd a little Troop of the young Fellows and Boys of the Town, and all went together, to that part of the River which runs by the Foot of the *Stomacher*, as I said they call it, of *Box-Hill*.

There was a low flat piece of Meadow Ground, lying close to the River on one side, just opposite to which, the Hill lying also close to the River, made up the Bank on the other: This piece of Ground might contain about Four or Five Acres, and lying hollow in the middle, like the shape of a *Dripping-Pan*, was by the overflowing of the River full of Water, and so full, that the Bank, which lay close to the River, tho' higher than the rest, was not to be seen.

The Gentlemen set themselves and all their little Army at work, to raise this Bank, which



I say, lay between the River and the Hollow of the Field, so as to separate the Water in the Hollow part of the Field from that in the River, and having so many Hands, they effected that part the first Day; and made a solid Dam or Bank, so that they cou'd walk upon it dry footed; then they made a return to it, at the upper, or East End of the Field; so that in short, no more Water could run into the Field from any part of the River.

When this was done, they built Hutts or Booths, and made Fires, and sent for Victuals and Drink to Treat their Young Company, and there they encamp'd, as if they waited some great Event; and so indeed they did, for in about two Nights and a Day, exclusive of the time they took in making their Dams, the Water sunk all away in the Field; and the consequence of that was, that the Fish being surrounded, were catch'd, as it were, in a Trap, for they cou'd not be swallow'd up with the Water; and the Purchase fully recompenc'd their Labour, for the like quantity of Fish, great and small, I believe was never taken at once in this Kingdom, out of so small a River.

This Story would have nothing in it wonderful, or to make it worth recording, were it not so evident a Demonstration of the manner of this River losing it self under Ground, or being *Swallowed up*, as they call it; for this Field where the Water sunk away is just at the Place, which Mr. *Cambden* calls the *Swallows*, near the Village of *Mickleham*; and under the Precipice of the Hill, and yet the Water was two Nights and a Day, as I say,

say, sinking leisurely off; and in this manner, and in no other, does the whole River, or so much of it as passes under Ground, sink away.

The Town of *Darking* is eminent for several little Things worth Observation; as first, for the great *Roman* Highway, call'd *Stonny-street*, which *Mr. Camden* says, passes through the very Church-Yard of this Town: Secondly, for a little Common or Heath, call'd the *Cottman Dean*, or the Dean or Heath of Poor Cottagers, for so the Word signifies, belonging to the Town; and where their Alms-House stands; which some Learned Physicians have singled out for the best Air in *England*: Thirdly, for *Mr. Howard's* House and Garden, call'd *Deaden*, the Garden is so naturally Mounded with Hills, that it makes a compleat Amphitheatre, being an Oblong Square, the Area about Eighty Yards by Forty, and the Hills unpassably steep, serve instead of Walls, and are handsomely planted with Trees, whose Tops rising above one another gradually, as the Hill rises at their Roots, make a most Beautiful Green Wall, of perhaps Fifty or Sixty Foot high; at the North End, which is the Entrance, is the House, which closes it wholly; and at the South End, the Antient Possessor, *Mr. Howard*, by what we call *Perforation*, caused a Vault or Cave to be made quite through the Hill, which came out again into a fine Vineyard, which he planted the same Year, on the South side, or slope of the Hill, and which they say has produced since most excellent good Wines, and a very great quantity of them.

Mr. *Howard* was an Honourable and Antient Gentleman, Younger Brother to the Old Duke of *Norfolk*, then living: (*Viz.*) In the Year 1676, for in that Year, or the Year before, was that Vineyard planted, and tho' Mr. *Howard* was then upwards of Sixty Years of Age, he enjoy'd that pleasant Seat near Thirty Years after.

At this Town liv'd another Antient Gentleman and his Son, of a very good Family; (*viz.*) *Augustin Bellson*, Esq; or as some write it *Belschon*, the Father was measur'd Seven Foot and half an Inch high, allowing all that he might have sunk, for his Age, being Seventy One Years Old; and the Son measur'd Two Inches Taller than his Father.

These Families were *Roman*, as were several others thereabouts at that time; but were soon after that, upon the breaking out of the *Popish Plot*, dispers'd; some one way, and some another, as the Fate of those Times oblig'd them to do; tho' I do not remember that any part of the Scenes of Treason were lay'd about *Darking*, or that any of the *Romish* Gentlemen thereabout were charg'd with being concern'd with them.

The Market of *Darking* cannot be omitted, as it relates to my design of giving an Account of the several Parts of *England*; from whence this great City of *London*, and all the *Dainty Doings*, which are to be seen there, as to *Eating*, is supply'd with Provisions.

This Market is of all the Markets in *England* famous for Poultry; and particularly for the fattest Geese, and the largest Capons, the Name of a *Darking Capon* being well known among

mong the Poulterers in *Leaden-Hall Market*; in a Word, they are brought to this Market from as far as *Horsham* in *Suffex*; and 'tis the Business of all the Country, on that side for many Miles, to Breed and Fatten them up, insomuch, that 'tis like a Manufacture to the Country People; and some of these *Capons* are so large, as that they are little inferior to *Turkeys*; and I have seen them Sold for 4 s. to 4 s. 6 d. each, and weighing from 4 l. to 5 or 6 l. a peice.

Once a Year here is also a Fair, (*viz.*) on *Holy Thursday*, chiefly for Lambs, and the greatest Fair in *England* of that kind: I have pass'd over the so much celebrated House of *Mr. Evelyn* at *Wotton*, near *Darking*, not that it is not worth Notice, but because so many other Writers have said so much of it.

On the Top of *Box-Hill*, and in view of this Town, grows a very great Beech-Tree, which by way of distinction is call'd *The great Beech*, and a very great Tree it is; but I mention it on the following account, under the Shade of this Tree, was a little Vault or Cave, and here every *Sunday*, during the Summer Season, there used to be a Rendezvous of Coaches and Horsemen, with abundance of Gentlemen and Ladies from *Epsome* to take the Air, and walk in the *Box-Woods*; and in a word, Divert, or Debauch, or perhaps both, as they thought fit, and the Game encreas'd so much, that it began almost on a sudden, to make a great Noise in the Country.

A Vintner who kept the *King's-Arms-Inn*, at *Darking*, taking notice of the constant and unusual flux of Company thither, took the

hint from the Prospect of his Advantage, which offer'd, and obtaining leave of Sir *Adam Brown*, whose Mannor and Land it was, furnish'd this little Cellar or Vault with Tables, Chairs, &c. and with Wine and Eatables to entertain the Ladies and Gentlemen on *Sundays* Nights, as above; and this was so agreeable to them as that it increased the Company exceedingly; *in a Word*, by these means, the Concourse of Gentry, and in consequence of the Country People, became so great, that the Place was like a little Fair; so that at length the Country began to take Notice of it, and it was very offensive, especially to the best governed People; this lasted some Years, I think Two or Three, and tho' Complaint was made of it to Sir *Adam Brown*, and the Neighbouring Justices; alledging the Revelling, and the Indecent Mirth that was among them, and on the Sabbath Day too, yet it did not obtain a suitable Redress; whereupon a certain Set of Young Men, of the Town of *Darking*, and perhaps prompted by some others, resenting the Thing also, made an unwelcome Visit to the Place once on a *Saturday* Night, just before the usual Time of their wicked Mirth, and behold when the Coaches and Ladies, &c. from *Epsome* appear'd the next Afternoon, they found the Cellar or Vault, and all that was in it, blown up with Gun-Powder; and so secret was it kept, that upon the utmost enquiry it cou'd never be heard, or found out who were the Persons that did it: That Action put an End to their Revels for a great while; nor was the Place ever repair'd that I heard of.

of, at least it was not put to the same wicked use that it was employ'd in before.

From this Hill, and particularly from this part of it, is a fair View in clear Weather quite over the *Wild of Sussex*, to the *South-Downs*; and by the help of Glasses, those who know where Things are scituated, may plainly see the Town of *Horsham*, *Ashdown-Forest*, the Duke of *Somerset's* House at *Petworth*, and the *South-Downs*, as they range between *Bright-helmston* and *Arundel*; besides an unbounded Prospect into *Kent*.

The Vale beneath this Hill is for many Miles East and West, call'd the *Holmward*, by some the *Holm-Wood*, others *Holmsdale*; but more vulgarly the *Homeward*: In the Woody Part of which are often found Outlying Red Deer, and in the Days of King *James II.* or while he was Duke of *York*, they have Hunted the largest Stags here that have been seen in *England*; the Duke took great care to have them preserv'd for his own Sport, and they were so preserv'd for many Years; but have since that been most of them destroy'd.

This *Homeward*, or *Holmwood*, is a Vale, which is now chiefly grown with Furz, famous for the Country Peop e, gathering such quantities of *Strawberries*, as they carry them to Market by *Horse-Loads*: I saw neither Town or Village, for many Miles on it, much less any Gentlemen's Seats, only Cottages and single Houses; but vast quantities of Geese and Poultry, which as is said above, employs all the Country in breeding them up: There has been large Timber here, (they say) but most of it is cut down and gone, except that

where there are any Woods standing, the Timber is still exceeding good and large.

It is suggested that this Place was in Ancient Times so unpassable a Wild, or overgrown Waste, the Woods so thick, and the extent so large, reaching far into *Suffex*, that it was the Retreat for many Ages of the Native *Britons*, who the *Romans* could never drive out; and after that it was the like to the *Saxons*, when the *Danes* Harrass'd the Nation with their Troops, and Ravag'd the Country wherever they came; and on this Account they retain here in Memory the following Lines.

*This is Holmes Dale,  
Never Conquer'd, never shall.*

But this is a peice of History, which I leave as I find it; the Country tho' wild still, and perhaps having the same Countenance now in many Places, as it had above a Thousand Years ago; yet in other Places is Cultivated, and has Roads passable enough in the Summer quite thro' it, on every side, and the Woods are clear'd off in a great measure as above.

Keeping at the Bottom of these Hills, and yet not enter'd into this Vale, the County is dry, and rather Sandy or Gravel, and is full of Gentlemen's Houses, and of good Towns; but if we go but a little to the Right Hand South, into the said Wild Part, 'tis a deep; strong, and in the wet Season, an unpassable Clay.

Her

Here Travelling East at the Foot of the Hills, we came to *Rygate*, a large Market-Town with a Castle, and a Mansion-House, inhabited for some Years by Sir *John Parsons*, once Lord Mayor of *London*, and whose Son is in a fair way to be so also; being one of the Aldermen and Sheriffs of the said City at the writing these Sheets.

Here are two miserable Borough Towns too, which nevertheless send each of them Two Members to Parliament, to wit, *Gatton* under the side of the Hill, almost at *Rygate*; and *Bleekingly*, more Eastward on the same Cross-Road, which we were upon before: In the first of these Sir *John Thomson*, (afterwards Lord *Haversham*) having Purchas'd the Manor, was always Elected; as Mr. *Paul Dominique*, an *Italian* Merchant, has been since: The last was for many Years, the Estate of Sir *Robert Clayton*, a known Citizen, and Benefactor to the City of *London*, whose Posterity still enjoy it: And at either Town the Purchasers seem to buy the Election with the Property.

At *Nutfield*, between *Rygate* and *Bleekingly*, is another Branch of the Family of *Evelyn*, who have flourish'd there many Years, tho' in a kind of Retreat, and are often Chosen Representatives for the Town of *Bleekingly*, which is just at their Door.

From hence, crossing still all the Roads leading from *London* into *Sussex*, we come to a Village call'd *Godstone*, which lyes on the Road from *London* to *Lewis*; and keeping on (East) we come to *Westerham*, the first Market Town in *Kent* on that side: This is a neat handsome well built Market-Town, and is full of Gentry,  
and



and consequently of good Company. The late Earl of *Jersey* Built, or rather Finished, for it was begun by a Private Gentleman, a very noble House here, which still remains in the Family, and is every Year made finer and finer.

All this part of the Country is very agreeably Pleasant, Wholesome and Fruitful, I mean quite from *Guildford* to this Place; and is accordingly overspread with good Towns, Gentlemen's Houses, Populous Villages, abundance of Fruit, with Hop-Grounds and Cherry Orchards, and the Lands well Cultivated; but all on the Right-Hand, that is to say, South, is exceedingly grown with Timber, has abundance of Waste and Wild Grounds, and Forests, and Woods, with many large Iron-Works, at which they Cast great quantities of *Iron Caldrons, Chimney-Backs, Furnaces, Retorts, Boiling Pots,* and all such necessary Things of Iron; besides *Iron Cannon, Bomb-Shells, Stink-Pots, Hand-Grenadoes, and Cannon Ball, &c.* in an infinite quantity, and which turn to very great Account; tho' at the same time the Works are prodigiously Expensive, and the quantity of Wood they consume is exceeding great, which keeps up that Complaint I mention'd before; that Timber would grow scarce, and consequently dear, from the great quantity consum'd in the Iron-Works in *Suffex*.

From hence going forward East, we come to *Riverhead*, a Town on the Road from *London* to *Tunbridge*; and then having little to speak of in *Kent*, except some Petty Market-Towns, such as *Wrotham*, commonly call'd *Roatham*, *Town-Malling*, *Cranbrook*, and the like; of which some-

something had been observ'd, as I travell'd forward, in the beginning of this Circuit, I turn'd North, and came to *Bromley*, a Market-Town, made famous by an Hospital, lately Built there by Dr. *Warner*, Lord Bishop of *Rocheſter*, for the Relief of the Widows of Clergy-Men, which was not only well Endow'd at firſt, but has had many Gifts and Charities beſtow'd on it ſince, and is a very Noble Foundation for the beſt of Charities in the World; beſides it has been an Example, and an Encouragement to the like in other Places, and has already been imitated as Mr. *Camden's* Moſt Reverend Continuator, aſſures us, by the Bishops of *Wincheſter* and *Salisbury* in their Dioceſſes.

Near this Town we turn'd away by *Beckenham*, and thro' *Norwood* to *Croydon*; in the Way we ſaw *Dullige* or *Sydenham Wells*, where great Crouds of People throng every Summer from *London* to drink the Waters, as at *Epsome* and *Tunbridge*; only with this difference, that as at *Epsome* and *Tunbridge*, they go more for the Diverſion of the Season, for the Mirth and the Company; for Gaming, or Intriguing, and the like, here they go for meer Phyſick, and this cauſes another difference; Namely, that as the Nobility and Gentry go to *Tunbridge*, the Merchants and Rich Citizens to *Epsome*; ſo the Common People go chiefly to *Dullwich* and *Stretham*; and the rather alſo, becauſe it lyes ſo near *London*, that they can walk to it in the Morning, and return at Night; which abundance do; that is to ſay, eſpecially of a *Sunday*, or on Holidays, which makes the better fort  
alſo

also decline the Place; the Croud on those Days being both unruly and unmannerly.

*Croydon* is a great Corn-Market, but chiefly for *Oats* and *Oatmeal*, all for *London* still; the Town is large and full of Citizens from *London*, which makes it so Populous; it is the Antient Palace of the Archbishops of *Canterbury*, and several of them lye buried here; particularly that great Man, Archbishop *Whitgift*, who not only repair'd the Palace, but Built the Famous Hospital and School, which remains there to this Day, to the singular Honour of the Giver.

In the Gardens of this Episcopal Palace, the Lady Dowager *Onslow*, Mother of the present Lord of that Name, of whom mention has been made, was very unhappily drown'd about Two Year since, in one of the Fish-Ponds; whether she did it herself, or whether by Accident, or how, 'tis not the business of such a Work as this to enquire; her Daughter being the Wife of Sir *John Williams*, Merchant of *London*, had hired the House, and she was in his Family.

From hence we pass'd by *Beddington*, where is still the Seat or Mansion House of Sir *Nicholas Carew*, it was a fine Building in Mr. *Camden's* Time; but is now almost Rebuilt from the Ground, by the present Owner, Sir *Nicholas Carew*, who now possesses that Estate, and who is one of the Representatives for the County of *Surrey*; the House is Magnificently Great, and the Gardens are exquisitely Fine; yet Architects say, that the two Wings are too deep for the Body of the House, that they should either have been wider asunder, or  
not

not so long; the Court before them is extremely Fine, and the Canal in the Park, before the Court, is so well that nothing can be better, having a River running through it; the Gardens are exceedingly enlarged, they take up all the flat part of the Park, with Vista's, or Prospects thro' the Park, for Two or Three Miles; the Orange-Trees continue, and are indeed wonderful; they are the only Standard Orange-Trees in *England*, and have moving Houses to cover them in the Winter; they are loaded with Fruit in the Summer, and the Gardners told us, they have stood in the Ground where they now grow above 80 Years.

I am sorry to Record it to the Reproach of any Person in their Grave, that the Ancestor of this Family, tho' otherwise a very honest Gentleman, if Fame lyes not, was so addicted to Gaming, and so unfortunately over-match'd in his Play, that he lost this Noble Seat and Parks, and all the fine Addenda which were then about it, at one Night's Play, some say, at one cast of Dice, to Mr. *Harvey* of *Comb*, near *Kingston*; What Misery had befallen the Family, if the Right of the Winner had been Prosecuted with rigour, as by what I have heard it would have been, is hard to Write: But God had better Things in store for the Gentleman's Posterity than he took thought for himself; and the Estate being Entail'd upon the Heir, the Loser dy'd before it came into Possession of the Winner, and so it has been preserv'd, and the present Gentleman has not only recover'd the Disaster, but as above, has exceedingly improv'd it all.

From

From hence it is but a little Mile to *Cashalton*, a Country Village situate among innumerable Springs of Water, which all together, form a River in the very Street of the Town, and joining the other Springs which come from *Croyden* and *Bedington*, make one Stream, which are call'd the River *Wandell*: This Village seated among such delightful Springs, is yet all standing upon firm Chalk; and having the *Downs* close adjoining, makes the most agreeable Spot on all this side of *London*, as is abundantly testify'd by its being, as it were, croud'd with fine Houses of the Citizens of *London*; some of which are built with such a Profusion of Expence, that they look rather like Seats of the Nobility, than the Country Houses of Citizens and Merchants; particularly those of Sir *William Scawen*, lately Deceased; who besides an immense Estate in Money has left, as I was told, One Article of Nine Thousand Pounds a Year to his Heir; and was himself since the Fire of *London*, only Mr. *Scawen*, a *Hamborough* Merchant, dealing by Commission, and not in any view of such an Encrease of Wealth, or any thing like it.

The other Houe is that of Sir *John Fellows*, late Sub-Governor of the *South-Sea* Company, who having the Misfortune to fall in the General Calamity of the late Directors, lost all his unhappy Wealth, which he had gain'd in the Company, and a good and honestly gotten Estate of his own into the Bargain: I cannot dwell on the Description of all the fine Houses in this and the Neighbouring Villages; I shall speak of them again in bulk with their Neighbours, of *Mitcham*, *Stresham*, *Toot-*

ing, *Clapham*, and others; but I must take a Trip here cross the *Downs* to *Epsome*.

*Banstead Downs* need no Description other than this, that their being so near *London*, and surrounded as they are with Pleasant Villages, and being in themselves perfectly agreeable, the Ground smooth, soft, level and dry; (even in but a few Hours after Rain) they conspire to make the most delightful Spot of Ground, of that kind in all this Part of *Britain*.

When on the Publick Race Days they are cover'd with Coaches and Ladies, and an innumerable Company of Horsemen, as well Gentlemen as Citizens, attending the Sport; and then adding to the Beauty of the Sight, the Racers flying over the Course, as if they either touch'd not, or felt not the Ground they run upon; I think no Sight, except that of a Victorious Army, under the Command of a Protestant King of *Great Britain* could exceed it.

About four Miles, over those delicious *Downs*, brings us to *Epsome*, and if you will suppose me to come there in the Month of *July*, or thereabouts, you may think me to come in the middle of the Season, when the Town is full of Company, and all disposed to Mirth and Pleasantry; for abating one unhappy *Stock Jobbing Year*, when *England* took leave to act the Frantick, for a little while; and when every Body's Heads were turn'd with Projects and Stocks, I say, except this Year, we see nothing of Business in the whole Conversation of *Epsome*; even the Men of Business, who are really so when in *London*; whether it be at  
the

the *Exchange*, the *Alley*, or the *Treasury-Of-fices*, and the *Court*; yet here they look as if they had *left all their London Thoughts behind them*, and had separated themselves to *Mirth and good Company*; as if they came hither to unbend the *Bow of the Mind*, and to give themselves a loose to their *Innocent Pleasures*; *I say*, Innocent, for such they may enjoy here, and such any Man may make his being here, *if he pleases*.

As, *I say*, this Place seems adapted wholly to *Pleasure*, so the *Town* is suited to it; 'tis all *Rural*, the *Houfes* are Built at large, not many together, with *Gardens and Ground about them*; that the *People* who come out of their confin'd *Dwellings in London*, may have *Air and Liberty*, suited to the *Design of Country Lodgings*.

You have no sooner taken *Lodgings*, and enter'd the *Apartments*, but if you are any thing known, you walk out, to see who and who's together; for 'tis the general *Language of the Place*, *Come let's go see the Town, Folks don't come to Epsome to stay within Doors*.

The next *Morning* you are welcom'd with the *Musick* under your *Chamber Window*; but for a *Shilling or Two* you get rid of them, and prepare for going to the *Wells*.

Here you have the *Compliment of the Place*, are enter'd into the *List of the Pleasant Company*, so you become a *Citizen of Epsome* for that *Summer*; and this costs you another *Shilling*, or if you please, *Half a Crown*: Then you *Drink the Waters*, or walk about as if you did; *Dance with the Ladies*, tho' it be in your *Gown and Slippers*; have *Musick and Company*

Company of what kind you like, for every Man may sort himself as he pleases; but The Grave with the Grave, and the Gay with the Gay, the Bright and the Wicked; all may be match'd if they seek for it, and perhaps some of the last may be overmatch'd, if they are not upon their Guard.

After they Morning Diversions are over, and every one are walk'd home to their Lodgings, the Town is perfectly quiet again; nothing is to be seen, in the Green, the Great Room, the Raffle Shops, all are (as if it was a Trading Town on a Holiday.) shut up; there's little stirring, except Footmen, and Maid Servants, going to and from Errands, and Higglers and Butchers, carrying Provisions to People's Lodgings.

This takes up the Town till Dinner is over, and the Company have repose for Two or Three Hours in the heat of the Day; then the first thing you observe is, that the Ladies come to the shady Seats, at their Doors, and to the Benches in the Groves, and covered Walks; (of which, every House that can have them, is generally supply'd with several.) Here they refresh with cooling Liquors, agreeable Conversation, and Innocent Mirth.

Those that have Coaches, or Horses (as soon as the Sun declines) take the Air on the Downs; and those that have not, content themselves with staying a little later, and when the Air grows cool, and the Sun low, they walk out under the Shade of the Hedges and Trees, as they find it for their Diversions. In the mean time, towards Evening, the Bowling Green begins to fill, the Musick strikes up in the



Great Room, and Company draws together a-pace: And here they never fail of abundance of Mirth, *every Night being a kind of Ball*; the Gentlemen Bowl, the Ladies Dance, others Raffle, and some Rattle; Conversation is the general Pleasure of the Place, till it grows late, and then the Company draws off; and, generally speaking, they are pretty well as to keeping good Hours; so that by Eleven a Clock the Dancing generally ends, and the Day closes with good wishes, and appointments to meet the next Morning at the Wells, or somewhere else.

The retir'd part of the World, of which also there are very many here, have the Waters brought home to their Apartments in the Morning, where they Drink and Walk about a little, for assisting the Physical Operation, till near Noon, then dress Dinner, and repose for the Heat as others do; after which they Visit, drink Tea, walk Abroad, come to their Lodgings to Supper, then walk again till it grows dark, and then to Bed: The greatest part of the Men, I mean of this Grave sort, may be supposed to be Men of Business, who are at *London* upon Business all the Day, and thronging to their Lodgings at Night, make the Families, generally speaking, rather provide Suppers than Dinners; for 'tis very frequent for the Trading part of the Company to place their Families here, and take their Horses every Morning to *London*, to the *Exchange*, to the *Alley*, or to the *Warehouse*, and be at *Epsome* again at Night; and I know one Citizen that practis'd it for several  
Years

Years together, and scarce ever lay a Night in *London* during the whole Season.

This, I say, makes the good Wives satisfy themselves with providing for the Family, rather at Night than at Noon, that their Husbands may Eat with them; after which they walk Abroad as above, and these they call *the Sober Citizens*, and those are not much at the *Wells*, or at the *Green*; except sometimes, when they give themselves a Holiday, or when they get sooner home than usual.

Nor are these which I call the more retir'd part the Company, the least part of those that fill up the Town of *Epsome*, nor is their way of living so retir'd, but that there is a great deal of Society, Mirth, and good Manners, and good Company among these too.

The fine Park of the late Earl of *Berkeley*, near *Epsome*, was formerly a great addition to the pleasure of the Place, by the fine Walks and cool Retreats there; but the Earl finding it absolutely necessary, for a known Reason, to shut it up, and not permit any walking there, that Relief to the Company was abated for some Years; but the Pleasures of Nature are so many round the Town, the shady Trees so every where planted, and now generally well grown, that it makes *Epsome* like a great Park fill'd with little Groves, Lodges and Retreats for coolness of Air, and Shade from the Sun; and I believe, I may say, it is not to be match'd in the World, on that account; at least, not in so little a space of Ground.

It is to be observ'd too, that for shady Walks, and innumerable Numbers of Trees

planted before the Houses; *Epsome* differs much from it self, *that is to say*, as it was Twenty or Thirty Years ago; for then those Trees that were planted, were generally young, and not grown; and now not only all the Trees then young, are grown large and fair, but Thousands are planted since; so that the Town, at a distance, looks like a great Wood full of Houses, scatter'd every where, all over it.

In the Winter this is no Place for Pleasure indeed; as it is full of Mirth and Gayety in the Summer, so the Prospect in the Winter, presents you with little, but good Houses shut up, and Windows fasten'd; the Furniture taken down, the Families remov'd, the Walks out of Repair, the Leaves off of the Trees, and the People out of the Town; and which is still worse, the ordinary Roads both to it, and near it, except only on the side of the *Downs*, are deep, stiff, full of Sloughs, and, in a Word, unpassable; for all the Country, the side of the *Downs*, as I have said, only excepted, is a deep stiff Clay; so that there's no riding in the Winter without the utmost Fatigue, and some hazard, and this is the Reason that *Epsome* is not (like *Hampstead* or *Richmond*) full of Company in Winter as well as Summer.

From *Epsome* that I might thoroughly visit the County of *Surrey*, I rode over those Clays, and through very bad Roads to *Kingstone*, and from thence keeping the Bank of the River on my Right Hand, I had a fine view of *Hampton-Court*, at a distance, but had reserv'd it for another Journey; and was bound now in search of a piece of Antiquity to satisfy  
my

my own Curiosity, this was to *Oatland*, that I might see the famous Place where *Julius Caesar* pass'd the River *Thames* in the sight of the *British* Army, and notwithstanding they had stuck the River full of *sharp Stakes* for Three Miles together.

The People said several of those Stakes were still to be seen in the Bottom of the River, having stood there for now above 1760 Years; but they cou'd show me none of them, tho' they call the Place *Coway Stakes* to this Day; I cou'd make little Judgment of the thing, *only from this*, that it really seems probable, that this was the first Place where *Caesar* at that time cou'd find the River Fordable, or any way Passable to him, who had no Boats, no Pontons, and no way to make Bridges over, in the Teeth of so Powerful, and so Furious an Enemy; but the *Roman* Valour and Discipline surmounted all Difficulties, and he pass'd the Army, routing the *Britons*; whose King and General, *Cassibellanus*, never offer'd a pitch'd Battle to the *Romans* afterward.

Satisfy'd with what little I cou'd see here, which indeed was nothing at all, but the meer Place, said to be so; and which it behov'd me to believe, only because it was not unlikely to be true; I say, satisfy'd with this, I came back directly to *Kingstone*, a good Market-Town, but remarkable for little, only that they say, the Antient *British* and *Saxon* Kings were usually Crown'd here in former Times, which I will neither assert or deny.

But keeping the River now on my Left, as I did before on my Right-Hand, drawing near to *London*, we came to *Hame* and *Peterfon*, little Villages; the first, famous for a most pleasant Pallace of the late Duke of *Lauderdale*, close by the River; a House King *Charles II.* used to be frequently at, and be exceedingly pleased with; the Avenues of this fine House to the Land side, come up to the end of the Village of *Peterfon*, where the Wall of *New Park* comes also close to the Town, on the other side; in an Angle of which stood a most delicious House, built by the late Earl of *Rochester*, Lord High Treasurer in King *James II.*'s Reign, as also in part of Queen *Ann's* Reign, which Place he discharg'd so well, that we never heard of any misapplications, so much as suggested, much less inquir'd after.

I am oblig'd to say only, that this House stood here; for even while this is writing the Place seems to be but Smoaking with the Ruins of a most unhappy Disaster, the whole House being a few Months ago burnt down to the Ground with a Fire, so sudden, and so furious, that the Family who were all at home, had scarce time to save their Lives.

Nor was the House, tho' so exquisitely finished, so Beautiful within and without, the greatest Loss sustained; the rich Furniture, the curious Collection of Paintings; and above all, the most curious Collection of *Books*, being the Library of the First Earl of *Clarendon*, Lord Chancellor of *England*, and Author of that most excellent History of the Rebellion, of which the World knows so much; I say, this Library, as I am assur'd, was here wholly consum'd,

consum'd; a Loss irreparable, and not to be sufficiently regretted by all Lovers of Learning; having among other valuable Things, several Manuscripts relating to those Times, and to Things transacted by himself, and by the King his Master, both at Home and Abroad; and of other Antient Things, Collected by that Noble and Learned Author in Foreign Countries; which both for their Rarity, Antiquity, and Authority, were of an inestimable Value.

From hence we came to *Richmond*, the delightful Retreat of their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of *Wales*, and where they have spent the fine Season every Summer for some Years: The Prince's Court being so near must needs have fill'd *Richmond*, which was before a most agreeable Retreat, for the First and Second rate Gentry, with a great deal of the best Company in *England*: This Town and the Country adjacent, encrease daily in Buildings, many noble Houses for the Accommodation of such, being lately rais'd and more in Prospect: But 'tis fear'd should the Prince come, for any Cause that may happen, to quit that side of the Country, those numerous Buildings must abate in the Value which is now set upon them: The Company however, at *Richmond*, is very great in the Winter, when the Prince's Court is not there; because of the Neighbourhood of so many Gentlemen, who live constantly there, and thereabouts; and of its nearness to *London* also: And in this it has the advantage both of *Epsome* and *Tunbridge*.

Here are *Wells* likewise, and a *Mineral-Water*, which tho' not so much us'd as that at *Epsome* and *Tunbridge*, are yet sufficient to keep up the forms of the Place, and bring the Company together in the Morning, as the *Musick* does in the Evening; and as there is more of Quality in and about the Place than is ordinarily to be seen at *Epsome*, the Company is more shining, and sometimes even *Illustriously* bright.

Mr. *Temple* created *Baron Temple*, of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, even since this Circuit was perform'd; and who is the Son and Successor to the Honour, Estate, and great part of the Character of the Great *Sir William Temple*, has a fine Seat and Gardens (hard by) at *Shene*; The Gardens are indeed exquisitely fine, being finished, and even contriv'd by the Great Genius of *Sir William*, his Father; and as they were his last Delight in Life, so they were every way suited to be so, to a Man of his Sense and Capacity, who knew what kind of Life was best fitted to make a Man's last Days happy.

It is not easy to describe the Beauty with which the Banks of the *Thames* shine on either side of the River, from hence to *London*, much more than our Ancestors, even of but one Age ago, knew any thing of: If for pleasant Villages, great Houses, Palaces, Gardens, &c. it was true in Queen *Elizabeth's* Time, according to the Poet, that

*The Thames with Royal Tyber may compare.*

*I say*, if this were true at that time, What may be said of it now? when for one fine House that was to be seen then, there are a Hundred; nay, for ought I know, Five Hundred to be seen now, even as you sit still in a Boat, and pass up and down the River.

First beginning from *Ham-House*, as above, the Prince's Palace salutes the Eye, being formerly no more than a Lodge in the Park, and by that means belonging to the Ranger, who was then, the (since unhappy) Duke of *Ormond*, and who, with other Branches of a Noble Estate, lost this among the rest by his Precipitate Retreat from the Parliamentary Justice: I have seen many of the Seats of the Nobility in *France*, and some larger, but none finer than this, except such as had been lay'd out at the Royal Expence.

From *Richmond* to *London*, the River sides are full of Villages, and those Villages so full of Beautiful Buildings, Charming Gardens, and rich Habitations of Gentlemen of Quality, that nothing in the World can imitate it; no, not the Country for Twenty Miles round *Paris*, tho' that indeed is a kind of Prodigy.

To enumerate the Gentlemen's Houses in their view, would be too long for this Work to describe them, would fill a large Folio; it shall suffice to observe something concerning the Original of the strange Passion, for fine Gardens, which has so commendably possess'd the *English* Gentlemen of late Years, for 'tis evident it is but of late Years.

It is since the Revolution that our *English* Gentlemen, began so universally, to adorn their Gardens with those Plants, we call *Ever Greens*,



*Greens*, which leads me to a particular Observation that may not be improper in this Place; King *William* and Queen *Mary* introduced each of them *Two Customs*, which by the People's imitating them became the *Two Idols* of the Town, and indeed of the whole Kingdom; the Queen brought in (1.) the love of fine *East-India* Callicoes, such as were then call'd *Massapatan* Chints, *Atlasses*, and fine painted Callicoes, which afterwards descended into the Humours of the Common People so much, as to make them *Greivous* to our Trade, and *Ruining* to our Manufactures and the Poor; so that the Parliament were oblig'd to make Two Acts at several times to Refrain, and at last Prohibit the use of them: (2.) The Queen brought in the Custom or Humour, as I may call it, of furnishing Houses with *China-Ware*, which increased to a strange degree afterwards, piling their *China* upon the Tops of Cabinets, Scrutores, and every Chymney-Piece, to the Tops of the Ceilings, and even setting up Shelves for their *China-Ware*, where they wanted such Places, till it became a grievance in the Expence of it, and even injurious to their Families and Estates.

The Good Queen far from designing any Injury to the Country where she was so entirely belov'd, little thought she was in either of these laying a Foundation for such fatal excesses, and would *no doubt* have been the first to have reform'd them had she lived to see it.

The King on his part introduc'd (1.) the love of Gardening; and (2.) of Painting: In the first his Majesty was particularly delighted

lighted with the Decoration of *Ever-Greens*, as the greatest addition to the Beauty of a Garden, preserving the Figure of the Place, even in the roughest part of an inclement and tempestuous Winter.

Sir *Stephen Fox's* Gardens at *Istleworth*, and Sir *William Temple's* at *Eastshere*, mentioned above, were the only two Gardens where they had entirely persued this Method at that time, and of Sir *Stephen's* Garden, this was to be said, that almost all his fine *Ever-Greens* were raised in the places where they stood; Sir *Stephen* taking as much delight to see them rise gradually, and form them into what they were to be, as to buy them of the Nursery Gardeners finish'd to his Hand; besides, that by this Method his Greens, the finest in *England*, cost him nothing but the Labour of his Servants, and about Ten Years Patience; which if they were to have been purchased, would not have cost so little as Ten Thousand Pounds, especially at that time: It was here that King *William* was so pleased, that according to his Majesty's usual Expression, when he lik'd a Place very well, he stood, and looking round him from the Head of one of the Canals, Well says his Majesty, *I cou'd dwell here five Days*, every thing was so exquisitely contriv'd, finish'd, and well kept, that the King, who was allow'd to be the best judge of such Things then living in the World, did not so much as once say, *this or that thing* cou'd have been better.

With the particular judgment of the King, all the Gentlemen in *England* began to fall in; and in a few Years fine Gardens, and fine  
Houses

Houses began to grow up in every corner; the King began with the Gardens at *Hampton-Court* and *Kensington*, and the Gentlemen follow'd every where, with such a Gust that the alteration is in indeed wonderful thro' the whole Kingdom; but no where more than in the two Counties of *Middlesex* and *Surrey*, as they border on the River *Thames*; the Beauty and Expence of which are only to be wonder'd at, not describ'd; they may indeed be guess'd at, by what is seen in One or Two such as these nam'd: But I think to enter into a particular of them would be an intolerable Task, and tedious to the Reader.

That these Houses and Gardens are admirably Beautiful in their kind, and in their separate, and distinct Beauties, such as their Scituation, Decoration, Architect, Furniture, and the like, must be granted; and many Descriptions have been accurately given of them, as of *Ham-House*, *Qew-Green*, the *Prince's House*, *Sir William Temple's*, *Sir Charles Hedges*, *Sion-House*, *Osterly*, *Lord Ranelagh's* at *Chelsea-Hospital*; the many Noble Seats in *Istleworth*, *Twittenham*, *Hamer-smith*, *Fullham*, *Putney*, *Chelsea*, *Battersea*, and the like.

But I find none has spoken of what I call the distant Glory of all these Buildings: There is a Beauty in these Things at a distance, taking them *en Passant*, and in *Perspective*, which few People value, and fewer understand; and yet here they are more truly great, than in all their private Beauties whatsoever; Here they reflect Beauty, and Magnificence upon the whole Country, and give a kind of a Character to the Island of *Great Britain*

*Britain* in general. The Banks of the *Seine* are not thus adorn'd from *Paris* to *Roan*, or from *Paris* to the *Loign* above the City: The *Danube* can show nothing like it above and below *Vienna*, or the *Po* above and below *Turin*; the whole Country here shines with a lustre not to be describ'd; Take them in a remote view, the fine Seats shine among the Trees as Jewels shine in a rich Coronet; in a *near sight* they are meer Pictures and Paintings; at a *distance* they are all Nature, *near hand* all Art; But both in the extreamest Beauty.

In a Word, nothing can be more Beautiful; here is a plain and pleasant Country, a rich fertile Soil, cultivated and enclosed to the utmost perfection of Husbandry, then bespangled with Villages; those Villages fill'd with these Houses, and the Houses surrounded with Gardens, Walks, Vistas, Avenues, representing all the Beauties of Building, and all the Pleasures of Planting: It is impossible to view these Countries from any rising Ground, and not be ravish'd with the delightful Prospect: For Example, suppose you take your view from the little rising Hills about *Clapham*, if you look to the East, there you see the pleasant Villages of *Peckham* and *Camberwell*, with some of the finest Dwellings about *London*; as (1) the Lord *Powis's* at *Peckham*: (2) a House Built by a Merchant, one *Collins*, but now standing empty at *Camberwell*, but justly call'd a Picture of a House, and several others: Then turning South, we see *Loughborough* House near *Kennington*, Mr. *Howland's*, now the Dutchess of *Bedford's*, at *Stretham*; Sir *Richard Temple's* House near *Croydon*; a whole Town of fine Houses

Houses at *Cashalton*; Sir *Nicholas Carew's*, and Sir *John Lake's* at *Bedington*; Sir *Theodore Janssen* another *South-Sea* Forfeiture at *Wimbleton*; Sir *James Bateman's* at *Tooting*; besides an innumerable Number in *Clapham* it self: On the South West also you have Mr. *Harvey's* at *Coomb*, formerly the Palace of a King; with all the Villages mentioned above, and the Country adjoining fill'd with the Palaces of the *British* Nobility and Gentry already spoken of; looking North, behold, to crown all, a fair Prospect of the whole City of *London* it self; the most glorious Sight without exception, that the whole World at present can show, or perhaps ever cou'd show since the Sacking of *Rome* in the *European*, and the burning the Temple of *Jerusalem* in the *Asian* part of the World.

Add to all this, that these fine Houses and innumerable more, which cannot be spoken of here, are not, at least very few of them, the Mansion Houses of Families, the Antient Residences of Ancestors, the Capital Messuages of the Estates; nor have the rich Possessors any Lands to a considerable Value about them; but these are all Houses of Retreat, like the *Bastides* of *Marseilles*, Gentlemen's meer *Summer-Houses*, or Citizen's *Country-Houses*; whither they retire from the hurries of Business, and from getting Money, to draw their Breath in a clear Air, and to divert themselves and Families in the hot Weather; and that they are shut up, and as it were strip'd of their Inhabitants in the Winter, who return to Smoke and Dirt, *Sin* and *Seacoal*, (as it was sourly express'd) in the busy City; so that  
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in short all this Variety, this Beauty, this glorious Show of Wealth and Plenty, is really a view of the Luxuriant Age which we live in, and of the overflowing Riches of the Citizens, who in their Abundance make these gay Excursions, and live thus deliciously all the Summer retiring within themselves in the Winter, the better to lay up for the next Summer's Expence.

If this then is produc'd from the gay part of the Town only, What must be the immense Wealth of the City it self, where such a Produce is brought forth? where such prodigious Estates are raised in one Man's Age; instances of which we have seen in those of *Sir Josiah Child*, *Sir John Lethulier*, *Sir James Bateman*, *Sir Robert Clayton*, *Sir William Scaven*, and Hundreds more; whose Beginnings were small, or but small compar'd, and who have exceeded even the greatest Part of the Nobility of *England* in Wealth, at their Death, and all of their own getting.

It is impossible in one Journey to describe effectually this part of the County of *Surrey*, lying from *Kingston* to *London* and *Greenwich*, where I set out: That is, including the Villages of *Richmond*, *Petersham*, *Eastshene*, *Mortlock*, *Putney*, *Wandsworth*, *Barn-Elms*, *Battersey*, *Wimbledon*, *Tooting*, *Clapham*, *Camberwell*, *Peckham* and *Deptford*; the Description would swell with the Stories of Private Families, and of the Reasons of these opulent Foundations, more than with their History.

It would also take up a large Chapter in this Book, to but mention the overthrow, and Catastrophe of innumerable Wealthy  
City

City Families, who after they have thought their Houses establish'd, and have built their Magnificent Country Seats, as well as others, have sunk under the Misfortunes of Business, and the Disasters of Trade, after the World has thought them pass'd all possibility of Danger; such as Sir Joseph Hodges, Sir Justus Beck, the Widow Cock at Camberwell, and many others; besides all the late South-Sea Directors, all which I chuse to have forgotten, as no doubt they desire to be, in Recording the Wealth and Opulence of this Part of England, which I doubt not to convince you infinitely out does the whole World.

I am come now to Southwark, a Suburb to, rather than a Part of London; But of which this may be said with Justice.

*A Royal City were not London by.*

To give you a brief Description of Southwark, it might be call'd a long Street, of about Nine Miles in length, as it is now built on Eastward; reaching from Vaux-Hall to London-Bridge, and from the Bridge to Deptford, and up to Deptford-Bridge, which parts it from Greenwich, all the way winding and turning as the River winds and turns; except only in that Part, which reaches from Cuckold's-Point to Deptford, which indeed winds more than the River does.

In the Center, which is opposite to the Bridge, it is thicken'd with Buildings, and may be reckon'd near a Mile broad; (*Viz.*) from the Bridge to the End of Kent-street and Black-

*Blackman-street*, and about the *Mint*; but else the whole Building is but Narrow, nor indeed can it be otherwise; considering the length of it.

The Principal Beauty of the Burrough of *Southwark*, consists in the prodigious Number of its Inhabitants: Take it as it was Antiently bounded, it contain'd Nine Parishes; but as it is now extended, and, *as I say*, joins with *Deptford*, it contains Eleven large Parishes: According to the Weekly-Bills, for the Year 1722, the Nine Parishes only bury'd 4166, which is about one Sixth Part of the whole Body, call'd *London*; the Bill of Mortality for that Year, amounting in all to 25750.

The first Thing we meet with considerable, is at the *Spring-Garden*, just at the Corner, where the Road turns away to go from *Vaux Hall Turnpike*, towards *Newington*, there are the Remains of the Old Lines cast up in the Times of the Rebellion, to Fortify this Side of the Town; and at that Corner was a very large *Bastion*, or rather a Fort, and such indeed they call it; which Commanded all the Pass on that Side, and farther on, where the Openings near *St. George's-Fields* are, which they now call the *Ducking-Pond*, there was another; the Water they call the *Ducking-Pond*, is evidently to this Day the Moat of the Fort, and the Lines are so high, and so undemolish'd still, that a very little matter would Repair and perfect them again.



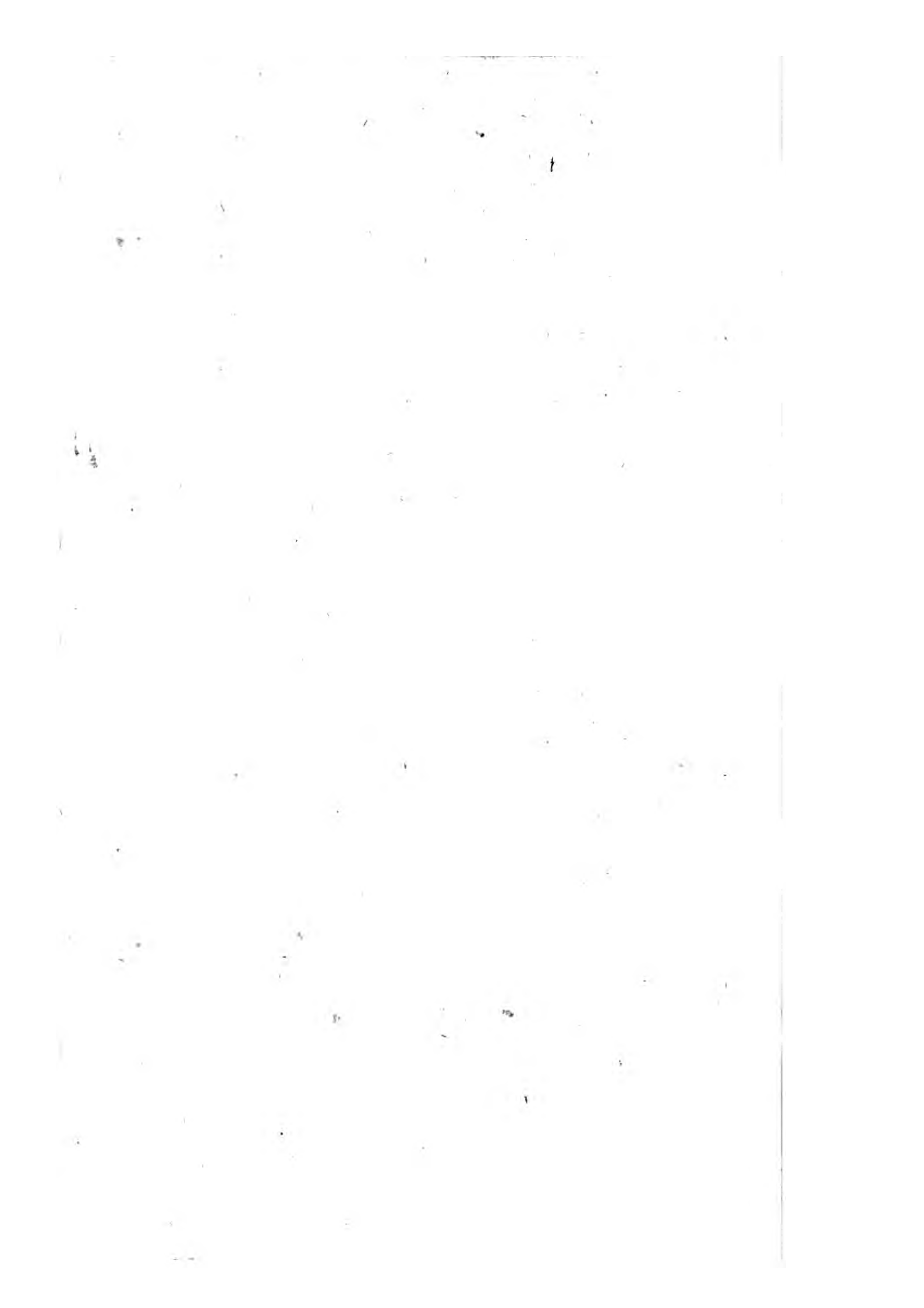
From hence they turn'd South East, and went to the Windmill, at the End of *Blackman-street*, where they cross'd the Road, and going to the End of *Kent-street*, we see another great *Bastion*; and then turning S. E. till they come to the End of *Barnaby-street*, or rather beyond, among the Tanners, and there you see another *Fort*, so plain, and so undemolish'd, the Grass growing now over the Works, that it is as plain as it was, even when it was thrown down.

Here is also another Remain of Antiquity, the Vestiges of which are easy to be traced; (*Viz.*) The Place where by strength of Men's Hands, they turn'd the Channel of this great River of *Thames*, and made a New Course for the Waters, while the great *Bridge*, which is now standing, was Built: Here it is evident they turn'd the Waters out: (*Viz.*) About a Place call'd *Nine Elms*, just beyond *Vaux-Hall*, where now a little Brook, from the *Wash-way* at *Kennington*, and which they once attempted to make *Navigable*, enters the *Thames*, from thence it cross'd the great Road, a little beyond the End of the Houses in *Newington*; between which and *Kennington Common*, on the Left of the Road, as you go South, there is a very large Pond, or *Lake* of Water, part of the Channel not fill'd up to this Day; from thence it enter'd the Marshes between *Rotherif* and *Deptford*, where for many Years after there remained a Drain for the Water, upon which was a large Mill-Pond and *Dam*, and where since was Built the Second great Wet-Dock, said to belong to the Duke of *Bedford's* Estate,  
and

and call'd at first *Snellgrove's-Dock*, because Built by one Mr. *Snellgrove*, a Shipwright, whose Building-Yards adjoin'd it. A farther Description of *Southwark*, I refer till I come to speak of *London*, as one general Appellation for the two Cities of *London* and *Westminster*; and all the Burrough of *Southwark*, and all the Buildings and Villages included within the Bills of Mortality, make but one *London*, in the general Appellation, of which in its Order. I am, &c.

*The End of the Second Letter,*







## LETTER III.

S I R,

**I** Find so much left to speak of, and so many Things to say in every Part of *England*, that my Journey cannot be barren of Intelligence, which Way soever I turn; no, tho' I were to oblige myself to say nothing of any Thing that had been spoken of before.

I intended once to have gone due West this Journey; but then I should have been obliged to crowd my Observations so close, (to bring *Hampton-Court, Windsor, Blenheim, Oxford, the Bath and Bristol*, all into one Letter; all  
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those remarkable Places lying in a Line, as it were, in one Point of the Compass) as to have made my Letter too long, or my Observations too light and superficial, as others have done before me.

This Letter will divide the weighty Task, and consequently make it sit lighter on the Memory, be pleasanter to the Reader, and make my Progress the more regular: I shall therefore take in *Hampton-Court* and *Windsor* in this Journey; the first at my setting out, and the last at my return, and the rest as their Situation demands.

As I came down from *Kingston*, in my last Circuit, by the South Bank of the *Thames*, on the *Surrey* Side of the River; so I go up to *Hampton Court*, now, on the North Bank, and on the *Middlesex* Side, which I mention, because as the Sides of the Country bordering on the River, lie parallel, so the Beauty of the Country, the pleasant Situations, the Glory of innumerable fine Buildings, Noblemens and Gentlemens Houses, and Citizens Retreats, are so equal a Match to what I had describ'd on the other Side, that one knows not which to give the Preference to: But as I must speak of them again, when I come to write of the County of *Middlesex*, which I have now purposely omitted; so I pass them over here, except the Palace of *Hampton* only, which I mention'd in *Middlesex*, for the Reasons above.

*Hampton Court* lyes on the North Bank of the River *Thames*, about two small Miles from *Kingston*, and on the Road from *Stanes* to *Kingston* Bridge; so that the Road straightening the Parks a little, they were obliged to part the  
Parks,

Parks, and leave the *Paddock*, and the great Park, part on the other Side the Road; a Testimony of that just Regard that the Kings of *England* always had, and still have, to the common Good, and to the Service of the Country, that they would not interrupt the Course of the Road, or cause the poor People to go out of the Way of their Business, to or from the Markets and Fairs, for any Pleasure of their own whatsoever.

The Palace of *Hampton-Court* was first founded, and built from the Ground, by that great Statesman, and Favourite of King *Henry VIII.* Cardinal *Wolsey*; and if it be a just Observation any where, as is made from the Situation of the old Abbies and Monasteries, the Clergy were excellent Judges of the Beauty and Pleasantness of the Country, and chose always to plant in the best; *I say*, if it was a just Observation in any Case, it was in this; for if there be a Situation on the whole River between *Stanes-Bridge* and *Windsor-Bridge*, pleasanter than another, it is this of *Hampton*; close to the River, yet not offended by the rising of its Waters in Floods, or Storms, near to the Reflux of the Tides, but not quite so near as to be affected with any Foulness of the Water, which the flowing of the Tides generally is the Occasion of. The Gardens extend almost to the Bank of the River, yet are never overflow'd; nor are there any Marshes on either Side the River to make the Waters stagnate, or the Air unwholesome on that Account. The River is high enough to be Navigable, and low enough to be a little pleasantly rapid; so that the Stream looks always chearful, not flow

and sleeping, like a Pond. This keeps the Waters always clear and clean, the Bottom in view, the Fish playing, and in sight ; and, in a Word, it has every Thing that can make an Inland ; or, as I may call it, a Country River, pleasant and agreeable.

I shall sing you no Songs here of the River in the first Person of a Water Nymph, a Goddess, (and I know not what) according to the Humour of the ancient Poets. I shall talk nothing of the Marriage of old *Isis*, the Male River, with the beautiful *Thamie*, the Female River, a Whimsy as simple as the Subject was empty, but I shall speak of the River as Occasion presents, as it really is *made glorious* by the Splendor of its Shores, gilded with noble Palaces, strong Fortifications, large Hospitals, and public Buildings ; with the greatest Bridge, and the greatest City in the World, made famous by the Opulence of its Merchants, the Encrease and Extensiveness of its Commerce ; by its invincible Navies, and by the innumerable Fleets of Ships sailing upon it, to and from all Parts of the World.

As I meet with the River upwards in my Travels thro' the Inland Country, I shall speak of it, as it is the Chanel for conveying an infinite Quantity of Provisions from remote Counties to *London*, and enriching all the Counties again that lye near it, by the return of Wealth and Trade from the City ; and in describing these Things I expect both to inform and divert my Readers, and speak, in a more Masculine Manner, more to the Dignity of the Subject, and also more to their Satisfaction, than I could do any other way.

There

There is little more to be said of the *Thames*, relating to *Hampton-Court*, than that it adds, by its Neighbourhood, to the Pleasure of the Situation ; for as to passing by Water too and from *London* ; tho' in Summer 'tis exceeding pleasant, yet the Passage is a little too long to make it easy to the Ladies, especially to be crowded up in the small Boats, which usually go upon the *Thames* for Pleasure.

The Prince and Princess, indeed, I remember came once down by Water, upon the Occasion of her Royal Highness's being great with Child, and near her Time ; so near, that she was deliver'd within two or three Days after : But this Passage being in the Royal Barges, with strength of Oars, and the Day exceeding fine, the Passage, I say, was made very pleasant, and still the more so, for being short. Again, this Passage is all the Way with the Stream, whereas, in the common Passage, upwards, great Part of the Way is against the Stream, which is slow and heavy.

But be the going and coming how it will by Water, 'tis an exceeding pleasant Passage by Land, whether we go by the *Surrey* Side or the *Middlesex* Side of the Water, of which I shall say more in its Place.

The Situation of *Hampton-Court* being thus mention'd, and its Founder, 'tis to be mention'd next, that it fell to the Crown in the Forfeiture of his Eminence the Cardinal, when the King seiz'd his Effects and Estate, by which this and *Whitehall*, another House of his own building also, came to King *Henry VIII.* two Palaces fit for the Kings of *England*, erected by one Cardinal, are standing Monuments of the



excessive Pride, as well as the immense Wealth of that Prelate, who knew no Bounds of his Insolence and Ambition, till he was overthrown at once by the Displeasure of his Master.

Whoever knew *Hampton-Court* before it was begun to be rebuilt, or alter'd, by the late King *William*, must acknowledge it was a very compleat Palace before, and fit for a King; and tho' it might not, according to the modern Method of Building, or of Gardening, pass for a Thing exquisitely fine; yet it had this remaining to itself, and perhaps peculiar, namely, that it shewed a Situation exceedingly capable of Improvement, and of being made one of the most delightful Palaces in *Europe*.

This her Majesty Queen *Mary* was so sensible of, that while the King had order'd the pulling down the old Apartments, and building it up in that most beautiful Form, which we see them now appear in, her Majesty, impatient of enjoying so agreeable a Retreat, fix'd upon a Building formerly made use of chiefly for landing from the River, and therefore call'd the *Water Galley*, and here, as if she had been conscious that she had but a few Years to enjoy it, she order'd all the little neat curious Things to be done, which suited her own Conveniences, and made it the pleasantest little Thing within Doors that could possibly be made, tho' its Situation being such, as it could not be allowed to stand after the great Building was finish'd; we now see no remains of it.

The Queen had here her Gallery of Beauties, being the Pictures, at full Length, of the principal Ladies attending upon her Majesty, or who were frequently in her Retinue; and this  
was

was the more beautiful Sight, because the Originals were all in Being, and often to be compar'd with their Pictures. Her Majesty had here a fine Apartment, with a Sett of Lodgings, for her private Retreat only, but most exquisitely furnish'd; particularly a fine Chints Bed, then a great Curiosity; another of her own Work, while in *Holland*, very magnificent, and several others; and here was also her Majesty's fine Collection of *Delft Ware*, which indeed was very large and fine; and here was also a vast Stock of fine *China Ware*, the like whereof was not then to be seen in *England*; the long Gallery, as above, was fill'd with this *China*, and every other Place, where it could be plac'd, with Advantage.

The Queen had here also a small Bathing-Room, made very fine, suited either to hot or cold Bathing, as the Season should invite; also a Dairy, with all its Conveniencies, in which her Majesty took great Delight: All these Things were finish'd with Expedition, that here their Majesties might repose while they saw the main Building go forward. While this was doing, the Gardens were laid out, the Plan of them devised by the King himself; and especially the Amendments and Alterations were made by the King, or the Queen's particular special Command, or by both; for their Majesties agreed so well in their Fancy, and had both so good Judgment in the just Proportions of Things, which are the principal Beauties of a Garden, that it may be said they both order'd every Thing that was done.

Here the fine Parcel of Limes, which form the Semi-circle on the South Front of the House,

by the Iron Gates, looking into the Park, were, by the dextrous Hand of the head Gardener, remov'd, after some of them had been almost thirty Years planted in other Places, tho' not far of. I know the King of *France*, in the Decoration of the Gardens of *Versailles*, had Oaks remov'd, which, by their Dimensions, must have been above an hundred Years old, and yet were taken up with so much Art, and by the Strength of such Engines, by which such a monstrous Quantity of Earth was rais'd with them, that the Trees could not feel their remove; that is to say, their Growth was not at all hinder'd. This, I confess, makes the Wonder much the less in those Trees at *Hampton-Court* Gardens; but the Performance was not the less difficult or nice, however, in these, and they thrive perfectly well.

While the Gardens were thus laid out, the King also directed the laying the Pipes for the Fountain and *Fette d'Eau's*; and particularly the Dimensions of them, and what Quantity of Water they should cast up, and encreas'd the Number of them after the first Design.

The Ground on the Side of the other Front, has receiv'd some Alterations since the taking down the Water Gallery; but not that Part immediately next the Lodgings: The *Orange* Trees, and fine *Dutch* Bays, are plac'd within the Arches of the Building under the first Floor: so that the lower Part of the House was all one as a Green House for some Time: Here stands advanced, on two Pedestals of Stone, two Marble Vases, or Flower-Pots, of most exquisite Workmanship; the one done by an *Englishman*, and the other by a *German*: 'Tis hard to say which

which is the best Performance, tho' the doing of it was a kind of Tryal of Skill between them; but it gives us room, without any Partiality, to say they were both Masters of their Art.

The Parterre on that Side descends from the Terrass Walk by Steps, and on the Left a Terrass goes down to the Water-side, from which the Garden on the Eastward Front is overlook'd, and gives a most pleasant Prospect.

The fine Scrolls and Bordure of these Gardens were at first edg'd with Box; but on the Queen's disliking the Smell, those Edgings were taken up, but have since been planted again, at least in many Places, nothing making so fair and regular an Edging as Box, or is so soon brought to its Perfection.

On the North Side of the House, where the Gardens seem'd to want skreening from the Weather, or the view of the Chapel, and some Part of the old Building requir'd to be cover'd from the Eye; the vacant Ground, which was large, is very happily cast into a Wilderness, with a Labyrinth, and Espaliers so high, that they effectually take off all that Part of the old Building, which would have been offensive to the Sight. This Labyrinth and Wilderness is not only well design'd, and compleatly finish'd, but is perfectly well kept, and the Espaliers fill'd exactly, at Bottom to the very Ground, and are led up to proportion'd Heights on the Top; so that nothing of that Kind can be more beautiful.

The House itself is every way answerable on the Outside to the beautiful Prospect, and the two Fronts are the largest, and, beyond Comparison, the finest of the Kind in *England*: The  
great

great Stairs go up from the second Court of the Palace on the Right Hand, and lead you to the South Prospect.

I hinted in my last that King *William* brought into *England* the Love of fine Paintings, as well as that of fine Gardens; and you have an Example of it in the *Cartoons*, as they are call'd, being five Pieces of such Paintings, as, if you will believe Men of nice Judgment and great Travelling, are not to be match'd in *Europe*: The Stories are known, but especially two of them, *viz.* that of *St. Paul* preaching on *Mars-Hill* to the self-wise *Athenians*, and that of *St. Peter* passing Sentence of Death on *Ananias*; I say, these two strike the Mind with the utmost Surprise; the Passions are so drawn to the Life, Astonishment, Terror and Death in the Face of *Ananias*; Zeal and a Sacred Fire in the Eyes of the blessed Apostle; Fright and Surprise upon the Countenances of the Beholders in the Piece of *Ananias*; all these describe themselves so naturally, that you cannot but seem to discover something of the like Passions, even in seeing them.

In the other, there is the Boldness and Courage with which *St. Paul* undertook to talk to a Sett of Men, who he knew despis'd all the World, as thinking themselves able to teach them any thing: In the Audience, there is anticipating Pride and Conceit in some, a Smile or Fleeer of Contempt in others, but a kind of sensible Conviction, tho' crush'd in its beginning, on the Faces of the rest; and all together appear confounded, but have little to say, and know nothing at all of it, they gravely put him off to hear him another Time; all these  
are

are seen here in the very Dress of the Face; that is, the very Countenances which they hold while they listen to the new Doctrine, which the Apostle preached to a People at that Time ignorant of it.

The other of the Cartoons are exceeding fine; but I mention these as the particular two which are most lively, which strike the Fancy the soonest at first view: 'Tis reported, but with what Truth I know not, that the late *French* King offer'd an hundred thousand Louis d'Ors for these Pictures; but this, I say, is but a Report: The King brought a great many other fine Pieces to *England*, and with them the Love of fine Paintings so universally spread itself among the Nobility and Persons of Figure all over the Kingdom, that it is incredible what Collections have been made by *English* Gentlemen since that Time; and how all *Europe* has been rumag'd, as we may say, for Pictures to bring over hither, where, for twenty Years, they yielded the Purchasers, such as collected them for Sale, immense Profit: But the Rates are abated since that, and we begin to be glutted with the Copies and Frauds of the *Dutch* and *Flemish* Painters, who have imposed grossly upon us. But to return to the Palace of *Hampton-Court*; Queen *Mary* liv'd not to see it compleatly finish'd; and her Death, with the other Difficulties of that Reign, put a Stop to the Works for some Time, till the King reviving his good Liking of the Place, set them to work again, and it was finish'd, as we see it: But I have been assur'd, that had the Peace continu'd, and the King liv'd to enjoy the Continuance of it, his Majesty had resolv'd to have pull'd down

down all the Remains of the old Building ; such as the Chapel, and the large Court within the first Gate, and to have built up the whole Palace after the manner of those two Fronts already done. In these would have been an entire Sett of Rooms of State for the receiving, and, if Need had been, Lodging, and entertaining any foreign Prince, with his Retinue ; also Offices for all the Secretaries of State, Lords of the Treasury, and of Trade ; to have repair'd to for the Dispatch of such Business, as it might be necessary to have done there upon the King's longer Residence there than ordinary ; as also Apartments for all the great Officers of the Household ; so that had the House had two great Squares added, as was design'd, there would have been no Room to spare, or that would not have been very well fill'd : But the King's Death put an End to all these Things.

Since the Death of King *William*, *Hampton-Court* seem'd abandon'd of its Patron ; They have gotten a kind of Proverbial saying relating to *Hampton-Court*, *viz.* That it has been generally chosen by every other Prince, since it became a House of Note. King *Charles* was the first that delighted in it since Queen *Elizabeth's* Time ; as for the Reigns before, it was but newly forfeited to the Crown, and was not made a Royal House till King *Charles I.* who was not only a Prince that delighted in Country Retirements, but knew how to make Choice of them by the Beauty of their Situation, the Goodness of the Air, &c. he took great Delight here, and, had he liv'd to enjoy it in Peace, had purpos'd to make it another Thing than it was : But we all know what took  
him

him off from that Felicity, and all others; and this House was at last made one of his Prisons by his rebellious Subjects.

His Son, King *Charles II.* may well be said to have an Aversion to the Place, for the Reason just mention'd, namely, the Treatment his Royal Father met with there; and particularly that the Rebel and Murtherer of his Father, *Cromwell*, afterwards possess'd this Palace, and revel'd here in the Blood of the Royal Party, as he had done in that of his Sovereign; King *Charles II.* therefore chose *Windsor*, and bestow'd a vast Sum in beautifying the Castle there, and which brought it to the Perfection we see it in at this Day; some few Alterations excepted, done in the Time of King *William*.

King *William*, for King *James* is not to be nam'd as to his Choice of retir'd Palaces, his Delight running quite another way; I say, King *William* fix'd upon *Hampton Court*; and it was in his Reign that *Hampton Court* put on new Cloaths, and being dress'd gay and glorious, made the Figure we now see it in.

The late Queen, taken up for Part of her Reign in her kind Regards to the Prince her Spouse, was oblig'd to reside where her Care of his Health confin'd her, and in this Case kept for the most Part at *Kensington*, where he died; but her Majesty always discover'd her Delight to be at *Windsor*, where she chose the little House, as 'twas call'd, opposite to the Castle, and took the Air in her Chaise in the Parks and Forest, as she saw Occasion.

Now *Hampton Court*, by the like alternative, is come into Request again; and we find his present Majesty, who is a good Judge too of the Pleasant-



Pleasantness and Situation of a Place of that Kind, has taken *Hampton-Court* into his Favour, and has made it much his Choice for the Summer's Retreat of the Court, and where they may best enjoy the Diversions of the Season : When *Hampton Court* will find such another favourable Juncture as in King *William's* Time, when the remainder of her Ashes shall be swept away, and her compleat Fabric, as design'd by King *William*, shall be finish'd, I cannot tell ; but if ever that shall be, I know no Palace in *Europe*, *Versailles* excepted, which can come up to her, either for Beauty and Magnificence, or for Extent of Building, and the Ornaments attending it.

From *Hampton Court* I directed my Course for a Journey into the South West Part of *England* ; and, to take up my Beginning where I concluded my last, I cross'd to *Chertsey* on the *Thames*, a Town I mention'd before ; from whence crossing the *Black Desert*, as I call'd it, of *Bagshot-Heath*, I directed my Course for *Hampshire*, or *Hants*, and particularly for *Basingstoke* ; that is to say, that a little before I pass'd into the great Western Road upon the Heath, somewhat West of *Bagshot*, at a Village call'd *Blackwater*, and enter'd *Hampshire*, near *Hartleroe*.

Before we reach *Basingstoke*, we get rid of that unpleasant Country, which I so often call a Desert, and enter into a pleasant fertile Country, enclosed and cultivated like the rest of *England* ; and passing a Village or two, we enter *Basingstoke*, in the midst of Woods and Pastures, rich and fertile, and the Country accordingly spread with the Houses of the Nobility and Gentry, as in other Places : On the  
Right

Right Hand, a little before we come to the Town, we pass at a small Distance the famous Fortrefs, so it was then, of *Basing*, being a House belonging then to the Marquis of *Winchester*, the great Ancestor of the present Family of the Dukes of *Bolton*.

This House, garrison'd by a resolute Band of old Soldiers, was a great Curb to the Rebels of the Parliament Party, almost thro' that whole War; till it was, after a vigorous Defence, yielded to the Conquerors, by the inevitable Fate of Things at that Time. The old House is indeed demolish'd; but the Successor of the Family, the first Duke of *Bolton*, has erected a very noble Fabrick in the same Place, or near it, which, however, is not equal to the Magnificence which Fame gives to the ancient House, whose Strength of Building only, besides the Out-works, withstood the Battery of Cannon in several Attacks, and repuls'd the Round-heads, three or four times, when they attempted to besiege it: 'Tis incredible what Booty the Garrison of this Place pick'd up, lying, as they did, just on the great Western Road, where they intercepted the Carriers, plunder'd the Waggon, and suffer'd nothing to pass; to the great Interruption of the Trade of the City of *London*.

*Basingstoke* is a large populous Market Town, has a good Market for Corn, and lately, within a very few Years, is fallen into a Manufacture, viz. Of making Druggets and Shalloons, and such slight Goods, which, however, employs a good Number of the poor People, and enables them to get their Bread, which knew not how to get it before.

From

From hence the great Western Road goes on to *Whitchurch* and *Andover*, two Market Towns, and sending Members to Parliament ; at the last of which, the *Downs*, or open Country, begins, which we in general, tho' falsely, call *Salisbury-Plain* : But my Resolution being to take in my view what I had pass'd by before ; I was oblig'd to go off to the Left Hand, to *Alresford* and *Winchester*.

*Alresford* was a flourishing Market Town, and remarkable for this ; That tho' it had no great Trade, and particularly very little, if any Manufactures, yet there was no Collection in the Town for the Poor, nor any Poor low enough to take Alms of the Parish, which is what I do not think can be said of any Town in *England* besides.

But this happy Circumstance, which so distinguish'd *Alresford* from all her Neighbours, was brought to an End in the Year — , when, by a sudden and surprizing Fire, the whole Town, with both the Church and the Market-House, was reduc'd to a heap of Rubbish ; and, except a few poor Hutts at the remotest Ends of the Town, not a House left standing : The Town is since that very handsomely rebuilt, and the neighbouring Gentlemen contributed largely to the Relief of the People, especially, by sending in Timber towards their Building ; also their Market-House is handsomely built ; but the Church not yet, tho' we hear there is a Fund raising likewise for that.

Here is a very large Pond, or Lake of Water, kept up to a Head, by a strong *Batterd'eau*, or Dam, which the People tell us was made by the

the *Romans*; and that it is to this Day Part of the great *Roman Highway*, which leads from *Winchester* to *Alton*, and, as 'tis supposed, went on to *London*, tho' we no where see any Remains of it, except between *Winchester* and *Alton*, and chiefly between this Town and *Alton*.

Near this Town, a little North-West, the Duke of *Bolton* has another Seat, which, tho' not large, is a very handsome beautiful Palace, and the Gardens not only very exact, but very finely situate, the Prospect and Visto's Noble and Great, and the whole very well kept.

From hence, at the End of seven Miles over the *Downs*, we come to the very ancient City of *Winchester*; not only the great Church, which is so famous all over *Europe*, and has been so much talk'd of, but even the whole City has, at a Distance, the Face of Venerable, and looks ancient a far off; and yet here are many modern Buildings too, and some very handsome; as the College Schools; with the Bishop's Palace, built by Bishop *Morley*, since the late Wars; the old Palace of the Bishop having been ruin'd by that known Church Incendiary, Sir *William Waller*, and his Crew of Plunderers; who, if my Information is not wrong, as I believe it is not, destroy'd more Monuments of the Dead, and defac'd more Churches, than all the *Round-heads* in *England* beside.

This Church, and the Schools, also are accurately describ'd by several Writers, especially by the *Monasticon*, where their Antiquity and Original is fully set forth: The Outside of the Church is as plain and Course, as if the Founders had abhor'd Ornaments, or that *William of Wickham*

had been a *Quaker*, or at least a *Quietist*: There is neither Statue, or a Nich for a Statue, to be seen on all the Outside; no carv'd Work, no Spires, Towers, Pinacles, Balustrades, or any Thing; but meer Walls, Buttresses, Windows, and Coins, necessary to the Support and Order of the Building: It has no Steeple, but a short Tower cover'd flat, as if the Top of it had fallen down, and it had been cover'd in haste to keep the Rain out, till they had Time to build it up again.

But the Inside of the Church has many very good Things in it, and worth Observation; it was for some Ages the Burying Place of the *English Saxon Kings*; whose Reliques, at the repair of the Church, were collected by Bishop *Fox*, and, being put together into large Wooden Chests, lin'd with Lead, were again interr'd at the Foot of the great Wall in the Choir, three on one Side, and three on the other; with an Account whose Bones are in each Chest, whether the Division of the Reliques might be depended upon, has been doubted, but is not thought material, so that we do but believe they are all there.

The Choir of the Church appears very magnificent; the Roof is very high, and the Gothic Work in the arch'd Part is very fine, tho' very old; the Painting in the Windows is admirably good, and easy to be distinguish'd by those that understand those Things: The Steps ascending to the Choir make a very fine Show, having the Statues of King *James*, and his Son King *Charles*, in Copper, finely cast; the first on the Right Hand, and the other on the Left, as you go up to the Choir.

The

The Choir is said to be the longest in *England*; and as the Number of Prebendaries, Canons, &c. are many, it requir'd such a length. The Ornaments of the Choir are the Effects of the Bounty of several Bishops; the fine Altar, (the noblest in *England* by much) was done by Bishop *Morley*; the Roof, and the Coat of Arms of the *Saxon* and *Norman* Kings, were done by Bishop *Fox*; and the fine Throne, for the Bishop in the Choir, was given by Bishop *Mew*, in his Life-time; and it was well it was; for if he had order'd it by Will, there is Reason to believe it had never been done: That Reverend Prelate, notwithstanding he enjoy'd so rich a Bishoprick, scarce leaving Money enough behind him, to pay for his Coffin.

There are a great many Persons of Rank bury'd in this Church, besides the *Saxon* Kings, mention'd above; and besides several of the most eminent Bishops of the See: Just under the Altar lyes a Son of *William* the Conqueror, without any Monument; and behind the Altar, under a very fine and venerable Monument, lyes the famous Lord Treasurer, *Weston*, late Earl of *Portland*, Lord High Treasurer of *England* under King *Charles* I. His Effigy is in Copper Armour, at full length, with his Head rais'd on three Cushions of the same, and is a very magnificent Work: There is also a very fine Monument of Cardinal *Beaufort*, in his Cardinal's Robes and Hat.

The Monument of Sir *John Cloberry* is extraordinary, but more, because it puts Strangers upon enquiring into his Story, than for any thing wonderful in the Figure, it being cut in a modern Dress; the Habit Gentlemen wore

in those Times, which, being now so much out of Fashion, appears mean enough : But this Gentleman's Story is particular, being the Person solely entrusted with the Secret of the Restoration of King *Charles II.* as the Messenger that pass'd between General *Monk* on one Hand, and Mr. *Montague*, and others entrusted by King *Charles II.* on the other Hand ; which he manag'd so faithfully, as to effect that memorable Event, to which *England* owes the Felicity of all her happy Days since that Time ; by which faithful Service, Sir *John Cloberry*, then a private Musqueteer only, rais'd himself to the Honour of a Knight, with the Reward of a good Estate from the Bounty of the King.

Every Body that goes into this Church, and reads what is to be read there, will be told, that the Body of the Church was built by the famous *William of Wickham* ; whose Monument, intimating his Fame, lyes in the middle of that Part, which was built at his Expence.

He was a Courtier before a Bishop ; and, tho' he had no great Share of Learning, he was a great Promoter of it, and a Lover of learned Men : His natural Genius was much beyond his acquir'd Parts, and his Skill in Politicks beyond his Ecclesiastick Knowledge : He is said to have put his Master, King *Edward III.* to whom he was Secretary of State, upon the two great Projects which made his Reign so glorious, viz. First, Upon setting up his Claim to the Crown of *France*, and pushing that Claim by Force of Arms, which brought on the War with *France*, in which that Prince was three times victorious in Battle. (2.) Upon setting up, or instituting the Order of the Garter,

Garter; in which he (being before that made Bishop of *Winchester*) obtain'd the Honour for the Bishops of *Winchester*, of being always Prelates of the Order, as an Appendix to the Bishoprick; and he himself was the first Prelate of the Order, and the Ensigns of that Honour are joyn'd with his Episcopal Ornaments, in the robing of his Effigy on the Monument above.

To the Honour of this Bishop, there are other Foundations of his, as much to his Fame as that of this Church, of which I shall speak in their Order; but particularly the College in this City, which is a noble Foundation indeed: The Building consists of two large Courts, in which are the Lodgings for the Masters and Scholars, and in the Center a very noble Chapel; beyond that, in the second Court, are the Schools, with a large Cloyster beyond them, and some Enclosures laid open for the Diversion of the Scholars. There also is a great Hall, where the Scholars dine: The Funds for the Support of this College are very considerable; the Masters live in a very good Figure, and their Maintenance is sufficient to support it: They have all separate Dwellings in the House, and all possible Conveniencies appointed them.

The Scholars have Exhibitions at a certain Time of Continuance here, if they please to study, in the new College at *Oxford*, built by the same noble Banefactor, of which I shall speak in its Order.

The Clergy here live at large, and very handsomely, in the Close belonging to the Cathedral; where, besides the Bishop's Palace,



mention'd above, are very good Houses, and very handsomely built, for the Prebendaries, Canons, and other Dignitaries of this Church : The Deanary is a very pleasant Dwelling, the Gardens very large, and the River running thro' them ; but the Floods in Winter sometimes incommode the Gardens very much.

This School has fully answer'd the End of the Founder, who, tho' he was no great Scholar, resolv'd to erect a House for the making the Ages to come more learned than those that went before ; and it has, *I say*, fully answer'd the End, for many learned and great Men have been rais'd here, some of whom we shall have Occasion to mention as we go on.

Among the many private Inscriptions in this Church, we found one made by Dr. Over, once an eminent Physician in this City, on a Mother and Child, who, being his Patients, died together, and were bury'd in the same Grave, and which intimate, that one died of a Fever, and the other of a Dropsy.

*Surrepuit natum febris matrem Abstulit Hydrops,  
Igne Prior fatis, altera Cessit Aqua.*

As the City it self stands in a Vale on the Bank, and at the Conjunction of two small Rivers, so the Country rising every Way, but just as the Course of the Water keeps the Valley open, you must necessarily, as you go out of the Gates, go up Hill every Way : But when once ascended, you come to the most charming Plains, and most pleasant Country of that kind in *England* ; which continues, with very small Intersections of Rivers and Valleys,  
for

for above fifty Miles, as shall appear in the sequel of this Journey.

At the West Gate of this City was anciently a Castle, known to be so by the Ruins, more than by any extraordinary Notice taken of it in History: What they say of it, that the *Saxon* Kings kept their Court here, is doubtful, and must be meant of the *West Saxons* only; and as to the Tale of King *Arthur's* round Table, which, they pretend, was kept here for him, and his two Dozen of Knights; which Table hangs up still, as a Piece of Antiquity, to the Tune of 1200 Years, and has, as they pretend, the Names of the said Knights in *Saxon* Characters, and yet such as no Man can read: All this Story I see so little Ground to give the least Credit to, that I look upon it, and 't shall please you, to be no better than a FIBB.

Where this Castle stood, or whatever else it was, for some say there was no Castle there, the late King *Charles II.* mark'd out, a very noble Design; which had he liv'd, would certainly have made that Part of the Country, the *New-Market* of the Ages to come; for the Country hereabout far excels that of *New-Market Heath*, for all kinds of Sport and Diversion, fit for a Prince, no Body can dispute; and as the Design included, a noble Palace, sufficient like *Windsor*, for a Summer Residence of the whole Court, it would certainly have diverted the King from his Curfory Journeys to *New-Market*.

The Plan of this House has receiv'd several Alterations; and as it is never like to be finish'd, 'tis scarce worth recording the Variety:

The Building is begun, and the Front next the City carry'd up to the Roof, and cover'd; but the remainder is not begun: There was a Street of Houses design'd from the Gate of the Palace down to the Town, but it was never begun to be built; the Park mark'd out was exceeding large, near ten Miles in Circumference, and ended West upon the open Downs, in view of the Town of *Stockbridge*.

This House was afterwards settled with a Royal Revenue also, as an Appenage, establish'd by Parliament upon Prince *George of Denmark* for his Life, in case he had out-liv'd the Queen: But his Royal Highness dying before her Majesty, all hope of seeing this Design perfected, or the House finish'd, is now vanish'd.

I cannot omit that there are several publick Edifices in this City, and in the Neighbourhood; as the Hospitals, and the Building adjoining near the East Gate; and towards the North, a Piece of an old Monastery undemolish'd, and which is still preserv'd to the Religion, being the Residence of some private Roman Catholick Gentlemen, where they have an Oratory, and, as they say, live still according to the Rules of *St. Benedict*. This Building is call'd *Hide-House*; and, as they live very usefully and, to the highest Degree, obliging among their Neighbours, they meet with no Obstruction or Disturbance from any Body.

*Winchester* is a Place of no Trade, other than is naturally occasion'd by the Inhabitants of the City and neighbouring Villages, one with another; Here is no Manufacture, no Navigation; there was indeed an Attempt to make  
the

the River navigable from *Southampton*; and it was once made practicable, but it never answer'd the Expence, so as to give Encouragement to the Undertakers.

Here is a great deal of good Company; and abundance of Gentry being in the Neighbourhood, it adds to the Sociableness of the Place: The Clergy also here are, generally speaking, very rich, and very numerous.

As there is such good Company, so they are gotten into that new-fashion'd Way of conversing by Assemblies: I shall do no more than mention them here; they are pleasant and agreeable to the young People, and some times fatal to them, of which, in its Place, *Winchester* has its Share of the Mirth: May it escape the ill Consequences.

The Hospital on the South of this City, at a Miles distance on the Road to *Southampton*, is worth Notice: 'Tis said to be founded by King *William Rufus*, but was not endow'd or appointed till later Times by Cardinal *Beaufort*. Every Traveller that knocks at the Door of this House, in his Way, and asks for it, claims the Relief of a Piece of white Bread and a Cup of Beer; and this Donation is still continued; a Quantity of good Beer is set apart every Day to be given away; and what is left, is distributed to other Poor, but none of it kept to the next Day.

How the Revenues of this Hospital, which should maintain the Master and thirty private Gentlemen, who they call *Fellows*, but ought to call *Brothers*, is now reduc'd to maintain only fourteen, while the Master lives in a Figure equal to the best Gentleman in the  
Coun-

Country, would be well worth the Enquiry of a proper Visitor, if such can be nam'd : 'Tis a Thing worthy of Complaint, when publick Charities, design'd for the Relief of the Poor, are embezzel'd and depredated by the Rich, and turn'd to the Support of Luxury and Pride.

From *Winchester*, is about 25 Miles, and over the most charming Plains that can any where be seen, (far in my Opinion) excelling the Plains of *Mecca*, we come to *Salisbury* ; the vast Flocks of Sheep, which one every where sees upon these Downs, and the great Number of those Flocks, is a Sight truly worth Observation ; 'tis ordinary for these Flocks to contain from 3 to 5000 in a Flock ; and several private Farmers hereabouts have two or three such Flocks.

But 'tis more remarkable still ; how a great Part of these Downs comes by a new Method of Husbandry, to be not only made Arable, which they never were in former Days, but to bear excellent Wheat, and great Crops too, tho' otherwise poor barren Land, and never known to our Ancestors to be capable of any such Thing ; nay, they would perhaps have laugh'd at any one that would have gone about to plough up the wild Downs and Hills, where the Sheep were wont to go : But Experience has made the present Age wiser, and more skilful in Husbandry ; for by only folding the Sheep upon the plow'd Lands, those Lands, which otherwise are barren, and where the Plow goes within three or four Inches of the solid Rock of Chalk, are made fruitful, and bear very good Wheat, as well as Rye and Barley :

**Barley** : I shall say more of this when I come to speak of the same Practice farther in the Country.

This plain Country continues in length from *Winchester* to *Salisbury* 25 Miles, from thence to *Dorchester* 22 Miles, thence to *Weymouth* 6 Miles, so that they lye near 50 Miles in length, and breadth; they reach also in some Places 35 to 40 Miles: They who would make any practicable Guess at the Number of Sheep usually fed on these Downs, may take it from a Calculation made, as I was told, at *Dorchester*, that there were 600000 Sheep fed within 6 Miles of that Town, measuring every Way round, and the Town in the Center.

As we pass'd this plain Country, we saw a great many old Camps, as well *Roman* as *British*, and several Remains of the ancient Inhabitants of this Kingdom, and of their Wars, Battles, Entrenchments, Encampments, Buildings, and other Fortifications, which are indeed very agreeable to a Traveller, that has read any thing of the History of the Country. Old *Sarum* is as remarkable as any of these, where there is a double Entrenchment, with a deep Grasse, or Ditch, to either of them; the Area about 100 Yards in Diameter, taking in the whole Crown of the Hill, and thereby rendering the Ascent very difficult: Near this, there is one Farm House, which is all the Remains I could see of any Town in or near the Place, for the Encampment has no Resemblance of a Town; and yet this is call'd the Borough of old *Sarum*, and sends two Members to Parliament, who, those Members can justly say, they represent, would be hard for them to answer.

Some

Some will have it, that the old City of *Sorbiodunum*, or *Salisbury*, stood here, and was afterwards, for I know not what Reasons, remov'd to the low marshy Grounds, among the Rivers, where it now stands: But as I see no Authority for it, other than mere Tradition, I believe my Share of it, and take it *ad referendum*.

*Salisbury* itself is indeed a large and pleasant City; tho' I do not think it at all the pleasanter for that which they boast so much of; namely, the Water running thro' the middle of every Street, or that it adds any thing to the Beauty of the Place, but just the contrary; it keeps the Streets always dirty, full of Wet and Filth, and Weeds, even in the middle of Summer.

The City is plac'd upon the Confluence of two large Rivers, the *Avon* and the *Willy*, either of them considerable Rivers, but very large, when joyn'd together, and yet larger when they receive a third River, *viz.* the *Naddir*, which joyns them near *Clarendon Park*, about three Miles below the City; then, with a deep Channel, and a Current less rapid, they run down to *Christ Church*, which is their Port, and where they empty themselves into the Sea from that Town upwards, towards *Salisbury*, they are made navigable too within two Miles, and might be so quite into the City, were it not for the Strength of the Stream.

As the City of *Winchester* is a City without Trade, that is to say, without any particular Manufactures, so this City of *Salisbury*, and all the County of *Wilts*, of which it is the Capital, are full of a great Variety of Manufactures; and those some of the most considerable

in *England*; namely, *the Cloathing Trade*, and the Trade of *Flannels, Drugets*, and several other sorts of *Manufactures*, of which in their Order.

The City of *Salisbury* has two remarkable *Manufactures* carried on in it, and which employ the Poor of great Part of the Country round; namely, *fine Flannels*, and *long Cloths* for the *Turkey Trade*, call'd *Salisbury Whites*: The People of *Salisbury* are gay and rich, and have a flourishing Trade; and there is a great deal of good Manners and good Company among them; I mean, among the Citizens, besides what is found among the Gentlemen; for there are many good Families in *Salisbury*, besides the Citizens.

This Society has a great Addition from *the Clofs*, that is to say, the Circle of Ground wall'd in adjacent to the Cathedral; in which the Families of the *Prebendaries* and *Commons*, and others of the *Clergy* belonging to the Cathedral have their Houses, as is usual in all Cities where there are Cathedral Churches. These are so considerable here, and the Place so large, that it is (*as it is call'd in general*) like another City.

The Cathedral is famous for the height of its Spire, which is without Exception the highest, and the handsomest in *England*, being from the Ground 410 Foot, and yet the Walls so exceeding Thin, that at the upper Part of the Spire upon a View made by the late *Sir Christopher Wren*, the Wall was found to be less than five Inches Thick; upon which a Consultation was had, whether the Spire, or at least the upper Part of it should be taken down, it  
be:



being suppos'd to have receiv'd some Damage by the great Storm in the Year 1703; but it was resolv'd in the Negative, and Sir *Christopher* order'd it to be so strengthen'd with Bands of Iron Plates, as has effectually secur'd it; and I have heard some of the best Architects say, it is stronger now than when it was first built.

They tell us here long Stories of the great Art us'd in laying the first Foundation of this Church; the Ground being Marshy and Wet, occasion'd by the Channels of the Rivers; that it was laid upon Piles according to some, and upon Woolpacks according to others; but this is not suppos'd by those who know, that the whole Country is one Rock of Chalk, even from the Tops of the highest Hills, to the Bottom of the deepest Rivers.

They tell us, this Church was 40 Years a building, and cost an immense Sum of Money, but it must be acknowledged that the inside of the Work is not answerable in the Decoration of Things, to the Workmanship without; the Painting in the Choir is mean, and more like the ordinary Method of common Drawing Room, or Tavern painting, than that of a Church; the Carving is good, but very little of it, and it is rather a fine Church than finely set off.

The ordinary boast of this Building, that there were as many Gates as Months, as many Windows as Days, as many marble Pillars as Hours in the Year, is now no Recommendation at all. However the mention of it must be preserv'd.

*As many Days as in One Tear there be,  
 So many Windows in One Church we see;  
 As many Marble Pillars there appear,  
 As there are Hours throughout the fleeting Tear;  
 As many Gates as Moons one Tear do View:  
 Strange Tale to tell, yet not more strange than true.*

There are however some very fine Monuments in this Church; particularly one belonging to the Noble Family of *Seymours*, since Dukes of *Somerset*, (and Ancestors of the present flourishing Family,) which on a most melancholly Occasion has been now lately open'd again to receive the Body of the late *Dutchess* of *Somerset*, the happy Consort for almost 40 Years of his Grace the present Duke; and only Daughter and Heiress of the antient and Noble Family of *Piercy*, Earls of *Northumberland*, whose great Estate she brought into the Family of *Somerset*, who now enjoy it.

With her was bury'd at the same time her Graces Daughter the Marchioness of *Caermarthen*, being married to the Marquess of *Caermarthen*, Son and Heir apparent to the Lord of *Leeds*, who dy'd for Grief at the loss of the *Dutchess* her Mother, and was buried with her; also her second Son the Duke *Piercy Somerset*, who dyed a few Months before, and had been buryed in the Abby-Church of *Westminster*, but was order'd to be remov'd and laid here with the Ancestors of his House; and I hear his Grace designs to have a yet more magnificent Monument erected in this Cathedral for them, just by the other, which is there already.

How

How the Dukes of *Somerset* came to quit this Church for their burying Place, and be laid in *Westminster-Abbey*, that I know not; but 'tis certain that the present Duke has chosen to have his Family laid here with their Ancestors, and to that End has caused the Corps of his Son the Lord *Piercy*, as above, and one of his Daughters who had been buried in the *Abbey*, to be remov'd and brought down to this Vault, which lyes in that they call the *Virgin Mary's Chapel* behind the Altar. There is, as above, a noble Monument for a late Duke and Dutchess of *Somerset* in the Place already; with their Pourtraits at full Length, their Heads lying upon Cushions, the whole perfectly well wrought in fine polish'd *Italian Marble*, and their Sons kneeling by them; those I suppose to be the Father of the Great Duke of *Somerset*, Uncle to King *Edward IV*, but after this the Family lay in *Westminster-Abbey*, where there is also a fine Monument for that very Duke who was beheaded by *Edward VI*, and who was the great Patron of the Reformation.

Among other Monuments of Noble Men in this Cathedral they show you one that is very extraordinary, and to which there Hangs a Tale: There was in the Reign of *Philip and Mary* a very unhappy Murther committed by, the then Lord *Sturton*, or *Stourton*, a Family since Extinct, but well known till within a few Years in that Country.

This Lord *Stourton* being guilty of the said Murther, which also was aggravated with very bad Circumstances, could not obtain the usual Grace of the Crown, (*viz.*) to be beheaded, but Queen *Mary* positively ordered that like a com-

mon

common Malefactor he should die at the Gallows : After he was hang'd, his Friends desiring to have him bury'd at *Salisbury*, the Bishop would not Consent that he should be buryed in the Cathedral, unless as a farther Mark of Infamy, his Friends would submit to this Condition (*viz.*) That the silken Halter in which he was Hang'd should be hanged up over his Grave in the Church, as a Monument of his Crime ; which was accordingly done, and there it is to be seen this Day.

The putting this Halter up here, was not so wonderful to me as it was, that the Posterity of that Lord, who remain'd in good Rank sometime after, should never prevail to have that Mark of Infamy taken off from the Memory of their Ancestor.

There are several other Monuments in this Cathedral, as particularly of two Noblemen of antient Families in *Scotland*, one of the Name of *Hay*, and one of the Name of *Gordon* ; but they give us nothing of their History, so that we must be content to say *there they lye*, and that's all.

The Cloyster, and the Chapter-House adjoining to the Church, are the finest here of any I have seen in *England* ; the latter is Octogon, or Eight Square, and is 150 Foot in its Circumference ; the Roof bearing all upon one small Marble Pillar in the Center, which you may shake with your Hand ; and it is hardly to be imagin'd it can be any great Support to the Roof, which makes it the more curious, it is not indeed to be match'd I believe in *Europe*.

From hence directing my Course to the Seaside in Pursuit of my first Design, *viz.* of viewing the whole Coast of *England*. I left the

great Road, and went down the East side of the River towards *New-Forest*, and *Lymington*; and here I saw the antient House and Seat of *Clarendon* the Mansion of the Antient Family of *Hide*, Ancestors of the great Earl of *Clarendon*, and from whence his Lordship was honour'd with that Title, or the House erected into an Honour in favour of his Family.

But this being a large County, and full of memorable Branches of Antiquity, and modern Curiosity, I cannot quit my Observations so soon, but being happily fix'd by the Favour of a particular Friend at so beautiful a Spot of Ground as this of *Clarendon Park*. I made several little Excursions from hence to view the Northern Parts of this County; a County so fruitful of Wonders, that tho' I do not make Antiquity my chief Search, yet I must not pass it over entirely, where so much of it, and so well worth Observation is to be found, which would look as if I either understood not the value of the Study, or expected my Readers should be satisfy'd with a total Omission of it.

I have mention'd that this County is generally a vast continu'd Body of high Chalky Hills, whose Tops spread themselves into fruitful and pleasant Downs and Plains, upon which great Flocks of Sheep are fed, &c. But the Reader is desir'd to observe these Hills and Plains are most beautifully Intersected, and cut thro' by the Course of divers pleasant and profitable Rivers; in the Course, and near the Banks, of which there always is a Chain of fruitful Meadows, and rich Pastures, and those interspers'd with innumerable pleasant Towns, Villages, and Houses, and among them many of

con-

considerable Magnitude ; so that while you view the Downs, and think the Country wild and uninhabited ; yet when you come to descend into these Vales you are surpris'd with the most pleasant and fertile Country in *England*.

There are no less than four of these Rivers which meet all together, at, or near the City of *Salisbury*, especially the Waters of three of them run thro' the Streets of the City ; the *Nadder* and the *Willy*, and the *Avon*, and the Course of these three lead us thro' the whole Mountainous Part of the County, the two first joyn their Waters at *Wilton* ; the Shire-Town, tho' a Place of no great Notice now ; and these are the Waters which run thro' the Canal, and the Gardens of *Wilton House*, the Seat of that Ornament of Nobility, and Learning the Earl of *Pembroke*.

One cannot be said to have seen any thing that a Man of Curiosity would think worth seeing in this County, and not have been at *Wilton House* ; but not the beautiful Building, not the antient Trophy of a great Family, not the noble Scituation, not all the Pleasures of the Gardens, Parks, Fountains, Hare-Warren, or of whatever is Rare ; either in Art or Nature are equal to, that yet more glorious Sight, of a noble Princely Palace, constantly filled with its noble and proper Inhabitants ; viz. the Lord and Proprietor, who is indeed a true *Patriarchal Monarch*, reigns here with an Authority agreeable to all his Subjects (Family) ; and his reign is made agreeable, by his first practising the most exquisite Government of himself, and then guiding all under him by the Rules of Honour and Vertue ; being also himself perfectly Master of all the needful Arts of Family Govern-

ment; I mean needful to make that Government, both Easy, and Pleasant to those who are under it, and who therefore willingly, and by Choice conform to it.

Here an exhalted Genius is the Instructor, a glorious Example the Guide, and a Gentle well directed Hand the Governour and Lawgiver to the whole; and the Family like a well govern'd City appears Happy, Flourishing and Regular, groaning under no Grievance, pleas'd with what they Enjoy, and Enjoying every Thing which they ought to be pleas'd with.

Not is the blessing of this noble Resident extended to the Family only, but even to all the Country round, who in their Degree feel the Effects of the general Beneficence; and where the Neighbourhood, however Poor receive all the good they can Expect, and are sure to have no Injury, or Oppression.

The Canal before the House lyes Parallel with the Road, and receives into it the whole River *Willey*, or at least is able to do so; it may indeed be said, that the River is made into a Canal; when we come into the Court-Yards before the House there are several peices of Antiquity to entertain the Curious; as particularly, a noble Column of Porphyry, with a Marble Statue of *Venus* on the Top of it. In *Italy*, and especially at *Rome* and *Naples*, we see a great Variety of fine Columns, and some of them of excellent Workmanship, and Antiquity, and at some of the Courts of the Princes of *Italy* the like is seen; as especially at the Court of *Florence*; but in *England* I do not remember to have seen any thing like this, which as they told me is Two and Thirty Foot high,

high and of excellent Workmanship, and that it came last from *Candia*, but formerly from *Alexandria*, what may belong to the History of it any further, I suppose is not known, at least they could tell me no more of it, who shew'd it me.

On the left of the Court was formerly a large Grotto, and curious Water-Works, and in a House, or Shed, or Part of the Building which open'd with two folding Doors, like a Coach-House, a large Equestrian Statue of one of the Ancestors of the Family in compleat Armour, as also another of a *Roman* Emperor in Brass, but the last time I had the Curiosity to see this House, I mist that Part; so that I suppos'd they were remov'd.

As the present Earl of *Pembroke*, the Lord of this fine Palace, is a Nobleman of great Personal Merit, many other Ways; so he is a Man of Learning, and Reading, beyond most Men of his Lordship's high Rank in this Nation, if not in the World; and as his Reading has made him a Master of Antiquity, and Judge of such peices of Antiquity, as he has had Opportunity to meet with in his own Travels, and otherwise in the World; so it has given him a love of the Study, and made him a Collector of valuable Things, as well in Painting as in Sculpture, and other Excellencies of Art, as also of Nature; in so much that *Wilton-House* is now a meer Musæum, or a Chamber of Rarities, and we meet with several Things there, which are to be found no where else in the World.

As his Lordship is a great Collector of fine Paintings; so I know no Nobleman's House in *England*, so prepar'd, as if built on purpose to receive them; the largest, and the finest Peices



that can be imagin'd extant in the World, might have found a Place here capable to receive them; I say, *they might have found*, as if they could not now, which is in part true; for at present the whole House is so compleatly fill'd, that I see no room for any new peice to crowd in, without Displacing some other fine Peice that hung there before; as for the value of the Peice, that might so offer to succeed the Displac'd, that the great Judge of the whole Collection, *the Earl* himself must Determine, and as his Judgment is perfectly good, the best Picture would be sure to possess the Place. *In a Word*. Here is without doubt the best, if not the greatest Collection of Rarities, and Paintings, that are to be seen together, in any one Nobleman's, or Gentleman's House in *England*. The peice of our Saviour washing his Disciples Feet, which they shew you in one of the first Rooms you go into, must be spoken of by every body that has any Knowledge of Painting, and is an admirable peice indeed.

You ascend the great Stair Case, at the Upper End of the Hall, which is very Large; at the Foot of the Stair-case you have a *Bacchus* large as the Life, done in fine *Peloponesian* Marble; carrying a young *Bacchus* on his Arm, the young one eating Grapes, and letting you see by his Countenance, that he is pleas'd with the Taft of them; nothing can be done finer, or more lively Represent the Thing intended; namely, the Gust of the Appetite, which if it be not a Passion, 'tis an Affection, which is as much seen in the Countenance, perhaps more than any other; One ought to stop every two Steps of this Stair-case, as we go up, to Contemplate the  
vast

vast Variety of Pictures, that Cover the Walls, and of some of the best Masters in *Europe*, and yet this is but an Introduction to what is beyond them.

When you are enter'd the Appartments, such Variety seizes you every way, that you scarce know to which hand to turn your self: *First*, on one Side you see several Rooms fill'd with Paintings, as before, all so curious, and the Variety such, that 'tis with Reluctance, that you can turn from them; while looking another way, you are call'd off by a vast Collection of Busto's, and Peices of the greatest Antiquity of the Kind, both *Greek*, and *Romans*; among these, there is one of the *Roman Emperor, Marcus Aurelius* in *Basso Relievo*; I never saw any thing like what Appears here, except in the Chamber of Rarities at *Munick* in *Bavaria*.

Passing these, you come into several large Rooms, as if contriv'd for the Reception of the beautiful Guests that take them up; one of these is near 70 Foot long and the Ceiling 26 Foot high, with another adjoining of the same Height, and Breadth, but not so long: Those together might be call'd the *Great Gallery* of *Wilton*, and might vie for Paintings with the Gallery of *Luxemburg* in the *Fauxbourg* of *Paris*.

These two Rooms are fill'd with the Family Peices of the House of *Herbet*, most of them by *Lilly*, or *Vandyke*, and one in particular, out does all that ever I met with, either at Home, or Abroad, 'tis done, as was the Mode of Painting at that Time, after the Manner of a Family Peice of *King Charles I.* with his Queen,

and Children, which, before the burning of *White-Hall*, I remember to hang at the East End of the *Long Gallery* in the Palace.

This Peice fills the farther End of the Great Room which I just now mention'd, it contains the Earl of *Montgomery*, Ancestor of the House of *Herbert*, not then Earls of *Pembroke*, and his Lady, sitting, and as big as the Life; there are about them, their own five Sons, and one Daughter, and their Daughter-in-Law, who was Daughter of the Duke of *Buckingham*, marry'd to the elder Lord *Herbert*, their eldest Son; it is enough to say of this Peice, 'tis worth the Labour of any lover of Art to go 500 Miles to see it; and I am inform'd several Gentlemen of Quality have come from *France* almost on purpose; It would be Endless to Describe the whole Set of the Family Pictures, which take up this Room, unless we would enter into the Roof-tree of the Family, and Set down a Genealogical Line of the whole House.

After we have seen this fine Range of Beauties, for such indeed they are; far from being at an End of your Surprize, you have three or four Rooms still upon the same Floor, fill'd with Wonders, as before: Nothing can be finer than the Pictures themselves, nothing more Surprising than the Number of them; at length you Descend the Back-Stairs, which are in themselves large, tho' not like the other: However, not a Hands Breadth is left to crowd a Picture in of the smallest Size, and even the Upper Rooms, which might be call'd Garrets, are not naked, but have some very good Peices in them.

Up:

Upon the whole, the Genius of the noble Collector may be seen in this glorious Collection, than which, *take them together*, there is not a finer in any private Hand in *Europe*, and in no Hand at all in *Britain*, Private or Publick.

The Gardens are on the South of the House, and extend themselves beyond the River, a Branch of which runs thro' one Part of them, and still South of the Gardens in the Great Park, which extending beyond the Vale, Mounts the Hill opening at the last to the Great Down, which is properly call'd by way of Distinction, *Salisbury-Plain*, and leads from the City of *Salisbury*, to *Shaftsbury*; here also his Lordship has a *Hare-Warren* (as 'tis call'd) tho' improperly; it has indeed been a Sanctuary for the Hares for many Years; but the Gentlemen complain that it Marrs their Game, for that as soon as they put up a Hare for their Sport, if it be any where within two or three Miles, away she runs for the Warren, and there is an End of their Pursuit; *on the other Hand*, it makes all the Countrymen turn Poachers, and destroy the Hares, by what means they can; but this is a smaller Matter, and of no great Import one way or other.

From this Pleasant and agreeable Days work, I return'd to *Clarendon*, and the next Day took another short Tour to the Hills, to see that celebrated peice of Antiquity, the wonderful *Stone-Henge*, being six Miles from *Salisbury*, North, and upon the Side of the River *Avon*, near the Town of *Amesbury*: 'Tis needless, that I should enter here into any part of the Dispute  
about

about, which our learned Antiquaries have so puzzl'd themselves, that several Books, and one of them, in Folio, has been publish'd about it; some alledging it to be a *Heathen*, or *Pagan* Temple, and Altar, or Place of Sacrifice, as Mr. *Jones*; others, a Monument, or Trophy of Victory; others a Monument for the Dead, as Mr. *Aubury*, and the like: Again, some will have it be *British*, some *Danish*, some *Saxon*, some *Roman*, and some before them all, *Phenician*.

I shall suppose it, as the Majority of all Writers do, to be a Monument for the Dead, and the rather, because Men's Bones have been frequently dug up in the Ground near them. The common Opinion that no Man could ever Count them, that a Baker carry'd a Basket of Bread, and laid a Loaf upon every Stone, and yet could never make out the same Number twice. *This, I take, as a meer Country Fiction*, and a Ridiculous one too; the Reason why they cannot easily be told, is, that many of them lye Half, or Part buryed in the Ground, and a peice here, and a peice there, only appearing above the Grass, it cannot be known easily, which belong to one Stone, and which to another, or which are separate Stones, and which are joyned under Ground to one another; otherwise, as to those which appear, they are easie to be told, and I have seen them told four Times after one another, beginning every Time at a different Place, and every Time they amounted to 72 in all; but then this was counting every peice of a Stone of Bulk, which appear'd at above the Surface of the Earth, and was not evidently part of, and adjoining to another,

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to be a distinct and separate Body, or Stone by itself.

The form of this Monument is not only describ'd but delineated in most Authors, and indeed 'tis hard to know the first, but by the last, the Figure was *at first* Circular, and there were at least four Rows or Circles, within one another, the main Stones were placed upright, and they were joyn'd on the Top by Cross Stones, laid from one to another, and fastn'd with vast Mortices and Tenants: Length of time has so decay'd them, that not only most of the cross Stones which lay on the Top are fallen down, but many of the Upright also, notwithstanding the weight of them is so prodigious great: How they came thither, or from whence, *no Stones of that Kind being now to be found in any Part of England near it*, is still the Mystery, for they are of such immense Bulk that no Engines, or Carriages which we have in use in this Age could stir them.

Doubtless they had some Method in former Days in foreign Countries, as well as here, to Move heavier Weights then we find practicable now; How else did *Solomons* Workmen build the Battlement, or additional Wall to Support the Precipice of Mount *Moriah*, on which the Temple was built? which was all built of great Stones of *Parian* Marble, each Stone being forty Cubits long, and fourteen Cubits broad, and eight Cubits high, or thick, which reckoning each Cubit at two Foot and half of our Measure, as the Learned agree to do, was 100 Foot long, 35 Foot broad, and 20 Foot thick.

These

These Stones at Stonehenge, as Mr. Camden describes them, and in which others agree, were very large, tho' not so large, the upright Stones 24 Foot high, 7 Foot broad ; 16 Foot round, and weight 12 Ton each ; and the cross Stone on the Top, which he calls *Coronets*, were 6 or 7 Ton, but this does not seem equal, for if the cross Stones weigh'd six, or seven Ton, the others, as they appear now, were at least 5 or 6 Times as big, and must weigh in proportion ; and therefore, I must think their Judgment much nearer the Case who judge the upright Stones at 16 Ton, or thereabouts, supposing them to stand a great way into the Earth, as 'tis not doubted but they do ; and the *Coronets*, or cross Stones, at about two Ton, which is very large too, and as much as their Bulk can be thought to allow.

Upon the whole, we must take them as our Ancestors have done ; Namely, for an Erection, or Building so antient, that no History has handed down to us the Original, as we find it then uncertain, we must leave it so. 'Tis indeed a Reverend peice of Antiquity, and 'tis a great loss that the true History of it is not known ; *But since it is not*, I think the making so many Conjectures at the Reality, when they know loss can but Guess at it, and above all the insisting so long, and warmly on their private Opinions, is but amusing themselves and us with a Doubt, which perhaps lyes the deeper for their Search into it.

The Downs and Plains in this Part of *England* being so open, and the Surface so little Subject to Alteration, there are more Remains of Antiquity to be seen upon them, than in o-  
ther

ther Places; for Example, I think they tell us there are three and fifty antient Encampments, or Fortifications to be seen in this one County, some whereof are exceeding plain to be seen, some of one form, some of another; some of one Nation, some of another, *British, Danish, Saxon, Roman*, as at *Ebb-down, Burywood, Old-burgh-Hill, Cummerford, Roundway-Down, St. Ann's-Hill, Bratton-Castle, Clay-Hill, Stournton-Park, Whitecole-Hill, Battlebury, Scrathbury, Tanesbury, Frippsbury, Suthbury-Hill, Amesbury, Great Bodwyn, Easterley, Merdon, Aubery, Martenscil-Hill, Barbury-Castle*, and many more.

Also the *Barrows*, as we all agree to call them, are very many in Number in this County, and very obvious, having suffer'd very little Decay. These are large Hillocks of Earth cast up, as the antients agree, by the Soldiers over the Bodies of their dead Comrades slain in Battle; several Hundreds of these are to be seen, especially in the North part of this County, about *Marlbro'* and the Downs, from thence to *St. Ann's-Hill*, and even every way, the Downs are full of them.

I have done with Matters of Antiquity for this County, unless you will admit me to mention the famous Parliament in the Reign of *Hen. II.* held at *Clarendon*, where I am now writing, and another intended to be held there in *Rich. 2d's* Time, but prevented by the Barons, being then up in Arms against the King.

Near this Place at *Farlo* was the Birth-Place of the late *Sir Stephen Fox*, and where the *Town Sharing in his good Fortune*, shews several Marks of his Bounty, as particularly, the  
Build-



Building a New Church from the Foundation, and getting an Act of Parliament pass, for making it Parochial, it being but a Chappel of Ease before to an adjoining Parish : Also Sir *Stephen* Built and Endow'd an Alms-House here for six poor Women, with a Master and a Free-School ; the Master is to be a Clergyman, and to Officiate in the Church, that is to say, is to have the Living, which including the School is very sufficient.

I am now to pursue my first Design, and shall take the West part of *Wiltshire* in my Return, where are several Things still to be taken notice of, and some very well worth our stay. In the mean time I went on to *Langbro'* a fine Seat of my Lord *Colerain*, which is very well kept, tho' the Family it seems is not much in this Country, having another Estate, and Dwelling at *Tottenbam-High-Cross* near *London*.

From hence in my way to the Sea-side I came to *New-Forest*, of which I have said something already with Relation to the great Extent of Ground, which lyes Wast, and in which there is so great a Quantity of large Timber, as I have spoken of already.

This wast and wild Part of the Country was, as *some Record*, lay'd open, and wast for a Forest, and for Game, by that violent Tyrant *William* the Conqueror, and for which purpose he unpeopled the Country, pull'd down the Houses, and which was worse, the Churches of several Parishes or Towns, and of abundance of Villages, Turning the poor People out of their Habitations, and Possessions, and laying all open for his Deer : The same Histories likewise Record that two of his own Blood and Posterity

sterity, and particularly his immediate Successor *William Rufus* lost their Lives in this Forest. One (*viz.*) the said, *William Rufus* being shot with an Arrow directed at a Deer, which the King, and his Company were Hunting, and the Arrow glancing on a Tree, chang'd his Course and struck the King full on the Breast, and kill'd him; This they relate as a just Judgment of God on the cruel Deaftation made here by the Conqueror; Be it so or not, *as Heaven pleases*; but that the King was so kill'd, is certain, and they show the Tree, on which the Arrow glanc'd to this Day; in King *Charles II.* Time, it was ordered to be surrounded with a Pale, but as great Part of the Paleing is down with Age; whether the Tree be really so old, or not, is to me a great Question; the Action being near 700 Year ago.

I cannot omit to mention here a Propofal made a few Years ago to the late Lord Treasurer, *Godolphin*, for Re-peopling this Forest, which for some Reasons I can be more particular in, than any Man now left alive, because I had the Honour to Draw up the Scheme, and argue it before that Noble Lord, and some others who were principally concern'd at that time in bringing Over, *or rather providing for when they were come Over*, the poor Inhabitants of the *Palatinate*; a Thing in it self Commendable, but as it was manag'd, made Scandalous to *England*, and Miserable to those poor People.

Some Persons being ordered by that Noble Lord, above mention'd, to consider of Measures, how the said poor People should be Provided for, and whether they could be Provided for, or no, without Injury to the Publick.

The

The answer was Grounded upon this Maxim, that *the Number of Inhabitants is the Wealth and Strength of a Kingdom*, provided those Inhabitants were such, as by honest Industry applied themselves to live by their Labour, to whatsoever Trades, or Employments they were brought up: In the next Place it was inquir'd, what Employments those Poor People were brought up to? It was answer'd, there were Husbandmen, and Artificers of all Sorts, upon which the Propofal was as follows.

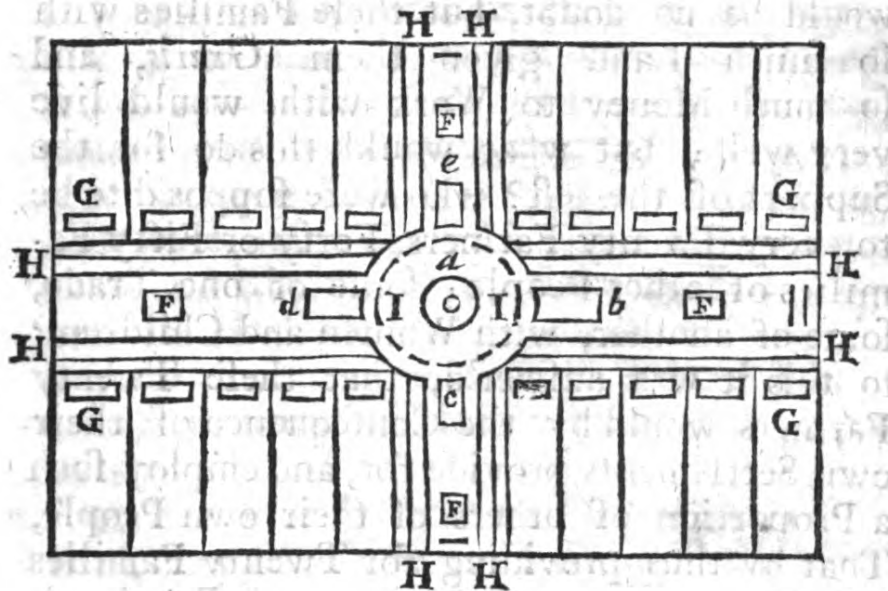
**NEW FOREST** in Hampshire was singl'd out to be the Place,

Here it was propos'd to Draw a Great Square-Line, containing four Thousand Acres of Land, Marking out two large High-ways, or Roads thro' the Center, crossing both Ways, so that there should be a Thousand Acres in each Division, exclusive of the Land contain'd in the said Cross Roads.

Then it was propos'd to single out Twenty Men, and their Families, who should be recommended as honest industrious Men, expert in, or at least capable of being Instructed in Husbandry, curing and cultivating of Land, breeding and feeding Cattle, and the like; To each of these should be parcell'd out in equal Distributions, Two Hundred Acres of this Land, so that the whole Four Thousand Acres should be fully Distributed to the said Twenty Families, for which they should have no Rent to pay, and be liable to no Taxes, but such as provided for their own Sick or Poor, repairing their own Roads, and the like: This Exemption from Rent and Taxes, to continue for Twenty Years, and then to pay each 50*l.* a Year to the Queen; that is to say, to the Crown.

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The Form of the several Farms would be laid out thus.



*a* the Church, *b* the Shambles, *c* the Market House, *d* a Town Hall, *e* a Conduit with Stocks, &c. *F* the Conduits, or Wells, *G* Houses, *H* the Lands enclosed behind, *I* Streets of Houses for Tradesmen.

To each of these Families, who I wou'd now call Farmers, it was propos'd to Advance 200*l.* in ready Money, as a Stock to Set them to Work, to furnish them with Cattle, Horses, Cows, Hogs, &c. and to Hire and pay Labourers, to Enclose, Clear, and Cure the Land; which it would be suppos'd the first Year would not be so much to their Advantage as afterwards; allowing them Timber out of the Forest to Build themselves Houses, and Barns, Sheds, and Offices, as they should have Occasion; also for Carts, Waggons, Ploughs, Harrows, and the like necessary Things, Care to be  
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taken, that the Men and their Families, went to Work forthwith according to the Design.

Thus Twenty Families would be immediately supplied, and provided for, for there would be no doubt, but these Families with so much Land given them *Gratis*, and so much Money to Work with, would live very well; but what would this do for the Support of the rest? who were suppos'd to be to every Twenty Farmers, Forty or Fifty Families of other People; some of one Trade, some of another, with Women and Children? to this it was answer'd, that these Twenty Farmers would by the Consequence of their own Settlements, provide for, and employ such a Proportion of others of their own People, That by thus providing for Twenty Families in a Place, the whole Number of *Palatinates* would have been provided for, had they been 20000 more in Number than they were, and that without being any Burthen upon, or Injury to the People of *England*; on the Contrary, they would have been an Advantage, and an Addition of Wealth and Strength to the Nation, and to the Country in particular where they should be thus Seated: For Example;

As soon as the Land was Mark'd out, the Farmers put in Possession of it, and the Money given them, they should be oblig'd to go to Work, in order to their Settlement; suppose it then to be in the Spring of the Year, when such Work was most proper; First all Hands would be requir'd, to Fence, and Part off the Land, and clear it of the Timber, or Buihes, or what ever else was upon it, which requir'd to be remov'd: The first Thing there-

therefore which the Farmer would do, would be to single out from the rest of their Number, every One three Servants, *that is to say*, two Men, and a Maid; less cou'd not answer the Preparations they would be oblig'd, to make, and yet work hard themselves also; by the help of these, they would with good Management soon get so much of their Land Cur'd, Fenc'd oft, Plow'd, and Sow'd, as should yeild them a sufficiency of Corn and Kitchin Stuff, the very first Year, both for Horse-meat, Hog-meat, Food for the Family, and some to carry to Market too, by which to bring in Money to go farther on, as above.

At the first Enterance, they were to have the Tents allow'd them to live in, which they then had from the *Tower*; but as soon as Leisure, and Conveniences admitted, every Farmer was oblig'd to begin to Build him a Farm House, which he would do gradually, some and some, as he could spare Time from his other Works, and Money from his little Stock.

In order to furnish himself with Carts, Waggon, Plows, Harrows, Wheel Barrows, Hurdles, and all such necessary Utensils of Husbandry; there would be an absolute Necessity of Wheelwrights, or Cartwrights, One at least to each Division.

Thus by the Way, there would be Employ'd three Servants to each Farmer, that makes sixty Persons.

Four Families of Wheelwrights, One to each Division: which suppose five in a Family, makes 20 Persons; suppose four Head Carpenters, with each three Men, and as

at first all would be building together, they would to every House building have at least one Labourer, four Families of Carpenters, five to each Family, and three Servants, is thirty two Persons, one Labourer to each House building, is twenty Persons more.

Thus here would be Necessarily brought, together in the very first of the Work 132 Persons, besides the head Farmers, who at five, also to each Family are Hundred more, in all two Hundred Thirty two.

For the necessary Supply of these with Provisions, Cloaths, Household-Stuff, &c. for all should be done among themselves; *first*, they must have at least four Butchers with their Families; twenty Persons, four Shoemakers with their Families, and each Shoemaker two Journeymen for every Trade; would Encrease the Number of Customers to every Trade: This is Twenty eight Persons more.

They would then require a Hatmaker, a Glover, at least two Ropemakers, four Taylors, three Weavers of Woollen, and three Weavers of Linnen, two Basketmakers, two common Brewers, ten or twelve Shop-keepers to furnish Chandlery and Grocery Wares; and as many for Drapery and Mercery, over and above what they could Work, this makes two and forty Families more, each at five in a Family, which is two Hundred and ten Persons; all the labouring Part of these must have at least two Servants, the Brewers more, which I cast up at forty more.

Add

Add to these two Ministers, one Clerk, one Sexton, or Grave-digger with their Families, two Physicians, three Apothecaries, two Surgeons, less there could not be, only that for the beginning it might be said the Physicians should be Surgeons, and I take them so; this is forty five Persons, besides Servants; so that in short, to omit many Tradesmen more who would be wanted among them, there would necessarily, and voluntarily follow, to these Twenty Families of Farmers at least six Hundred more of their own People.

It is no difficult thing to show that the ready Money of 4000*l.* which the Government was to advance to those twenty Farmers, would Employ and Pay, and consequently Subsist all these numerous Dependants, in the Works which must severally be done for them, for the first Year; after which the Farmers would begin to receive their own Money back again; for all these Tradesmen must come to their own Market to buy Corn, Flesh, Milk, Butter, Cheese, Bacon, &c. which after the first Year the Farmers having no Rent to pay, would have to spare sufficiently, and so take back their own Money with Advantage; I need not go on to mention, how by consequence Provisions encreasing, and Money circulating, this Town should Encrease in a very little Time.

It was Propos'd also that for the Encouragement of all the Handicraftsmen, and Labouring Poor, who either as Servants, or as Labourers for Day-work, assisted the Farmers or other Tradesmen, they should have every Man three Acres of Ground given them, with



leave to build Cottages upon the same, the Allotments to be upon the Waste, at the End of the Cross-Roads where they entered the Town.

In the Center of the Square was laid out a Circle of twelve Acres of Ground, to be cast into Streets for Inhabitants to build on, as their Ability would permit; all that would Build to have Ground *gratis* for twenty Years, Timber out of the Forest, and convenient Yards, Gardens and Orchards allotted to every House.

In the Great Streets near where they Cross each other, was to be Built a handsome Market-house, with a Town-Hall for Parish or Corporation Business, doing Justice and the like; also Shambles, and in a handsome Part of the Ground mention'd to be laid out for Streets, as near the Center as might be, was to be Ground laid out for the building a Church, which every Man should either Contribute to the Building of, in Money, or give every tenth Day of his Time to assist in Labouring at the Building.

I have omitted many Tradesmen, who would be wanted here, and would find a good Livelihood among their Country Folks; only to get accidental Work, as Daymen, or Labourers; of which such a Town would constantly Employ many, as also poor Women for Assistance in Families, such as Midwives, Nurses, &c.

Adjacent to the Town was to be a certain Quantity of Common Land, for the Benefit of the Cottages; that the Poor might have a few Sheep, or Cows as their Circumstances requir'd; and this to be appointed at the several Ends of the Town.

There

There was a Calculation made of what Encrease here would be, both of Wealth and People in twenty Years in this Town; what a vast Consumption of Provisions they would Cause, more than the four Thousand Acres of Land given them would produce; by which Consumption, and encrease so much Advantage would accrue to the Publick Stock, and so many Subjects be added to the many Thousands of *Great Britain*; who in the next Age would be all *True born Englishmen*, and forget both the Language, and Nation from whence they came; and it was in order to this that two Ministers were appointed, one of which should Officiate in *English*, and the other in *High Dutch*; and withal to have them oblig'd by a Law to Teach all their Children both to Speak, Read and Write the *English* Language.

Upon their Encrease they would also want Barbers, and Glafiers, Painters also, and Plumbers; a Wind-mill or two, and the Millers and their Families, a Fulling-mill, and a Cloth Worker; as also a Master Clothier, or two, for making a Manufacture among them for their own Wear, and for employing the Women and Children; a Dyer or two, for Dying their Manufactures; and, which above all, is not to be omitted, four Families at least of Smiths, with every one two Servants; considering that besides all the Family work, which continually Employs a Smith, all the Shoeing of Horses, all the Iron-work of Plows, Carts, Waggons, Harrows, &c. must be wrought by them.

There was no Allowance made for Inns, and Ale-houses, seeing it would be frequent that

those who kept Publick Houses of any sort, would likewise have some other Employment to carry on.

This was the Scheme for settling the Palatinates, by which Means twenty Families of Farmers, handsomely set up, and supported, would lay a Foundation, as I have said, for six or seven hundred of the rest of their People; and as the Land in *New Forest* is undoubtedly good, and capable of Improvement by such Cultivation, so other Wastes in *England* are to be found as fruitful as that; and twenty such Villages might have been erected, the poor Strangers maintain'd, and the Nation evidently be better'd by it; as to the Money to be advanc'd, which in the Case of twenty such Settlements, at 4000 *l.* each, would be 80000 *l.* two Things were answer'd to it.

1. That the annual Rent to be receiv'd for all those Lands after twenty Years, would abundantly pay the Publick for the first Disburses on the Scheme above, that Rent being then to amount to 40000 *l. per Ann.*

2. More Money than would have done this, was expended, or rather thrown away upon them here, to keep them in suspense, and afterwards starve them; sending them a begging all over the Nation, and shipping them off to perish in other Countries: Where the Mistake lay, is none of my Business to enquire.

I reserv'd this Account for this Place, because I pass'd in this Journey over the very Spot where the Design was laid out; namely,  
near

near *Lindburst*, in the Road from *Rumsey* to *Limington*, whether I now directed my Course.

*Limington* is a little, but populous Sea Port, standing opposite to the Isle of *Wight*, in the narrow Part of the Streight, which Ships some times pass thro', in fair Weather, call'd, the *Needles*; and right against an ancient Town of that Island call'd *Tarmouth*, and which, in Distinction from the great Town of *Tarmouth* in *Norfolk*, is call'd *South Tarmouth*: This Town of *Limington* is chiefly noted for making fine Salt, which is indeed excellent good; and from whence all these South Parts of *England* are supply'd, as well by Water as by Land Carriage; and sometimes, tho' not often, they send Salt to *London*, when contrary Winds having kept the Northern Fleets back, the Price at *London* has been very High; but this is very seldom and uncertain. *Limington* sends two Members to Parliament, and this and her Salt Trade is all I can say to her; for tho' she is very well situated, as to the Convenience of Shipping, I do not find they have any Foreign Commerce, except it be what we call Smuggling, and Roguing; which, I may say, is the reigning Commerce of all this Part of the *English* Coast, from the Mouth of the *Thames* to the Land's End of *Cornwall*.

From hence there are but few Towns on the Sea Coast West, tho' there are several considerable Rivers empty themselves into the Sea, nor are there any Harbours, or Sea Ports of any Note, except *Pool*: As for *Christ Church*, tho' it stands at the Mouth of the *Avon*, which, as I have said, comes down from *Salisbury*, and brings with it all the Waters of the South and

**East**

East Parts of *Wiltshire*; and receives also the *Stour* and *Piddle*, two *Dorsetshire* Rivers, which bring with them all the Waters of the North Part of *Dorsetshire*; yet it is a very inconsiderable poor Place, scarce worth seeing, and less worth mentioning in this Account; only, that it sends two Members to Parliament, which many poor Towns in this Part of *England* do, as well as that.

From hence I stept up into the Country *North-West*, to see the ancient Town of *Wimburn*, or *Wimburnminster*; There I found nothing remarkable, but the Church, which is indeed a very great one, ancient, and yet very well built, with a very firm strong square Tower, considerably high; but was, without doubt, much finer, when on the Top of it, stood a most exquisite Spire, finer and taller, *if Fame lyes not*, than that at *Salisbury*, and, by its Situation, in a plainer, flatter Country, visible, no question, much farther: But this most beautiful Ornament was blown down by a sudden Tempest of Wind, *as they tell us*, in the Year 1622.

The Church remains a venerable Piece of Antiquity, and has in it the Remains of a Place, once, much more in Request than it is now; for here are the Monuments of several noble Families; and in particular of one King, *viz.* King *Etheldred*, who was slain in Battle by the *Danes*: He was a Prince fam'd for Piety and Religion, and, according to the Zeal of these Times, was esteem'd as a Martyr; because venturing his Life against the *Danes*, who were Heathens, he died fighting for his Religion and his Country. The Inscription upon his Grave is

is preserv'd, and has been carefully repair'd, so as to be easily read, and is as follows :

In *hoc loco* quiescit Corpus S. *Etheldredi*, Regis West Saxonum, Martyris, qui Anno Dom. DCCCLXXII. *ixiii.* Aprilis per Manos Danorum Paganorum Occubuit.

In English thus :

*Here rests the Body of Holy Etheldred, King of the West Saxons, and Martyr, who fell by the Hands of the Pagan Danes, in the Year of our Lord 872, the 23d of April.*

Here are also the Monuments of the great Marchioness of *Exeter*, Mother of *Edward Courtney*, Earl of *Devonshire*, and last of the Family of *Courtneys* who enjoy'd that Honour; as also of *John de Beaufort*, Duke of *Somerset*, and his Wife, Grand-Mother of King *Henry VII.* by her Daughter *Margaret* Countess of *Richmond*.

This last Lady I mention, because she was Foundress of a very fine Free-School, which has since been enlarg'd, and had a new Benefactress in Queen *Elizabeth*, who has enlarg'd the Stipend, and annex'd it to the Foundation: The famous Cardinal *Pool* was Dean of this Church before his Exaltation.

Having said this of the Church, I have said all that is worth naming of the Town; except that the Inhabitants, who are many, and poor, are chiefly maintain'd by the Manufacture of knitting Stockings, which employs great Part indeed of the County of *Dorset*, of which this is the first Town Eastward.

South

South of this Town, over a Sandy wild and barren Country, we came to *Pool*, a considerable Sea-Port, and indeed the most considerable in all this Part of *England*; for here I found some Ships, some Merchants, and some Trade; especially, here were a good Number of Ships fitted out every Year to the *Newfoundland* Fishing, in which the *Pool Men* were said to have been particularly Successful for many Years past.

The Town Sits in the Bottom of a great Bay, or Inlet of the Sea, which Entering at one narrow Mouth opens to a very great Breadth within the Entrance, and comes up to the very Shoar of this Town; it runs also West up almost to the Town of *Wareham*, a little below which, it receives the Rivers *Froom* and *Piddle*, the two Principle Rivers of the County.

This Place is famous for the best, and biggest Oysters in all this Part of *England*, which the People of *Pool* pretend to be famous for Pickling, and they are Barrell'd up here, and sent not only to *London*, but to the *West Indies*, and to *Spain*, and *Italy*, and other Parts. 'Tis observ'd more Pearl are found in the *Pool* Oysters, and larger than in any other Oysters about *England*.

As the Entrance into this large Bay is Narrow, so it is made Narrower by an Island, call'd *Branksey*, which lying in the very Mouth of the Passage, divides it into two, and where there is an old Castle, call'd *Branksey* Castle built to Defend the Entrance, and this Strength was very great Advantage to the Trade of this Port, in the time of the late War with *France*,

*Wareham* is a neat Town, and full of People, having a share of Trade with *Pool* it self, is shew's the Ruins of a large Town, and 'tis apparent has had eight Churches, of which they have three remaining.

South of *Wareham*, and between the Bay I have mention'd and the Sea, lyes a large Tract of Land, which being surrounded by the Sea, except on one Side is call'd an Island, tho' it is really what should be call'd a Peninsula; this Tract of Land is better Inhabited than the Sea Coast of this West End of *Dorsetshire* generally is, and the Manufacture of Stockings is carry'd on there also; it is called *the Isle of Furbeck*, and has in the Middle of it a large Market-Town, call'd *Corf*, and from the famous Castle there. The whole Town is now call'd *Corf-Castle*, it is a Corporation, sending Members to Parliaments.

This part of the Country is eminent for vast Quarreys of Stone, which is cut out Flat, and us'd in *London* in great Quantities for Paving Court-Yards, Alleys, Avenues to Houses, Kitchens, Foot-ways on the Sides of the High-Streets, and the like; and is very profitable to the Place, as also in the Number of Shipping employ'd in bringing it to *London*. There are also several Rocks of very good Marble, only that the Veins in the Stone are not Black and White, as the *Italian*, but Grey, Red, and other Colours.

From Hence to *Weymouth*, which is — Miles we Rod in view of the Sea; the Country is open, and in some respects Pleasant, but not like the Northern Parts of the County, which are all fine Carpet Ground, soft as Velvet, and the  
Herbage,



Herbage, sweet as Garden Herbs, which makes their Sheep be the best in *England*, if not in the World; and their Wool fine to an extreme.

I cannot omit here a small Adventure, which was very surprizing to me on this Journey; passing this plain Country, we came to an open Peice of Ground where a Neighbouring Gentleman had at a great Expence laid out a proper peice of Land for a *Decoy*, or *Duck-coy*, as some call it; the Works were but newly done, the Planting young, the Ponds very large, and well made; but the proper Places for Shelter of the Fowl not cover'd, the Trees not being Grown, and Men were still at Work improving, and enlarging, and planting on the adjoining Heath, or Common: Near the Decoy Keeper's House, were some Places where young Decoy-Ducks were hatch'd, or otherwise kept to fit them for their Work; To preserve them from Vermin, Polecats, Kites, and such like; they had set Traps, as is usual in such Cafes, and a Gibbet by it, where abundance of such Creatures as were taken were hang'd up for show.

While the *Decoy Man* was busy showing the New-Works, he was alarm'd with a great Cry about this House for *Help, Help*, and away he run, like the Wind, guessing, as we suppos'd that something was catch'd in the Trap.

It was a good big Boy about 13 or 14 Year old, that cry'd out, for coming to the Place, he found a great Fowl catch'd by the Leg in the Trap, which yet was so strong, and so outrageous, that the Boy going too near him, he flew at him, and frighted him, bit him, and beat

beat him with his Wings, for he was too strong for the Boy; as the Master ran from the *Decoy*, so another Man-Servant ran from the House, and finding a strange Creature fast in the Trap, not knowing what it was, laid at him with a great Stick; the Creature fought him a good while, but at length he struck him an unlucky Blow, which quieted him; after this we all came up to see what was the matter, and found a monstrous Eagle caught by the Leg in the Trap, and kill'd by the Fellow's Cudgel, *as above.*

When the Master came to know what it was, and that his Man had kill'd it, he was ready to kill the Fellow for his pains, for it was a noble Creature indeed, and would have been worth a great deal to the Man to have it shown about the Country, or to have sold to any Gentleman curious in such Things; but the Eagle was dead, and there we left it: 'Tis probable this Eagle had flown over the Sea from *France*, either there, or at the Isle of *Weight*, where the Channel is not so wide; for we do not find that any Eagles are known to Breed in those Parts of *Britain.*

From hence we turn'd up to *Dorchester*, the County Town, tho' not the largest Town in the County; *Dorchester* is indeed a pleasant agreeable Town to live in, and where I thought the People seem'd less Divided into Factions and Parties, than in other Places; for though here are Divisions and the People are not all of one Mind, either as to Religion, or Politics, yet they did not seem to separate with so much Animosity as in other Places: Here I saw the Church of *England* Clergymen, and

and the Dissenting Minister, or Preacher drinking Tea together, and Conversing with Civility and good Neighbourhood, like Catholick Christians, and Men of a Catholick, and extensive Charity. The Town is populous, tho' not large, the Streets broad, but the Buildings old, and low; however, there is good Company and a good deal of it; and a Man that coveted a retreat in this World might as agreeably, spend his time, and as well in *Dorchester*, as in any Town I know in *England*.

The Downs round this Town are exceeding Pleasant, and come up on every Side, even to the very Streets end; and here it was that they told me, that there were 600 Thousand Sheep fed on the Downs, within six Miles of the Town; that is, six Miles every way, which is Twelve Miles in Diameter, and Thirty six Miles in Circumference. This I say, I was told, I do not affirm it to be true; but when I viewed the Country round, I confess I could not but incline to believe it.

It is observable of these Sheep, that they are exceeding Fruitful, and the Ews generally bringing two Lambs, and they are for that Reason bought by all the Farmers thro' the East Part of *England*, who come to *Burford Fair* in this Country to buy them, and carry them into *Kent* and *Surry* Eastward, and into *Buckinghamshire*, and *Bedfordshire*, and *Oxfordshire* North even our *Bansted Downs* in *Surrey*, so fam'd for good Mutton, is supply'd from this Place; The Grass, or Herbage of these Downs is full of the sweetest, and the most Aromatick Plants, such as Nourish the Sheep to a strange degree, and the Sheeps Dung again Nourishes  
that

that Herbage to a strange degree ; so that the Valleys are render'd extremely Fruitful, by the washing of the Water in hasty Showers from off these Hills.

An eminent Instance of this is seen at *Amesbury* in *Wiltshire*, the next County to this, for it is the same thing in Proportion over this whole County : I was told that at this Town there was a Meadow on the Bank of the River *Avon*, which runs thence to *Salisbury*, which was Let for 12*l.* a Year *per* Acre for the Grass only : This I enquir'd particularly after, at the Place, and was assur'd by the Inhabitants as one Man, that the Fact was True, and was shew'd the Meadows ; the Grass which grew on them was such as grew to the length of Ten or Twelve Foot, rising up to a good Height, and then taking Root again, and was of so rich a Nature as to answer very well such an extravagant Rent.

The Reason they gave for this, was the extraordinary richness of the Soil, made so, as above, by the falling, or washing of the Rains from the Hills adjacent, by which tho' no other Land thereabouts had such a kind of Grass, yet all other Meadows, and low Grounds of the Valley were extremely rich in Proportion.

There are abundance of good Families, and of very antient Lines in the Neighbourhood of this Town of *Dorchester*, as the *Napiers*, the *Courtneys*, *Strangeways*, *Seymours*, *Banks*, *Tregonells*, *Sedenbams*, and many others, some of which have very great Estates in the County, and in particular Colonel *Strangeways*, *Napier*, and *Courtney*. The first of these is Master of the famous Swannery, or Nursery of Swans, the like of which I believe is not in *Europe* ; I wonder any Man should pretend to Travel over this Country,

and pass by it too, and then write his Account, and take no Notice of it.

From *Dorchester* it is six Miles to the Sea Side South, and the Ocean in view almost all the Way: The first Town you come to is *Weymouth*, or *Weymouth* and *Melcomb*, two Towns lying at the Mouth of a little Rivulet, which they call the *Wey*, but scarce claims the Name of a River; however, the Entrance makes a very good, tho' small Harbour, and they are joyn'd by a Wooden Bridge; so that nothing but the Harbour parts them; yet they are separate Corporations, and choose each of them two Members of Parliament, just as *London* and *Southwark*.

*Weymouth* is a sweet, clean, agreeable Town, considering its low Situation, and close to the Sea; 'tis well built, and has a great many good substantial Merchants in it; who drive a considerable Trade, and have a good Number of Ships belonging to the Town: They carry on now, in Time of Peace, a Trade with *France*; but besides this, they trade also to *Portugal*, *Spain*, *Newfoundland*, and *Virginia*; and they have a large Correspondence also up in the Country for the Consumption of their Returns; especially the Wine Trade, and the *Newfoundland* Trade are considerable here.

Without the Harbour is an old Castle, call'd *Sandfoot* Castle, and over-against them, where there is a good Road for Ships to put in on Occasions of bad Weather, is *Portland* Castle, and the Road is call'd *Portland* Road: While I was here once, there came a Merchant-Ship into that Road, call'd *Portland* Road, under a very hard Storm of Wind; she was homeward bound from *Oporto* for *London*, laden with Wines, and

and as she came in, she made Signals of Distress to the Town, firing Guns for Help, *and the like*, as is usual in such Cases; it was in the Dark of the Night that the Ship came in, and, by the Help of her own Pilot, found her Way into the Road, where she came to an Anchor, but, *as I say*, fir'd Guns for Help.

The venterous *Weymouth-Men* went off, even before it was Light, with two Boats to see who she was, and what Condition she was in, and found she was come to an Anchor, and had struck her Top-Masts; but that she had been in bad Weather, had lost an Anchor and Cable before, and had but one Cable to trust to, which did hold her, but was weak; and as the Storm continued to blow, they expected every Hour to go on Shore, and split to pieces.

Upon this, the *Weymouth* Boats came back with such Diligence, that, in less than three Hours, they were on board them again with an Anchor and Cable, which they immediately bent in its place, and let go to assist the other, and thereby secur'd the Ship: 'Tis true, that they took a good Price of the Master for the Help they gave him; for they made him draw a Bill on his Owners at *London* for 12 *l.* for the Use of the Anchor, Cable, and Boat, besides some Gratuities to the Men: But they sav'd the Ship and Cargo by it, and in three or four Days the Weather was calm, and he proceeded on his Voyage, returning the Anchor and Cable again; so that, upon the whole, it was not so extravagant at first as I thought it to be.

The Isle of *Portland*, on which the Castle I mention'd stands, lies right against this Port of *Weymouth*: Hence it is, that our best and whitest

free Stone comes, with which the Cathedral of *St. Paul's*, the Monument, and all the publick Edifices in the City of *London*, are chiefly built; and 'tis wonderful, and well worth the Observation of a Traveller to see the Quarries in the Rocks, from whence they are cut out, what Stones, and of what prodigious a Size are cut out there.

The Island is indeed little more than one continued Rock of free Stone, and the height of the Land is such, that from this Island they see, in clear Weather, above half over the Channel to *France*, tho' the Channel here is very broad; the Sea off of this Island, and especially to the West of it, is counted the most dangerous Part of the British Channel: Due South, there is almost a continued Disturbance in the Waters, by Reason of what they call two Tides meeting, which I take to be no more than the Setts of the Currents from the *French Coast*, and from the *English Shore* meeting: This they call *Portland Race*; and several Ships, not aware of these Currents, have been embay'd to the West of *Portland*, and been driven on Shore on the Breach, (of which I shall speak presently) and there lost.

To prevent this Danger, and guide the Mariner in these Distresses, they have, within these few Months, set up two Light-Houses on the two Points of that Island; and they had not been many Months set up, with the Directions given to the Publick for their Bearings, but we found three outward bound *East-India* Ships which were in Distress in the Night, in a hard extream Gale of Wind, were so directed by those Lights, that they avoided going  
on

on Shore by it, which, if the Lights had not been there, would inevitably happen'd to their Destruction.

This Island, tho' seemingly miserable, and thinly inhabited, yet the Inhabitants being almost all Stone-Cutters, we found there was no very poor People among them ; and when they collected Money for the rebuilding St. Paul's, they got more in this Island than in the great Town of *Dorchester*, as we were told.

Tho' *Portland* stands a League off from the main Land of *Britain*, yet it is almost joyn'd by a prodigious Riffe of Beach, *that is to say*, of small Stones cast up by the Sea, which runs from the Island so near the Shore of *England*, that they ferry over with a Boat and a Rope, the Water not being above half a Stones throw over ; and the said Riffe of Beach ending, as it were, at that Inlet of Water, turns away West, and runs parallel with the Shore quite to *Abbotsbury*, which is a Town about seven Miles beyond *Weymouth*.

I name this for two Reasons ; first, to explain again what I said before, of Ships being embay'd and lost here : This is when Ships coming from the Westward omit to keep a good *Offing*, or are taken short by contrary Winds, and cannot Weather the high Land of *Portland*, but are driven between *Portland* and the main Land ; if they can come to an Anchor, and ride it out, well and good, and if not, they run on Shore on that vast Beach, and are lost without Remedy.

On the Inside of this Beach, and between it, and the Land, there is, as I have said, an Inlet of Water, which they ferry over, as above, to pass and repass to and from *Portland* : This



Inlet opens at about two Miles West, and grows very broad, and makes a kind of Lake within the Land of a Mile and a half broad, and near three Miles in length, the Breadth unequal. At the farthest End West of this Water is a large *Duck-coy*, and the Verge of the Water well grown with Wood, and proper Groves of Trees for Cover for the Fowl; in the open Lake, or broad Part, is a continual Assembly of *Swans*: Here they live, feed and breed, and the Number of them is such, that, I believe, I did not see so few as 7 or 8000. Here they are protected, and here they breed in abundance; we saw several of them upon the Wing, very high in the Air, whence we supposed, that they flew over the Riffe of Beach, which parts the Lake from the Sea to feed on the Shores as they thought fit, and so came home again at their Leisure.

From this *Duck-coy* West, the Lake narrows, and at last almost closes, till the Beach joyns the Shore; and so *Portland* may be said not to be an Island, but part of the Continent; and now we came to *Abbotsbury*, a Town anciently famous for a great Monastery, and now eminent for nothing but its Ruins.

From hence we went on to *Bridport*, a pretty large Corporation Town on the Sea Shore, tho' without a Harbour: Here we saw Boats all the way on the Shore fishing for *Mackerell*, which they take in the easiest Manner imaginable; for they fix one End of the Net to a Pole, set deep into the Sand, then the Net being in a Boat, they row right out into the Water some Length, then turn, and row parallel with the Shore, vering out the Net all the while, till they

they have let go all the Net, except the Line at the End, and then the Boat rows on Shore, when the Men haling the Net to the Shore at both Ends, bring to Shore with it such Fish, as they surrounded in the little Way they rowed; this, at that Time, proved to be an incredible Number, insomuch, that the Men could hardly draw them on Shore: As soon as the Boats had brought their Fish on Shore, we observed a Guard, or Watch, placed on the Shore in several Places, who we found had their Eye not on the Fishermen, but on the Country People, who came down to the Shore to buy their Fish; and very sharp we found they were; and some that came with small Carts were obliged to go back empty, without any Fish. When we came to enquire into the Particulars of this, we found, that these were Officers placed on the Shore by the Justices and Magistrates of the Towns about, who were order'd to prevent the Country Farmers buying the *Mackerell* to dung their Land with them, which was thought to be dangerous, as to Infection: In short, such was the Plenty of Fish that Year, that the *Mackerell*, the finest and largest I ever saw, were sold at the Sea Side a hundred for a Penny.

From *Bridport*, a Town in which we see nothing remarkable, we came to *Lime*, the Town particularly made famous by the landing of the Duke of *Monmouth*, and his unfortunate Troop, in the Time of King *James II.* of which I need say nothing, the History of it being so recent in the Memory of so many living.

This is a Town of good Figure, and has in it several eminent Merchants, who carry on a considerable Trade to *France*, *Spain*, *Newfoundland*, and the

*Streights* ; and tho' they have neither Creek or Bay, Road, or River, they have a good Harbour ; but 'tis such a one as is not in all *Britain* besides, if there is such a one in any Part of the World.

It is a massy Pile of Building, consisting of high and thick Walls of Stone, rais'd, at first, with all the Methods that Skill and Art could devise, but maintain'd now with very little Difficulty : The Walls are rais'd in the main Sea, at a good Distance from the Shore ; it consists of one main and solid Wall of Stone, large enough for Carts and Carriages to pass on the Top, and to admit Houses and Ware houses to be built on it ; so that it is broad as a Street ; opposite to this, but farther into the Sea, is another Wall of the same Workmanship, which crosses the End of the first Wall, and comes about with a Tail, parallel to the first Wall.

Between the Point of the first or main Wall, is the Entrance into the Port, and the second, or opposite Wall, breaking the Violence of the Sea from the Entrance, the Ships go into the Basin, as into a Peer, or Harbour, and ride there as secure as in a Mill Pond, or as in a Wet Dock.

The Town's People have the Benefit of this wonderful Harbour, and it is carefully kept in repair, as indeed it behoves them to do ; but they could give me nothing of the History of it ; nor do they, as I could perceive, know any thing of the Original of it, or who built it ; it was lately almost beaten down by a Storm, but is repair'd again.

This Work is call'd the COBB : The Custom-House Officers have a Lodge and Warehouse upon it, and there were several Ships of very good Force,

Force, and rich in Value, in the Basin of it when I was there: It might be strengthen'd with a Fort, and the Walls themselves are firm enough to carry what Guns they please to plant upon it; but they did not seem to think it needful; and as the Shore is convenient for Batteries, they have some Guns planted in proper Places, both for the Defence of the COBB, and the Town also.

This Town is under the Government of a Mayor and Aldermen, and may pass for a Place of Wealth, considering the bigness of it: Here we found the Merchants began to Trade in the Pitchard Fishing, tho' not to so considerable a Degree as they do farther West; the Pitchards seldom coming up so high Eastward as *Portland*, and not very often so high as *Lime*.

It was in sight of these Hills that Queen *Elizabeth's* Fleet, under the Command of the Lord *Howard of Effingham*, then Admiral, began first to engage in a Close, and resolv'd fight with the invincible *Spanish Amada*, in 1588: Maintaining the Fight, the *Spaniards* making Eastward, till they came the Length of *Portland Race*, where they gave it over; the *Spaniards* having receiv'd considerable Damage, and keeping then closer together. Off of the same Place was a desperate Engagement in the Year 1672, between the *English* and *Dutch*, in which the *Dutch* were worsted, and driven over to the Coast of *France*, and then glad to make home to refit and repair.

While we stay'd here some Time viewing this Town and Coast, we had Opportunity to observe the pleasant Way of Conversation, as it is manag'd among the Gentlemen of this County,  
and

and their Families, which are without Reflection on some of the most polite and well bred People in the Isle of *Britain*: As their Hospitality is very Great, and their Bounty to the Poor remarkable, so their generous friendly way of living with, Visiting, and Associating one with another is as hard to be describ'd, as it is really to be admir'd; they seem to have a mutual Confidence in, and Friendship with one another, as if they were all Relations; nor did I observe the sharpening tricking Temper, which is too much crept in among the Gameing and Horse-Racing Gentry in some Parts of *England*, to be so much known among them, any otherwise than to be abhorr'd; and yet they sometimes Play too, and make Matches, and Horse-Races, as they see occasion.

The Ladies here do not want the help of Assemblies to assist in Match-making; or Half-pay Officers to run away with their Daughters, which the Meetings, call'd Assemblies in some other Parts of *England*, are recommended for; Here's no *Bury Fair*, where the Women are scandalously said to carry themselves to Market, and where every Night they meet at the *Play*, or at the *Assembly* for Intreague, and yet I observ'd that the Women do not seem to stick on Hand so much in this Country, as in those Countries, where those Assemblies are so lately Set up; the Reason of which I cannot help saying, if my Opinion may bear any weight, is, that the *Dorsetshire* Ladies are equal in Beauty, and may be Superiour in Reputation; In a word, their Reputation seems here to be better kept; guarded by better Conduct, and manag'd with more Prudence, and yet  
the

the *Dorsetshire Ladies*, I assure you, are not Nuns, they do not go vail'd about Streets, or hide themselves when Visited; but a general freedom of Conversation, agreeable, Mannerly, Kind, and Good runs thro' the whole Body of the Gentry of both Sexes, mix'd with the best of Behaviour, and yet govern'd by Prudence and Modesty; such as I no where see better in all my Observation, thro' the whole Isle of *Britain*. In this little Interval also I visited some of the biggest Towns in the Northwest Part of this County, as *Blandford*, a Town on the River *Stour* in the Road between *Salisbury* and *Dorchester*, a handsome well built Town, but chiefly famous for making the finest Bonelace in *England*, and where they shew'd me some so exquisitely fine; as I think I never saw better in *Flanders*, *France* or *Italy*, and which they said, they rated at above 30 *l.* Sterling a Yard; but I suppose there was not much of this to be had, but 'tis most certain, that they make exceeding rich Lace in that County, such as no Part of *England* can equal.

From thence I went West to *Stourbride*, vulgarly call'd *Strabridge*; the Town, and the Country round is Employ'd in the Manufacture of Stockings, and which was once famous for making the finest, best, and highest Priz'd Knit-Stockings in *England*; but that Trade now is much decay'd by the encrease of the Knitting-Stocking Engine, or Frame, which has destroyed the hand Knitting-Trade for fine Stockings thro' the whole Kingdom, of which I shall speak more in its Place.

From hence I came to *Shireburn*, a large and Populous Town, with one Collegiate, or Con-  
ventual

ventual Church, and may properly Claim to have more Inhabitants in it than any Town in *Dorsetshire*, tho' it is neither the County Town, or does it send Members to Parliament; the Church is still a Reverend Pile, and shews the Face of great Antiquity. Here begins the *Wiltshire* Medley Cloathing; tho' this Town, be in *Dorsetshire*, of which I shall speak at large in its Place, and therefore I omit any Discourse of it here.

*Shaftsbury* is also on the Edge of this County, adjoining to *Wiltshire* and *Dorsetshire*, being 14 Miles from *Salisbury*, over that fine Down or Carpet Ground, which they call particularly, or properly *Salisbury Plain*. It has neither House or Town in view all the way, and the Road which often lyes very Broad, and Branches off insensibly, might easily cause a Traveller to loose his Way, but there is a certain never failing Assistance upon all these Downs for telling a Stranger his Way, and that is the Number of Shepherds feeding, or keeping their vast Flocks of Sheep, which are every where in the way, and who, with a very little pains, a Traveller may always speak with. Nothing can be like it, the *Arcadians* Plains of which we read so much Pastoral Trumpery in the Poets, could be nothing to them.

This *Shaftsbury* is now a sorry Town, upon the Top of a high Hill, and which Closes the Plain, or Downs, and whence Nature presents you a new Scene or Prospect, (*viz.*) of *Somerset* and *Wiltshire*, where 'tis all Enclosed, and grown with Woods, Forests, and planted Hedge-Rows: The County rich, fertile and populous, the Towns and Houses standing thick, and being large and full of Inhabitants, and those

those Inhabitants fully Employ'd in the richest and most valuable Manufacture in the World. (*viz.*) The *English* Cloathing, as well, the Medley, or mixt Cloathing, as Whites; as well for the Home Trade, as the Foreign Trade; of which I shall take leave to be very particular in my return thro' the West and North Part of *Wiltshire*, in the latter Part of this Work.

In my Return to my Western Progress, I pass'd some little Part of *Somersetshire*, as thro' *Evil*, or *Yeovil*, upon the River *Ivil*, in going to which we go down a long steep Hill, which they call *Babylon-Hill*; but from what original I could find none of the Country People to inform me.

This *Yeovil* is a Market Town of good Resort, and some Cloathing is carry'd on, in, and near it, but not much, its main Manufacture at this Time is making of Gloves.

It cannot pass my Observation here, that when we are come this Length from *London*, the Dialect of the *English* Tongue, or the Country way of Expressing themselves is not easily Understood, it is so strangely altered; *it is true*, that it is so in many Parts of *England* besides, but in none in so gross a Degree as in this Part; This way of Boorish Country Speech, as in *Ireland*, it is call'd the Brogue upon the Tongue; so here 'tis call'd *fouring*, and 'tis certain, that tho' the Tongue be all meer natural *English*, yet those that are but a little acquainted with them, cannot understand one half of what they say: It is not possible to Explain this fully by writing, because the Difference is not so much in the Orthography of Words, as in the Tone, and Diction; their abridging the  
Speech,



Speech, *cham* for *I am*, *chil* for *I will*, *don*, for *put on*, and *Doff*, for *put off*, and the like. And I cannot omit a short Story here on this Subject; coming to a Relations House, who was a School-Master at *Martock* in *Somersetshire*. I went into his School to beg the Boys a *Play Day*, as is usual in such Cafes; I should have said to beg the Master a *Play Day*, but that by the way; coming into the School, I observ'd one of the lowest Scholars was reading his Lesson to the Usher, which Lesson it seems was a Chapter in the Bible, so I sat down by the Master, till the Boy had read out his Chapter: I observ'd the Boy read a little oddly in the Tone of the Country, which made me the more attentive, because on Enquiry, I found that the Words were the same, and the Orthography the same as in all our Bibles. I observ'd also the Boy read it out with his Eyes still on the Book, and his Head like a meer Boy, moving from Side to Side, as the Lines reach'd cross the Columns of the Book; his Lesson was in the *Cant.* 5. 3. of the Words these,

“ I have put off my Coat, how shall I  
 “ put it on, I have wash'd my Feet, how  
 “ shall I Defile them?

The Boy read thus, with his Eyes, as I say full on the Text.

“ Chav a Doffed my Cooat, how shall I  
 “ Don't, Chav a wash'd my Veet, how shall  
 “ I Moil'em?

How the dexterous Duncce could form his Mouth to Express so readily the Words, (which stood right printed in the Book) in his Country Jargon, I could not but admire; I shall add to this another peice as *Diverting*, which also

also happen'd in my Knowledge at this very Town of *Teovil*, tho' some Years ago.

There liv'd a good substantial Family in the Town, not far from the *Angel Inn*, a well known House, which was then, and I suppose is still the chief Inn of the Town. This Family had a Dog, which among his other good Qualities, for which they kept him (for he was a rare *House Dog*) had this *bad one*, that he was a most Notorious *Thief*; but withal, so cunning a Dog, and managed himself so warily, that he preserv'd a mighty good Reputation among the Neighbourhood; as the Family was well beloved in the Town, *so was the Dog*; he was known to be a very useful Servant to them, especially in the Night, when he was fierce as a Lion, but in the Day the gentlest, lovingest Creature that could be, *and as they said*, all the Neighbours had a good Word for this Dog.

It happen'd that the good Wife, or Mistress at the *Angel Inn*, had frequently miss'd several peices of Meat out of the Pail, *as they say*, or Powdering-tub, *as we call it*; and that some very large peices; 'tis also to be observ'd the Dog did not stay to eat (what he took) upon the Spot, in which Case some Peices, or Bones, or Fragments might be left, and so it might be discover'd to be a Dog; but he made cleaner Work, and when he fasten'd upon a peice of Meat he was sure to carry it quite away, to such Retreats as he knew he could be safe in, and so feast upon it at leisure.

It happen'd at last, *as with most Thieves it does*, that the Inn-Keeper was too cunning for him, and the poor Dog was nabb'd, taken in the Fact, and could make no Defence.

Ha

Having found the Thief, and got him in Custody, the Master of the House, a good humour'd Fellow, and loth to disoblige the Dog's Master, by Executing the Criminal, as the Dog-Law directs; Mitigates his Sentence, and handled him as follows; first taking out his Knife, he cut off both his Ears, and then bringing him to the Threshold, he chop'd of his Tail; and having thus effectually Dishonour'd the poor Cur among his Neighbours, he tyed a String about his Neck, and a peice of Paper to the String directed to his Master, and with these witty West Country Verses on it.

To my Honour'd Master — Esq;

*Hail Master a Cham a' com Hoam*

*So cut as an Ape, and Tail have I noan,*

*For stealing of Beef, and Pork, out of the Pail,*

*For thease they'v cut my Ears, for th' wother my*

*(Tail;*

*Nea Measter, and us tell thee more nor that*

*And's come there again, my Brains will be flat.*

I could give many more Accounts of the different Dialects of the People of this Country, in some of which they are really not to be understood, but the particulars have little or no Diversion in them, they carry it such a Length, that we see their *Fouring* Speech even upon their Monuments, and Grave-Stones; As for Example, even in some of the Church-Yards of the City of *Bristol*, I saw this excellent Poetry after some other Lines —

*And when that thou doest hear of Thick,*

*Think of the Glass that runneth Quick.*

But I proceed into *Devonshire*, from *Evil* we came to *Crookorn*, thence to *Chard*, and from thence into the same Road I was in before at *Honiton*. This

This is a large and beautiful Market-Town, very Populous, and well Built, and is so very remarkably Pav'd with small Pebbles, that on either Sides the Way a little Channel is left shouldered up on the Sides of it ; so that it holds a small Stream of fine clear running Water with a little Square dipping Place left at every Door, so that every Family in the Town has a clear clean Running River, (as it may be call'd) just at their own Door, and this so much finer, so much pleasanter, and agreeable to look on, then that at *Salisbury*, which they Boast so much of, that in my Opinion, there is no Comparison.

Here we see the first, of the great Serge Manufacture of *Devonshire*, a Trade too great to be describ'd in Miniature, as it must be, if I undertake it here; and which takes up this whole County, which is the largest and most Populous in *England*, *Torkshire*, excepted, (which ought to be esteem'd three Counties, and is indeed Divided as such into the East, West and North Riding;) but *Devonshire* one entire County, is so full of great Towns, and those Towns so full of People, and those People so universally Employ'd in Trade, and Manufactures, that not only it cannot be equall'd in *England*, but perhaps not in *Europe*.

In my Travel thro' *Dorsetshire*, I ought to have observ'd that the biggest Towns in that County sent no Members to Parliament, and that the smallest did; that is to say, that *Sherborn*, *Blandford*, *Winbornminster*, *Sturminster*, and several other Towns Choose no Members, whereas *Weymouth*, *Melcom*, and *Bridport*, were all Burges Towns; but now we come to *Devon-*  
G
*shire*,

*shire*, we find almost all the great Towns, and some smaller choosing Members also ; It is true, there are some large populous Towns that do not Choose, but then there are so many that do, that the County seems to have no Injustice, for they send up six and Twenty Members.

However, *as I say above*, there are several great Towns which do not Choose Parliament Men, of which *Bidiford* is one, *Crediton* or *Kirton* another, *Ilfarcomb* a third, but those excepted the Principal Towns in the County do all Choose Members of Parliament.

*Honiton* is one of those, and may pass not only for a pleasant good Town, as before, but stands in the best and pleasantest Part of the whole County ; and I cannot but recommend it to any Gentlemen that Travel this Road, that if they please to observe the prospect for half a Mile, till their coming down the Hill, and to the Entrance into *Honiton*, the view of the Country is the most beautiful Landskip in the World, a meer Picture ; and I do not remember the like in any one Place in *England* ; 'tis observable that the Market of this Town was kept originally on the *Sunday*, till it was chang'd by the Direction of King *John*.

From *Honiton* the Country is exceeding pleasant still, and on the Road they have a beautiful Prospect almost all the way to *Exeter*, which is twelves Miles ; on the left Hand of this Road that lyes Part of the County, which they call the *South Hams*, and which is famous for the best Cyder in that Part of *England* ; also the Town of *St. Mary Otorey*, commonly call'd *St. Mary Autree* : They tell us the Name is Deriv'd

riv'd from the River *Ottery*, and that, from the Multitude of *Otters* found always in that River, which however to me seems fabulous; nor does there appear to be any such great Number of *Otters* in that Water, or in the County about, more than is usual in other Counties, or in other Parts of the County about them; they tell us they send 20000 Hogsheds of Cyder hence every Year to *London*, and which is still worse, that it is most of it bought there by the Merchants to mix with their Wines, which if true, is not much to the Reputation of the *London* Vintners; but that by the by.

From hence we came to *Exeter*, a City famous for two Things, which we seldom find unite in the same Town, (*viz.*) that 'tis full of Gentry, and good Company, and yet full of Trade and Manufactures also; The Serge Market held here every Week is very well worth a Strangers seeing, and next to the *Brigg-Market* at *Leeds* in *Torkshire*, is the greatest in *England*. The People assur'd me that at this Market is generally sold from 60 to 70 to 80, and sometimes a Hundred Thousand Pounds value in Serges in a Week. I think 'tis kept on *Mondays*.

They have the River *Eske* here, a very considerable River, and Principal in the whole County; and within three Miles, or thereabouts, it receives Ships of any ordinary Burthen, the Port there being call'd *Topsham*; but now by the Application, and at the Expence of the Citizens, the Channel of the River is so widened, deepen'd, and cleans'd from the Shoal, which would otherwise interrupt the Navigation, that the Ships come now quite up to the City, and

there with ease both Deliver and take in their Lading.

This City drives a very great Correspondence with *Holland*, as also directly to *Portugal*, *Spain* and *Italy*; shipping off vast Quantities of their Woollen-Manufactures, especially, to *Holland*, the *Dutch* giving very large Commisions here for the buying of *Serges Perpetuan's*, and such Goods; which are made not only in and about *Exeter*, but at *Crediton*, *Honiton*, *Culliton*, *St Mary Auntry*, *Newton-Bushell*, *Asbburton* and especially at *Tiverton*, *Cullumbton*, *Bampton*, and all the North East Part of the County, which Part of the County is, as it may be said, fully Employ'd, the People made Rich, and the Poor that are properly so call'd, well Subsisted, and Employ'd by it.

*Excester* is a large rich, beautiful, Populous, and was once a very strong City; but as to the last, as the Castle, the Walls, and all the old Works are Demolish'd, so were they standing, the Way of Managing Seiges, and Attacks of Towns is such now, and so alter'd from what it was in those Days, that *Excester* in the utmost Strength it could ever Boast, would not now hold out five Days open Trenches; nay, would hardly put an Army to the trouble of opening Trenches against it at all. This City was famous in the late Civil unnatural War, for its Loyalty to the King, and for being a Sanctuary to the Queen, where her Majesty resid'd for sometime, and here she was deliver'd of a Daughter, being the Princess *Henrietta Maria*, of whom our Histories give a particular Account, so I need say no more of it here.

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The Cathedral Church of this City is an ancient Beauty, or as it may be said, it is Beautiful for its Antiquity; But it has been so fully, and often Described that it would look like a meer Copying from others to mention it: There is a good Library kept in it, in which are some Manuscripts, and particularly an old Missal, or Mass-Book, the Leaves of Velum, and famous for its most exquisite Writing.

This County, and this Part of it in particular, has been famous for the Birth of several Eminent Men, as well for Learning, as for Arts, and for War, as particularly. (1.) Sir *William Petre*, who the Learn'd Dr. *Wake*, now Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and Author of the Additions to Mr. *Cambden*, says, was Secretary of State, and Privy Counsellor to King *Hen. VIII. Ed. VI. Queen Mary*, and Queen *Elizabeth*, and seven times sent Ambassador into foreign Countries.

2. Sir *Thomas Bodley*, famous, and of grateful Memory to all Learned Men, and Lovers of Letters, for his Collecting, and Establishing, the best Library in *Britain*; which is now at *Oxford*, and is call'd after his Name the *Bodleian Library* to this Day.

3. Also Sir *Francis Drake*, born at *Plymouth*.

4. Sir *Walter Raleigh*, of both those I need say nothing: Fame publishes their Merit upon every mention of their Names.

5. That great Patron of Learning - - - *Hooker*, Author of the *Ecclesiastical Polity*, and of several other valuable Peices.

6. Of Dr. *Arthur Duck*, a fam'd Civilian, and well known by his Works among the Learned Advocates of *Doctors Commons*.



7. Dr. *John Moreman* of *Southold*, famous for being the first Clergyman in *England*, who ventured to Teach his Parishoners the *Lord's Prayer*, *Creed*, and *Ten Commandments* in the *English* Tongue; and reading them so publickly in the Parish Church of *Mayenhennet*, in this County, of which he was Vicar.

8. Dr. *John De Brampton*, a Man of great Learning, who flourish'd in the Reign of *Hen. VI.* was famous, for being the first that read *Aristotle* publickly in the University of *Cambridge*, and for several learned Books of his Writing, which are now lost.

9. *Peter Blundel*, a Clothier, who built the Free-School at *Tiverton*, and endowed it very handsomely, of which in its Place.

10. Sir *John Glanvill*, a noted Lawyer, and one of the Judges of the Common Pleas.

11. Sergeant *Glanvill* his Son as great a Lawyer as his Father.

12. Sir *John Maynard*, an Eminent Lawyer of later Years; one of the Commissioners of the Great Seal under King *William III.* all these three were born at *Tavistock*,

13. Sir *Peter King*, the present Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and many others.

I shall take the North Part of this County in my Return from *Cornwall*; so I must now lean to the South, that is to say, to the South Coast, for in going on indeed, we go South West.

About 22 Miles from *Excester* we go to *Totness*, on the River *Dart*. This is a very good Town; of some Trade, but has more Gentlemen in it than Tradesmen of Note; they have a very fine Stone-Bridge here over the River, which being

ing within seven or eight Mile of the Sea, is very large, and the Tide flows 10 or 12 Foot at the Bridge. Here we had the Diverfion of feeing them catch Fish, with the affiftance of a Dog. The Cafe is this, on the South fide of the River, and on a flip, or narrow Cut or Channel made on purpose for a Mill, there ftands a *Corn-Mill*; the Mill Tayl, or Floor for the Water below the Wheels is Wharft up on either Side with Stone, above High-water Mark, and for above 20 or 30 Foot in Length below it, on that Part of the River towards the Sea; at the End of this Wharfing is a Grating of Wood, the Crofs Bars of which ftand bearing inward, fharp at the End, and pointing inward towards one another, as the Wyers of a Moufe-trap.

When the Tide flows up, the Fish can with eafe go in between the Points of thefe Crofs-Bars, but the Mill being fhut down they can go no farther upwards; and when the Water Ebbs again, they are left behind, not being able to pafs the Points of the Grating, as above, outwards; which like a Moufe-trap keeps them in, fo that they are left at the Bottom with about a Foot, or a Foot and half Water, we were carryed hither at low Water, where we faw about 50 or 60 fmall Salmon, about 17 to 20 Inches long, which the Country People call *Salmon Peal*, and to Catch thefe, the Perfon who went with us, who was our Landlord at a great Inn next the Bridge, put in a Net on a Hoop at the End of a Pole, the Pole going crofs the Hoop, which we call in this Country a *Shove Net*: The Net being fix'd at one End of the Place they put in a Dog, *who was taught his Trade before hand*, at the other End of

the Place, and he drives all the Fish into the Net, so that only holding the Net still in its Place, the Man took up two or three and *Thirty Salmon Peal* at the first time.

Of these we took six for our Dinner, for which they ask'd a Shilling, (*viz.*) two Pence a peice, and for such Fish not at all bigger, and not so fresh, I have seen 6 s. 6 d. each given at a *London Fish-market*, whether they are some time brought from *Chichester* by Land Carriage.

This Excessive Plenty of so good Fish, and other Provisions being likewise very Cheap in Proportion, makes the Town of *Totness*, a very good Place to live in; especially for such as have large Families, and but small Estates, and many such are said to come into those Parts on purpose for saving Money, and to live in Proportion to their Income.

From hence we went still *South* about seven Miles, (all in view of this River) to *Dartmouth*, a Town of note, Seated at the Mouth of the River *Dart*, and where it Enters into the Sea at a very narrow, but safe Entrance; The opening into *Dartmouth Harbour* is not Broad, but the Channel deep enough for the biggest Ship in the Royal Navy; the Sides of the Entrance are high Mounded with Rocks; without which just at the first Narrowing of the Passage, stands a good strong Fort without a Platform of Guns, which commands the Port.

The narrow Entrance is not much above Half a Mile, when it opens and makes a Basin, or Harbour able to receive 500 Sail of Ships of any Size, and where they may Ride with the greatest Safety, even as in a Mill-Pond, or  
Wet-

**Wet-Dock:** I had the Curiosity here with the Assistance of a Merchant of the Town to go out to the Mouth of the Haven in a Boat to see the Entrance, and Castle, or Fort that Commands it; and coming back with the Tide of Flood, I observ'd some small Fish to skip, and play upon the Surface of the Water, upon which I ask'd my Friend what Fish they were; immediately one of the Rowers or Seamen starts up in the Boat, and throwing his Arms abroad, as if he had been betwitch'd, cryes out as loud as he could Baul, *a Scool, a Scool*. The Word was taken to the Shore as hastily as it would have been on *Land* if he had cry'd Fire; and by that time we reach'd the Keys, the Town was all in a kind of an Uproar.

The matter was, that a great *Shoal*, or as they call it a *Scool* of *Pilchards* came swimming with the Tide of Flood directly, out of the Sea into the Harbour. My Friend whose Boat we were in, told me this was a Surprize which he would have been very glad of, if he could but have had a Days or two's Warning, for he might have taken 200 Tun of them, and the like was the Case of other Merchants in Town; for in short, no body was ready for them, except a small Fishing Boat, or two; one of which went out into the Middle of the Harbour, and at two or three Hauls, took about forty Thousand of them. We sent our Servant to the Key to buy some, who for a Half-penny, brought us seventeen, and if he would have taken them, might have had as many more for the same Money; with these we went to Dinner; the Cook at the Inn broil'd them for us, which is their way of Dressing them, with  
Pepper

Pepper and Salt, which cost us about a Farthing; so that two of us, and a Servant Din'd, and at a Tavern too, for three Farthings, Dressing and all, and this is the Reason of telling the Tale; What Drink, Wine, or Beer we had, I do not remember, but whatever it was, that we paid for by it self; but for our Food we really Din'd for *three Farthings*, and very well too: Our Friend Treated us the next Day with a Dish of large Lobsters, and I being curious to know the value of such things, and having freedom enough with him to enquire; I found that for 6 *d.* or 8 *d.* they bought as good Lobsters there, as would have cost in London 3 *s.* to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* each.

In observing the coming in of those *Pilchards*, as above, we found that out at Sea, in the offing, beyond the Mouth of the Harbour there was a whole Army of Porpuses, which as they told us pursued the *Pilchards*, and 'tis probable drove them into the Harbour, as above. The *Scool* it seems drove up the River a great way, even as high as *Totness* Bridge, as we heard afterwards; so that the Country People who had Boats, and Nets, catch'd as many as they knew what to do with, and perhaps liv'd upon *Pilchards* for several Days; but as to the Merchant's and Trade, their coming was so suddain, that it was no Advantage to them.

Round the West side of this Basin, or Harbour in a kind of a Semicircle, lyes the Town of *Dartmouth*, a very large and populous Town, tho' but meanly built, and standing on the Side of a steep Hill; yet the Key is Large, and the Street before it Spacious. Here are some very flourishing Merchants, who Trade very prosperously,

rouſly, and to the moſt conſiderable Trading Ports of *Spain, Portugal, Italy*, and the Plantations; but eſpecially, they are great Traders to *Newfoundland*, and from thence to *Spain, and Italy* with Fiſh, and they drive a good Trade alſo, in their own Fiſhery of *Pilchards*, which is hereabouts carried on with the greateſt Number of Veſſels of any Port, in the Weſt, except *Falmouth*.

A little to the Southward of this Town, and to the Eaſt of the Port, is *Torbay*, of which I know nothing proper to my Obſervation, more than that it is a very good Road for Ships, tho' ſometimes, eſpecially with a Southerly, or S. E. Wind, Ships have been oblig'd to quit the *Bay*, and put out to Sea, or run into *Dartmouth* for Shelter.

I ſuppoſe I need not mention, that they had from the Hilly part of this Town, and eſpecially from the Hills oppoſite to it, the noble Proſpect, and at that time particularly delightful, of the Prince of *Oranges's* Fleet, when he came to that Coaſt, and as they entered into *Torbay*, to Land; the Prince and his Army being in a Fleet of about 600 Sail of Transport Ships, beſides 50 Sail of Men of War of the Line, all which with a fair Wind, and fine Weather came to an Anchor there at Once.

This Town as moſt of the Towns of *Devonſhire* are, is full of Diſſenters, and a very large Meeting-houſe they have here; how they act here with Reſpect to the great Diſpute about the Doctrin of the *Trinity*, which has cauſ'd ſuch a Breach among thoſe People at *Exceſter*, and other Parts of the County, I cannot give any  
ac-

account of. This Town sends two Members to Parliament.

From hence we went to *Plympton*, a poor and thinly Inhabited Town, tho' blest with the like Privilege of sending Members to the Parliament of which I have little more to say, but that from thence the Road lyes to *Plymouth*, distance about six Miles.

*Plymouth*, is indeed a Town of Consideration, and of great Importance to the Publick. The Situation of it between two very large Inlets of the Sea, and in the Bottom of a large Bay, which is very remarkable for the Advantage of Navigation. The Sound, or Bay is Compass'd on every Side with Hills, and the Shoar generally Steep and Rocky, tho' the Anchorage is good, and it is pretty safe Riding : In the Entrance to this Bay, lyes a large and most dangerous Rock, which at High-Water is cover'd, but at Low-Tide lyes bare, where many a good Ship has been lost, even in the view of Safety, and many a Ships Crew drown'd in the Night, before help could be had for them.

Upon this Rock, which was call'd the *Edystone*, from its Situtation, the famous Mr. *Winstanley* undertook to build a Light-House for the Direction of Sailors, and with great Art, and Expedition finish'd it; which Work considering its Height, the Magnitude of its Building, and the little Hold there was, by which it was possible to Fasten it to the Rock, stood to Admiration, and bore out many a bitter Storm.

Mr. *Winstanly*, often visited, and frequently strengthen'd the Building, by new Works, and was so Confident of its Firmness, and Stability, that he usually said, he only desir'd to be in it when a Storm should happen, for many People had

had told him, it would certainly fall, if it came to blow a little harder than ordinary.

But he happen'd at last to be in it once too often ; Namely, when that dreadful Tempest blew, *Nov.* the 27, 1703. This Tempest began on the *Wednesday* before, and Blew with such Violence, and shook the Light-house so much, that as they told me there, Mr. *Winstanly* would fain have been on Shoar, and made Signals for help, but no Boats durst go off to him ; and to finish the Tragedy, on the *Friday*, *Nov.* 26, when the Tempest was so redoubled, that it became a Terror to the whole Nation ; the first Sight there Seaward, that the People of *Plymouth*, were presented with in the Morning after the Storm, was the bare *Eddystone*, the Light-House being gone ; in which Mr. *Winstanly*, and all that were with him perish'd, and were never seen, or heard of since : But that which was a worse loss still, was, that a few Days after a Merchant's Ship call'd the *Winchelsea* Homeward bound from *Virginia*, not knowing the *Eddystone* Light-House was down ; for want of the Light that should have been seen run foul of the Rock it self, and was lost with all her Lading, and most of her Men, but there is now another Light-house built on the same Rock.

What other Diffasters happen'd at the same Time, in the Sound, and in the Roads about *Plymouth*, is not my Business : They are also publish'd in other Books, to which I referr.

One Thing, which I was a Witness too, on a former Journey to this Place, I cannot omit : It was the next Year after that great Storm, and but a little sooner in the Year, being in *August*, I was at *Plymouth*, and walking on *the Hoe*, which is a Plain on the Edge of the  
Sea



Sea, looking to the Road, I observ'd the Evening so serene, so calm, so bright, and the Sea so smooth, that a finer Sight, I think, I never saw ; there was very little Wind, but what was, seem'd to be Westerly ; and, about an Hour after, it blew a little Breeze at South West, with which Wind there came into the *Sound*, that Night, and the next Morning, a Fleet of fourteen Sail of Ships, from *Barbadoes*; richly loaden, for *London* : Having been long at Sea, most of the Captains and Passengers came on Shore to refresh themselves, as is usual, after such tedious Voyages, and the Ships rode all in the *Sound* on that Side next to *Catwater* : As is customary, upon safe arriving to their native Country, there was a general Joy and Rejoycing, both on Board and on Shore.

The next Day the Wind began to freshen, especially in the Afternoon, and the Sea to be disturb'd, and very hard it blew at Night, but all was well for that Time ; but the Night after it blew a dreadful Storm, not much inferior, for the Time it lasted, to the Storm mention'd above, which blew down the Light-House on the Eddy Stone ; about Midnight the Noise indeed was very dreadful, what with the roaring of the Sea, and of the Wind, intermix'd with the firing of Guns for Help from the Ships, the Cries of the Seamen and People on Shore, and, which was worse, the Cries of those, which were driven on Shore by the Tempest, and dash'd in Pieces. In a Word, all the Fleet, except three, or thereabouts, were dash'd to Pieces against the Rocks, and sunk in the Sea, most of the Men being drowned : Those three, who were sav'd, receiv'd so much Damage, that their Lading was almost all spoil'd : One Ship  
in

in the Dark of the Night, the Men not knowing where they were, run into *Catwater*, and run on Shore there, by which she was however sav'd from Shipwreck, and the Lives of her Crew were saved also.

This was a melancholly Morning indeed; nothing was to be seen but Wrecks of the Ships, and a foaming furious Sea, in that very Place where they rode all in Joy and Triumph, but the Evening before: The Captains, Passengers and Officers who were, as I have said, gone on Shoar, between the Joy of saving their Lives, and the Affliction of having lost their Ships, their Cargoes, and their Friends, were Objects indeed worth our Compassion and Observation; and there was a great Variety of the Passions to be observ'd in them: Now lamenting their Losses, then giving Thanks for their Deliverance, many of the Passengers had lost their All, and were, as they express'd themselves, *utterly undone*; they were, I say, now lamenting their Losses, with violent Excesses of Grief; then giving Thanks for their Lives, and that they should be brought on Shore, as it were, on purpose to be sav'd from Death; then again in Tears for such as were drowned; the various Cases were indeed very affecting, and, in many Things, very instructing.

As, I say, *Plymouth* lyes in the Bottom of this Sound, in the Center between the two Waters, so there lies against it, in the same Position, an Island, which they call *St. Nicholas*, on which there is a Castle, which Commands the Entrance into *Ham-Oze*, and indeed that also into *Catwater* in some Degree: In this Island the famous General *Lambert*, one of *Cromwell's*  
Great

**Great Agents, or Officers in the Rebellion** was imprison'd for Life, and liv'd many Years there.

On the Shore, over-againſt this Iſland, is the Citadel of *Plymouth*, a ſmall, but regular Fortification, inacceſſible by Sea, but not exceeding ſtrong by Land, except that they ſay the Works are of a Stone, hard as Marble, and would not ſoon yield to the Batteries of an Enemy: But that is a Language our modern Engineers now laugh at.

The Town ſtands above this, upon the ſame Rock, and lyes ſloping on the ſide of it, towards the Eaſt; the Inlet of the Sea, which is call'd *Catwater*, and which is a Harbour, capable of receiving any Number of Ships, and of any Size, waſhing the Eaſtern Shore of the Town, where they have a kind of natural Mole, or Haven, with a Key, and all other Conveniencies for bringing in Veſſels for loading and unloading; nor is the Trade carried on here inconfiderable in it ſelf, or the Number of Merchants ſmall.

The other Inlet of the Sea, as I term it, is on the other Side of the Town, and is call'd *Ham-Oze*, being the Mouth of the River *Tamar*, a conſiderable River, which Parts the two Counties of *Devon* and *Cornwall*: Here the War with *France* making it neceſſary that the Ships of War ſhould have a Retreat nearer Hand than at *Portsmouth*, the late King *William* order'd a wet Dock, with Yards, dry Docks, Launches, and Conveniencies of all kinds for Building, and repairing of Ships to be built; and with theſe follow'd neceſſarily the building of Store-houſes and Ware-houſes, for the Rigging, Sails, naval and military Stores, &c. of ſuch Ships as may be appointed

appointed to be laid up there, as now several are, with very handsome Houses for the Commissioner's, Clerks, and Officers of all kinds usual in the King's Yards, to dwell in: It is in short, now become as compleat an Arsenal, or Yard, for building and fitting Men of War as any the Government are Masters of, and perhaps much more Convenient than some of them, tho' not so large.

The building of these things, with the Addition of Rope Walks, and Mast-yards, &c. as it brought abundance of Trades-People, and Workmen to the Place, so they began by little and little to build Houses on the Lands adjacent, till at length there appeared a very handsome Street, spacious and large, and as well Inhabited, and so many Houses are since added, that it is become a considerable Town, and must of Consequence in time draw abundance of People from *Plymouth* it self.

However, the Town of *Plymouth* is, and will always be a very considerable Town, while that excellent Harbour makes it such a general Port for the receiving all the Fleets of Merchants Ships from the Southward, as from *Spain, Italy, the West-Indies, &c.* who generally make it the first Port to put in at for Refreshment, or Safety, from either Weather or Enemies.

The Town is populous and wealthy, having, *as above*, several considerable Merchants, and abundance of wealthy Shopkeepers, whose Trade Depends upon supplying the Sea-faring People, that upon so many Occasions put into that Port; as for Gentlemen, I mean those that are such by Family, and Birth, and way of living. it cannot be expected to find many such in a Town, meerly depend-

ing on Trade, Shipping and Sea-faring Business, yet I found here some Men of Value, Persons of liberal Education, general Knowledge, and excellent Behaviour, whose Society obliges me to say, that a Gentleman might find very agreeable Company in *Plymouth*.

From *Plymouth* we pass the *Tamar*, over a Ferry to *Saltash*, a little poor shatter'd Town, the first we set Foot on in the County of *Cornwall*. The *Tamar* here is very wide, and the Ferry Boats bad, so that I thought my self well escap'd, when I got safe on shore in *Cornwall*.

*Saltash* seems to be the Ruins of a larger Place, and we saw many Houses as it were falling down, and I doubt not but the Mice and Rats have abandoned many more, *as they say they will, when they are likely to fall*; yet this Town is govern'd by a Mayor and Aldermen, has many Privileges, sends Members to Parliament, takes Toll of all Vessels that pass the River, and have the sole Oyster Fishing in the whole River, which is considerable. Mr. *Carew*, Author of the *Survey of Cornwall*, tells us a strange Story of a Dog in this Town, of whom it was observ'd, that if they gave him any large Bone, or piece of Meat, he immediately went out of Doors with it, and after having disappeared for some time, would return again, upon which after some time they watch'd him, when to their great Surprise they found that the poor charitable Creature carried what he so got to an old decrep'd Mastiff, which lay in a Nest that he had made among the Brakes a little way out of the Town, and was blind; so that he could not help himself, and there this Creature fed him; he adds, also, that on Sundays, or Hollydays, when he found

found they made good Chear in the House, where he liv'd, he would go out, and bring this old blind Dog to the Door, and feed him there till he had enough, and then go with him back to his Habitation in the Country again, and see him safe in; if this Story is True, it is very Remarkable indeed, and I thought it worth telling, because the Author was a Person, who they say might be credited.

This Town has a kind of Jurisdiction upon the River *Tamar* down to the Mouth of the Port, so that they claim Anchorage of all small Ships that enter the River, their Coroner sits upon all dead Bodies that are found drown'd in the River, *and the like*, but they make not much Profit of them. There is a good Market here, and that is the best thing to be said of the Town, it is also very much encreased since the Number of the Inhabitants are encreased at the New Town, *as I mentioned*, as near the Dock at the Mouth of *Ham Oaze*, for those People choose rather to go to *Saltafb* to Market by Water, then to walk to *Plymouth* by Land for their Provisions; because, *first*, as they go in the Town Boat, the same Boat brings home what they Buy; so that it is much less Trouble, (*second*,) because Provisions are bought much Cheaper at *Saltafb*, than at *Plymouth*: This I say, is like to be a very great Advantage to the Town of *Saltafb*, and may in time put a new Face of Wealth upon the Place.

They talk of some Merchants beginning to Trade here, and they have some Ships that use the *Newfoundland* Fishery; but I could not hear of any thing considerable they do in it, there is no other considerable Town up the *Tamar*, till

we come to *Lanceston*, the County Town, which I shall take in my Return, so I turn'd West, keeping the South Shore of the County, to the Lands End.

From *Saltash* I went to *Liskard*, about 7 Miles. This is a considerable Town, well built, has People of Fashion in it, and a very great Market; it also sends two Members to Parliament, and is one of the five Towns, call'd *Stannary Towns*, that is to say, where the Blocks of *TINN* are brought to the Coinage, of which by it self; this Coinage of *Tinn* is an Article very much to the Advantage of the Towns where it is settled, tho' the Money paid goes another way.

This Town of *Liskard* was once Eminent, had a good Castle, and a large House, where the antient Dukes of *Cornwall* kept their Court in those Days; also it enjoy'd several Privileges, especially by the Favour of the *Black Prince*, who, as Prince of *Wales*, and Duke of *Cornwall* resided here; and in return, they say this Town, and the Country round it, rais'd a great Body of stout young Fellows, who entered into his Service, and followed his Fortunes in his Wars in *France*, as also in *Spain*; But these Buildings are so decay'd, that there are now scarce any of the Ruins of the Castle, or of the Prince's Court remaining.

The only publick Edifices they have now to show, are the *Guild*, or *Town-Hall*, on which there is a Turret with a fine Clock; a very good Free-School, well provided; a very fine Conduit in the Market-Place; an antient large Church, and which is something rare, for the County of *Cornwall*, a large new built *Meeting-House*

*House* for the Dissenters, which I name, because they assur'd me there was but three more, and those very inconsiderable in all the County of *Cornwall*; whereas in *Devonshire*, which is the next County, there are reckon'd about seventy, some of which are exceeding large and fine.

This Town is also remarkable for a very great Trade in all Manufactures of Leather, such as Boots, Shoes, Gloves, Purfes, Breeches, &c. and some Spinning of late Years is set up here, encourag'd by the Woollen Manufacturers of *Devonshire*.

Between these two Towns of *Saltaſh* and *Liskard*, is *St. Germans*, now a Village, decay'd, and without any Market, but the largest Parish in the whole County; in the Bounds of which is contained, as they report, 17 Villages, and the Town of *Saltaſh* among them, for *Saltaſh* has no Parish Church, it seems of it self but as a Chappel of ease to *St. Germans*: In the Neighbourhood of these Towns are many pleasant Seats of the *Cornish* Gentry, who are indeed very Numerous, tho' their Estates may not be so large, as is usual in *England*; yet neither are they despicable in that Part, and in particular this may be said of them, that as they generally live Cheap, and are more at home than in other Counties, so they live more like Gentlemen, and keep more within Bounds of their Estates than the *English* generally do, take them altogether.

Add to this, that they are the most Sociable, Generous, and to one another, the kindest Neighbours that are to be found; and as they generally live, as we may say, together, for they are almost always at one anothers Houses, so they generally intermarry among themselves,



the Gentlemen seldom going out of the County for a Wife, or the Ladies for a Husband, from whence they say, that Proverb upon them was rais'd (*viz.*) *That all the Cornish Gentlemen are Cousins.*

On the Hills North of *Liskard*, and in the way between *Liskard* and *Lanceston*, there are many Tinn Mines, and as they told us some of the richest Veins of that Metal are found there, that are in the whole County; the Metal when cast at the blowing Houses into Blocks, being as above, carry'd to *Liskard* to be Coin'd.

From *Liskard*, in our Course West, we are necessarily carry'd to the Sea Coast, because of the River *Fowey*, or *Fowath*, which empties it self into the Sea, at a very large Mouth, and hereby this River rising in the Middle of the Breadth of the County, and running South, and the River *Camel* rising not far from it, and running North, with a like large Channel, the Land from *Bodmyn* to the Western part of the County is almost made an Island, and in a manner cut off from the Eastern part, the Peninsula, or Neck of Land between, being not above twelve Miles over.

On this South side we came to *Foy*, or *Fowey*, an antient Town, and formerly very large; nay, not large only, but Powerful and Potent, for the *Foyens*, as they were then call'd, were able to fit out large Fleets, not only for Merchant's Ships, but even of Men of War; and with these not only Fought with, but several times vanquished, and routed the Squadron of the *Cinque Port* Men, who in those Days were thought very Powerful.

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Mr. *Cambden* observes, that the Town of *Foy* Quarters some part of the Arms of every one of those *Cinque Ports* with their own ; intimating, that they had at several times trampled over them all ; certain it is, they did often beat them, and took their Ships, and brought them as good Prizes into their Haven of *Foy*, and carry'd it so high, that they fitted out their Fleets against the *French*, and took several of their Men of War when they were at War with *England*, and enrich'd their Town by the Spoil of their Enemies.

*Edward IV.* favour'd them much, and because the *French* threaten'd them, to come up their River with a powerful Navy to burn their Town, he caus'd two Forts to be built at the publick Charge, for security of the Town and River, which Forts at least some shew of them remain there still, but the same King *Edward* was some time after so disgusted at the Townsmen for officiously falling upon the *French* after a Truce was made, and proclaim'd, that he effectually Disarm'd them, took away their whole Fleet, Ships, Tackle, Apparel and Furniture ; and since that time we do not read of any of their Naval exploits, nor that they ever recover'd, or attempted to recover their Strength at Sea : However, *Foy*, at this time, is a very fair Town, it lyes extended on the East side of the River for above a Mile. the Buildings fair ; and there are a great many flourishing Merchants in it, who have a great share in the Fishing Trade, especially for Pilchards, of which they take a great Quantity hereabouts. In this Town, is also a Coinage for the TINN, of which a great Quantity is dug up in the Country, North and West of the Town.

The River *Fowey*, which is very Broad and Deep here, was formerly Navigable by Ships of good Burthen as high as *Lestwithiel* an antient, and once a flourishing, but now a decay'd Town, and as to Trade and Navigation quite destitute, which is occasioned by the River being fill'd up with Sands, which some say, the Tides drive up in Stormy Weather from the Sea ; others say 'tis by Sands wash'd from the Lead Mines in the Hills; the last of which, (by the way) I take to be a Mistake, the Sand from the Hills being not of Quantity sufficient to fill up the Channel of a Navigable River, and if it had, might easily have been stopped by the Towns People from falling into the River ; but that the Sea has choak'd up the River with Sand, is not only probable but True, and there are other Rivers which suffer in the like manner in this same Country.

This Town of *Lestwithiel*, retains however several Advantages, which support its Figure, as first, that it is one of the *Coinage Towns*, as I call them, or *Stanuary Towns*, as others call them. (2.) The common Goal for the whole *Stanuary* is here, as are also the County Courts for the whole County of *Cornwall*.

There is a mock Cavalcade kept up at this Town, which is very Remarkable, the Particulars, as they are related by Mr. *Carew* in his *Survey of Cornwall*, take as follows.

“ Upon little *Easter Sunday*, the Free-holders  
 “ of this Town and Mannour by themselves, or  
 “ their Deputies, did there Assemble : Amongst  
 “ whom, one (as it fell to his Lot by turn) brave-  
 “ ly apparall'd, gallantly mounted, with a Crown  
 “ on his Head, a Scepter in his Hand, and a Sword  
 “ borne

“ borne before him, and dutifully attended by  
 “ all the rest also on Horseback, rode thro’ the  
 “ principal Street to the Church: The Curate in  
 “ his best *Beseen* solemnly received him at the  
 “ Church-yard Stile, and conducted him to hear  
 “ divine Service: After which, he repaired with  
 “ the same Pomp, to a House provided for  
 “ that purpose, made a Feast to his Attendants  
 “ kept the Tables-end himself, and was served  
 “ with kneeling Assay, and all other Rights due  
 “ to the Estate of a Prince: With which Dinner,  
 “ the Ceremony ended, and every Man returned  
 “ Home again. The Pedigree of this Usage is  
 “ deriv’d from so many Descents of Ages that  
 “ the Cause and Author out-reach the Remem-  
 “ brance: Howbeit, these Circumstances afford a  
 “ Conjecture, that it should betoken Royalties  
 “ appertaining to the Honour of *Cornwal*.

Behind *Foye*, and nearer to the Coast at the  
 Mouth of a small River, which some call *Lowe*,  
 tho’ without any Authority, there stand two  
 Towns opposite to one another, bearing the  
 Name of the River *Loe*, that is to say, distin-  
 guish’d by the Addition of *East Loe*, and *West*  
*Loe*. These are both good Trading Towns, and  
 especially Fishing Towns and which is very par-  
 ticular, are like *Weymouth* and *Melcomb*, in *Dor-*  
*setshire*, seperated only by the Creek, or River;  
 and yet each of them send Members to Parlia-  
 ments: These Towns are joyn’d together by a  
 very beautiful and stately Stone Bridge having  
 fifteen Arches.

*East Loo*, was the antienter Corporation of  
 the two, and for some Ages ago the greater  
 and more considerable Town; but now they  
 tell us *West Loo* is the richest, and has the  
 most

most Ships belonging to it: Were they put together, they would make a very handsome Seaport Town. They have a great Fishing Trade here, as well for supply of the Country, as for Merchandize, and the Towns are not dispisable; but as to sending four Members to the *British* Parliament, which is as many as the City of *London* chooses, that I confels seems a little scandalous, *but to who*, is none of my Business to enquire.

Passing from hence, and Ferrying over *Foy* River, or the River *Foweth*, call it as ye please, we come into a large Country without many Towns in it of Note, but very well furnished with Gentlemen's Seats, and a little higher up with *Tinn Works*.

The Sea making several deep Bays here, they who Travel by Land are oblig'd to go higher into the Country to pass above the Water, especially at *Trewardreth* Bay, which lyes very Broad, above ten Miles within the Country, which passing at *Trewardreth*, a Town of no great Note, tho' the Bay takes its Name from it, the next Inlet of the Sea, is the famous *Firth*, or Inlet, call'd *Falmouth Haven*. It is certainly next to *Milford Haven* in *South Wales*, the fairest and best Road for Shipping that is in the whole Isle of *Britain*, whether he considered the Depth of Water for above Twenty Miles within Land; the Safety of Riding, shelter'd from all kind of Winds or Storms, the good Anchorage, and the many Creeks, all Navigable, where Ships may run in and be Safe, so that the like is no where to be found.

There are six or seven very considerable Places upon this *Haven*, and the Rivers from it.

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(viz.) *Grampond, Tregony Truro, Peuryu, Falmouth, St. Mawes, and Pendennis*. The three first of these send Members to Parliament, the Town of *Falmouth*, as big as all the three, and richer than ten of them sends none, which imports no more than this, that *Falmouth* it self is not of so great Antiquity, as to its rising, as those other Towns are; and yet the whole *Haven* takes its Name from *Falmouth* too, unless as some think the Town took its Name from the *Haven*, which however they give no Authority to suggest.

*St. Mawes* and *Pendennis* are two Fortifications placed at the Points, or Enterance of this *Haven*, opposite to one another, tho' not with a Communication, or View; they are very Strong; the first Principally by Sea, having a good Plat Form of Guns, pointing thwart the Channel, and planted on a Level with the Water; but *Pendennis Castle* is strong by Land as well as by Water, is regularly Fortified, has good out Works, and generally a strong Garrison; *St. Mawes*, otherwise call'd *St. Mary's* has a Town annex'd to the Castle, and is a Borough, sending Members to the Parliament. *Pendennis* is a meer Fortress, tho' there are some Habitations in it too, and some at a small distance near the Sea side, but not of any great Consideration.

The Town of *Falmouth* is by much the richest, and best Trading Town in this County, tho' not so antient as its Neighbour Town of *Truro*; and indeed, is in some things oblig'd to acknowledge the Seigniority; Namely, that in the Corporation of *Truro*, the Person who they choose to be their Mayor of *Truro*, is also Mayor of *Falmouth* of Course. How the Jurisdiction is manag'd,

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is an Account too long for this Place; the *Truro* Men also receive several Duties Collected in *Falmouth*, particularly Wharfage for the Merchandizes Landed, or Shipp'd off; but let these Advantages be what they will, the Town of *Falmouth* has gotten the Trade, at least the best Part of it from the other, which is chiefly owing to the situation, for that *Falmouth* lying upon the Sea, but within the entrance, Ships of the greatest Burthen come up to the very Keys, and the whole Royal Navy might Ride safely in the Road, whereas the Town of *Truro* lying far within, and at the Mouth of two fresh Rivers, is not Navigable for Vessels of above 150 Tons, or thereabouts.

Some have suggested that the original of *Falmouth*, was the having so large a Key, and so good a depth of Water at it. The Merchants of *Truro* formerly us'd it for the Place of Lading and Unlading their Ships, as the Merchants of *Exceer* did at *Topsham*, and this is the more probable in that, *as above*, the Wharfage of those landing Places is still the Property of the Corporation of *Truro*.

But let this be as it will, the Trade is now in a manner wholly gone to *Falmouth*, the Trade at *Truro*, being now chiefly if not only for the Shipping off of Block TINN and Copper Oar, the latter being lately found in large Quantities in some of the Mountains between *Truro*, and *St. Michaels*, and which is much improv'd since the several Mills, are erected at *Bristol*, and other Parts, for the Manufactures of Battery were, as 'tis call'd, Brass, or which is made out of *English* Copper, most of it dug in these Parts; the Oar it self also being found very Rich and Good.

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*Falmouth* is well built, has abundance of Shipping belonging to it, is full of rich Merchants, and has a flourishing and encreasing Trade. I say encreasing, because by the late setting up the *English* Packets between this Port and *Lisbon*, there is a new Commerce between *Portugal* and this Town, carried on to a very great Value.

It is true, Part of this Trade was founded in a clandestine Commerce, carried on by the said Packets at *Lisbon*, where being the King's Ships, and claiming the Privilege of not being searched, or visited by the Custom-House Officers, they found Means to carry off great Quantities of *British* Manufactures, which they sold on Board to the *Portuguese* Merchants, and they convey'd them on Shoar, as 'tis supposed without paying Custom.

But the Government there, getting Intelligence of it, and Complaint being made in *England* also, where it was found to be very prejudicial to the fair Merchant, that Trade has been effectually stopp'd; but the *Falmouth* Merchants having by this Means gotten a Taste of the *Portuguese* Trade, have maintain'd it ever since in Ships of their own: These Packets bring over such vast Quantities of Gold in Specie, either in *Moidores*, which is the *Portugal* Coin, or in Bars of Gold, that I am very Credible inform'd the Carryer from *Falmouth*, brought by Land from thence to *London*, at one time, in the Month of *January*, 1722, or near it, Eighty Thousand *Moidores* in Gold, which came from *Lisbon* in the Pacquet Boats, for Account of the Merchants at *London*, and that it was attended with a Guard of 12 Horsemen well arm'd, for which the said Carryer had Half *per Cent.* for his Hazard.

This



This is a Specimen of the *Portugal* Trade, and how Considerable it is in its self, as well as how Advantageous to *England*, but as that is not to the present Case, I proceed; the Custom-house for all the Towns in this Port, and the Head Collector is Establish'd at this Town, where the Duties including, the other Ports is very considerable: Here is also a very great Fishing for *Pilchards*, and the Merchants for *Falmouth* have the chief Stroke in that gainful Trade.

*Truro* is however a very considerable Town too; it stands up the Water North and by East from *Falmouth* in the utmost extended Branch of the Haven, in the Middle, between the Conflux of two Rivers, which tho' not of any long Course, have a very good appearance for a Port, and make a large Wharf between them in the Front of the Town; and the Water here makes a good Port for small Ships, tho' it be at the Influx, but not for Ships of Burthen. This is the particular Town where the Lord *Warden* of the *Stannaries* always holds his famous Parliament of Miners, and for stamping of T I N N. The Town is well built, but shews that it has been much fuller, both of Houses and Inhabitants, than it is now; nor will it probably ever rise, while the Town of *Falmouth* stands where it does, and while the Trade is settled in it, as it is. There are at least three Churches in it, but no Dissenter's Meeting House, that I could hear of.

*Tregony*, is upon the same Water North East from *Falmouth*, distance about sixteen Miles from it, but is a Town of very little Trade, nor indeed have any of the Towns so far within the Shoar, notwithstanding the Benefit of the  
Water

Water any considerable Trade but what is carried on under the Merchants of *Falmouth*, or *Truro*; the chief thing that is to be said of this Town, is, that it sends Members to Parliament, as does also

*Grandpound*, a Market-Town, and *Burro'* about 4 Miles farther up the Water. This Place indeed has a Claim to Antiquity, and is an Appendix to the Dutchy of *Cornwall*, of which it holds at a Fee Farm Rent, and pays to the Prince of *Wales*, as Duke, 10*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* per *Ann*; it has no Parish Church, but only a Chapel of Ease to an adjacent Parish.

*Penryn*, is up the same Branch of the Haven, as *Falmouth*, but stands four Miles higher towards the West, yet Ships come to it of as great a size, as can come to *Truro* it self, it is a very pleasant agreeable Town, and for that Reason has many Merchants in it, who would perhaps otherwise live at *Falmouth*. The chief Commerce of these Towns, as to their Sea Affairs, is the *Pilchards*, and *Newfoundland* Fishing, which is very profitable to them all; it had formerly a Conventual Church, with a Chantry, and a Religious House, a Cell to *Kirton*, but they are all demolish'd, and scarce the Ruins of them distinguishable enough to know one Part from another.

Quiting *Falmouth* Haven from *Penryn* West, we came to *Helsten*, about 7 Miles, and stands upon the little River *Cober*, which however admits the Sea so into its Bosom as to make a tolerable good Harbour for Ships a little below the Town. It is the Fifth Town, allow'd for the Coining TINN, and several of the Ships call'd *Tinn* Ships are Loaden here.

This

This Town is large and populous, and has four spacious Streets, a handsome Church, and a good Trade : This Town also sends Members to Parliament. Beyond this is a Market Town tho' of no Resort for Trade, call'd *Market Jew*, it lyes indeed on the Sea-side, but has no Harbour or safe Road for Shipping.

At *Helford* is a small, but good Harbour between *Falmouth* and this Port, where many times the *TINN* Ships go in to Load for *London* ; also here are a good Number of Fishing Vessels for the *Pilchard* Trade, and abundance of skilful Fishermen : It was from this Town that in the great Storm, which happened, *Nov. 27, 1703.* a Ship loaden with *Tinn*, was blown out to Sea, and driven to the Isle of *Wight*, in seven Hours, having on Board only one Man, and two Boys ; the Story is as Follows, (*viz.*)

“ The beginning of the Storm, there lay  
 “ a Ship laden with *Tinn*, in *Helford* Haven,  
 “ about two Leagues and a half West of *Fal-*  
 “ *mouth*. The *Tinn* was taken on Board at a  
 “ Place call'd *Guague* Wharf, five or six Miles  
 “ up the River, and the Vessel was come down  
 “ to *Helford*, in order to pursue her Voyage  
 “ to *London*.

“ About 8 a-Clock in the Evening the Com-  
 “ mander, whose Name was *Anthony Jenkins*,  
 “ went on Board with his Mate to see that e-  
 “ very Thing was safe, and to give Orders,  
 “ but went both on shoar again, leaving only a  
 “ Man, and two Boys on Board, not apprehend-  
 “ ing any Danger, they being in safe Harbour ;  
 “ however, he ordered them, that if it should  
 “ blow hard, they should carry out the small

Bower

“ Bower Anchor, and so to Moor the Ship by  
 “ two Anchors, and then giving what other Or-  
 “ ders he thought to be needful, he went a-  
 “ shore, as above.

“ About 9 o’Clock, the Wind beginning to  
 “ blow harder, they carryed out the Anchor ac-  
 “ cording to the Master’s Order; but the Wind  
 “ encreasing about 10, the Ship began to drive,  
 “ so they carry’d out their best Bower, which  
 “ having a good new Cable, brought the Ship  
 “ up. The Storm still encreasing they let go  
 “ the Kedge Anchor; so that they then rode  
 “ by four Anchors a Head, which were all they  
 “ had.

“ But between 11 and 12 o’Clock, the Wind  
 “ came about West and by South, and blew  
 “ in so violent and terrible a manner, that tho’  
 “ they rid under the Lee of a high Shore, yet  
 “ the Ship was driven from all her Anchors, and  
 “ about Midnight drove quite out of the Har-  
 “ bour (the opening of the Harbour lying due  
 “ East and West) into the open Sea, the Men  
 “ having neither Anchor or Cable, or Boat to  
 “ help themselves.

“ In this dreadful Condition, they driving, I  
 “ say, out of the Harbour: Their first and chief  
 “ care was to go clear of the Rocks, which lye  
 “ on either Side the Harbour’s Mouth, and which  
 “ they perform’d pretty well; then, seeing no  
 “ Remedy, they consulted what to do next. They  
 “ cou’d carry no Sail at first, nor not a Knot, nor  
 “ do any thing but run away afore it: The only  
 “ thing they had to think on, was to keep her  
 “ out at Sea as far as they could, for fear of a  
 “ Point of Land, call’d *The Dead Man’s Head*,  
 I which

“ which lyes to the Eastward of *Falmouth* Ha-  
 “ ven, and then if they could escape the Land,  
 “ thought to run in for *Plymouth*, next Morning,  
 “ so if possible, to save their Lives.

“ In this frightened Condition they drove away  
 “ at a prodigious Rate, having sometimes the  
 “ Bonnet of their Foresail a little out, but the  
 “ Yard lower’d almost to the Deck; sometimes  
 “ the Ship almost under Water, and sometimes  
 “ above, keeping still in the Offing, for fear of  
 “ the Land, till they might see Daylight; but  
 “ when the Day brake they found they were  
 “ to think no more of *Plymouth*, for they were  
 “ far enough beyond it, and the first Land they  
 “ made was *Peveler Point*, being the Southermost  
 “ Land of the Isle of *Purbeck*, in *Dorsetshire*,  
 “ and a little to the Westward of the Isle of  
 “ *Wight*; so that now they were in a terrible  
 “ Consternation, and driving still at a prodi-  
 “ gious Rate, by seven a Clock they found  
 “ themselves Broad Side of the Isle of *Wight*.

“ Here they consulted again what to do to  
 “ save their Lives; one of the Boys was for run-  
 “ ing her into the *Downs*, but the Man objected,  
 “ that having no Anchor or Cable, nor Boat to  
 “ go on Shore with, and the Storm blowing off  
 “ Shore, in the *Downs*, they should be inevi-  
 “ tably blown off, and lost upon the unfortu-  
 “ nate *Goodwin*, which it seems the Man had  
 “ been on once before, and narrowly escaped.

“ Now came the last Consultation for their  
 “ Lives; the other of the Boys said, he had  
 “ been in a certain Creek in the Isle of *Wight*,  
 “ where between the Rocks he knew there was  
 “ room to run the Ship in, and at least to save  
 “ their

“ their Lives, and that he saw the Place just  
 “ that Moment; so he desir’d the Man to let  
 “ him have the Helm, and he would do his best,  
 “ and venture it. The Man gave him the Helm,  
 “ and he stood directly in among the Rocks,  
 “ the People standing on the Shore, think-  
 “ ing they were mad, and that they would in  
 “ a few Minutes be dashed in a Thousand  
 “ pieces.

“ But when they came nearer, and the Peo-  
 “ ple found they steer’d as if they knew the  
 “ Place, they made Signals to them to direct  
 “ them, as well as they could, and the young  
 “ bold Fellow run her into a small Cove, where  
 “ she stuck fast, as it were, between the Rocks  
 “ on both Sides, there being but just room  
 “ enough for the Breadth of the Ship; the Ship  
 “ indeed giving two or three Knocks star’d,  
 “ and sunk, but the Man and the two Youths  
 “ jump’t a Shore, and were safe, and the Lading  
 “ being *Tinn* was afterwards secur’d. *N. B.* The  
 “ Merchants very well Rewarded the three Sai-  
 “ lors, especially the Lad that ran her into  
 “ that Place.

*Pensance*, is the farthest Town of any Note  
 West, being 254 Miles from *London*, and with-  
 in about ten Miles of the Promontory, call’d  
 the Lands End; so that this Promontory is from  
*London* 264 Miles, or thereabouts: This Town of  
*Pensance* is a Place of good Business, well built  
 and populous, has a good Trade, and a great many  
 Ships belonging to it, notwithstanding it is so re-  
 mote. Here are also a great many good Families  
 of Gentlemen, tho’ in this utmost Angle of the Na-  
 tion; and, which is yet more strange, the Veins

of Lead, Tinn, and Copper Oar, are said to be seen, even to the utmost Extent of Land at Low Water Mark, and in the very Sea; so rich, so valuable a Treasure is contain'd in these Parts of *Great Britain*, tho' they are suppos'd to be so poor, because so very remote from *London*, which is the Center of our Wealth.

Between this Town and *St. Burien*, a Town midway between it and the Land's End, stands a Circle of great Stones, not unlike those at *Stonehenge* in *Wiltshire*, with one bigger than the rest in the Middle; they stand about 12 Foot asunder, but have no Inscription, neither does Tradition offer to leave any Part of their History upon Record; as whether it was a Trophy, or a Monument of Burial, or an Altar for Worship, or what else; so that all that can be learn'd of them, is, That *here they are*: The Parish where they stand is call'd *Boscawone*, from whence the ancient and honourable Family of *Boscawen* derive their Names.

Near *Pensance*, but open to the Sea, is that Gulph they call *Mounts Bay*, nam'd so from a high Hill standing in the Water, which they call *St. Michael's Mount*; the Seaman call it only, the *Cornish Mount*; It has been fortify'd, tho' the Situation of it makes it so difficult of Access, that like the *Bass* in *Scotland*, there needs no Fortification; like the *Bass* too, it was once made a Prison for Prisoners of State, but now it is wholly neglected; there is a very good Road here for Shipping, which makes the Town of *Pensance* be a Place of good Resort.

A little up in the County towards the North West is *Godolchan*, which tho' a Hill, rather than

Town, gives Name to the Noble and ancient Family of *Godolphin*; and nearer on the Northern Coast is *Royalton*, which since the late *Sydney Godolphin*, Esq; a younger Brother of the Family, was created Earl of *Godolphin*, gave Title of Lord to his eldest Son, who was call'd Lord *Royalton* during the Life of his Father. This Place also is infinitely rich in *Tinn* Mines.

I am now at my Journey's End; As to the Islands of *Scilly*, which lye beyond the Land's End, I shall say something of them presently: I must now return *Sur mes pas*, as the *French*, call it; tho' not literally so, for I shall not come back the same way I went; but as I have Coasted the South shore to the Land's End, I shall come back by the North Coast, and my Observations in my Return will furnish very well Materials for a Fourth Letter, I am, &c.

END of the Third LETTER.







# APPENDIX

TO

## LETTER III.

I HAVE ended this Account at the utmost Extent of the Island of *Great Britain West*, without visiting those *Excreffences* of the Island, as I think I may call them, (*viz.*) the Rocks of *Scilly*, of which, what is most famous, is their Infamy, or Reproach; Namely, How many good Ships are, almost *continually* dash'd in pieces there, and how many brave Lives lost, in spite of the Mariners best Skill, or the Light-Houses, and other Sea-Marks best Notice.

These Islands lye so in the Middle between the two vast Openings of the North and South narrow Seas, or as the Sailors call them, the  
*Bri-*

*Bristol Channel*, and *The Channel*, (so call'd by way of Eminence) that it cannot, or perhaps never will be avoided, but that several Ships in the dark of the Night, and in strefs of Weather may by being out in their Reckonings, or other unavoidable Accidents mistake, and if they do, they are sure, as the Sailors call it, to run *Bump a Shore* upon *Scilly*, where they find no Quarter among the Breakers, but are beat to pieces, without any possibility of Escape.

One can hardly mention the *Bishop* and his *Clerks*, as they are call'd, or the *Rocks of Scilly*, without letting fall a Tear to the Memory of *Sir Cloudefly Shovel*, and all the gallant Spirits that were with him at one Blow, and without a moments Warning dash'd into a State of Immortality; the Admiral, with three Men of War, and all their Men (runing upon these Rocks, right afore the Wind, and in a dark Night) being Lost there, and not a Man sav'd. But all our *Annals* and *Histories* are full of this, so I need say no more.

They tell us of eleven Sail of Merchant Ships Homeward-bound, and richly Laden from the Southward, who had the like Fate, in the same Place, a great many Years ago; and that some of them coming from *Spain*, and having a great Quantity of Bullion, or Pieces of Eight on Board, the Money frequently drives on Shore still, and that in good Quantities, especially after stormy Weather.

This may be the Reason why, as we observed during our short stay here, several Mornings after, it had blown something hard in the Night, the Sands were cover'd with Country People

running too and fro' to see if the Sea had cast up any thing of value. This the Seamen call *going a shoring* ; and it seems they do often find good Purchase : Sometimes also dead Bodies are cast up here, the Consequence of Shipwrecks among those fatal Rocks and Islands ; as also broken pieces of Ships, Casks, Chests, and almost every thing that will float, or roll on Shore by the Surges of the Sea.

Nor is it seldom that the voracious Country People scuffle and fight about the Right to what they find, and that in a desperate manner, so that this Part of *Cornwall* may truly be said to be inhabited by a fierce and ravenous People ; for they are so greedy, and eager for the Prey, that they are charg'd with strange, bloody, and cruel Dealings, even sometimes with one another ; but especially with poor distress'd Seamen when they come on Shore by force of a Tempest, and seek help for their Lives, and where they find the Rocks themselves not more merciless than the People who range about them for their Prey.

Here also, as a farther Testimony of the immense Riches which have been Lost at several times upon this Coast, we found several Engineers, and Projectors ; some with one sort of Diving Engine, and some with another ; some claiming such a Wreck, and some such and such others ; where they alledg'd, they were assur'd there were great Quantities of Money ; and strange unprecedented Ways were us'd by them to come at it ; Some, I say, with one kind of Engine, and some another ; and tho' we thought several of them very strange impracticable Methods,  
yet,

yet, I was assur'd by the Country People, that they had done Wonders with them under Water, and that some of them had taken up things of great Weight, and in a great Depth of Water; others had split open the Wrecks they had found, in a manner one would have thought not possible to be done, so far under Water, and had taken out things from the very Holds of the Ships; but we could not learn, that they had come at any pieces of Eight, which was the thing they seem'd most to aim at, and depend upon; at least they had not found any great Quantity, as they said they expected.

However, we left them as busy as we found them, and far from being discouraged; and if half the Golden Mountains, or Silver Mountains either, which they promise themselves, should appear, they will be very well paid for their Labour.

From the Tops of the Hills, on this Extremity of the Land, you may see out into that they call the *Chops of the Channel*, which, as it is the greatest Inlet of Commerce, and the most frequented by Merchant Ships of any Place in the World; so one seldom looks out to Seaward, but something new presents; *that is to say*, of Ships passing, or repassing, either on the great or lesser Channel.

Upon a former accidental Journey into this Part of the Country, during the War with *France*, it was with a mixture of Pleasure and Horror that we saw from the Hills at the *Lizard*, which is the Southermost Point of this Land, an obstinate Fight between three *French men* of War, and two *English*, with a Privateer, and three Mer-

Merchant-Ships in their Company ; the *English* had the Misfortune, not only to be fewer Ships of War in Number, but of less Force ; so that while the two biggest *French* Ships engaged the *English*, the Third in the mean time took the two Merchant-Ships, and went off with them ; as to the Piccaroon, or Privateer, she was able to do little in the Matter, not daring to come so near the Men of War, as to take a Broadside, which her thin Sides would not have been able to bear, but would have sent her to the Bottom at once ; so that the *English* Men of War had no Assistance from her, nor could she prevent the taking the two Merchant Ships ; yet we observ'd that the *English* Captains manag'd their Fight so well, and their Seamen behav'd so briskly, that in about three Hours both the *French-men* stood off, and being sufficiently Bang'd, let us see that they had no more Stomach to Fight ; after which the *English*, having Damage enough too no doubt, stood away to the Eastward, as we suppos'd, to Refit.

This Point of the *Lizard*, which runs out to the Southward, and the other Promontory mention'd above, make the two Angles, or Horns, as they are call'd, from whence 'tis suppos'd this County receiv'd its first Name of *Cornwall*, or as Mr. *Cambden* says, *Cornubia* in the Latin, and in the British *Kernaw*, as running out in two vastly extended Horns ; and indeed it seems, as if Nature had form'd this Situation for the Direction of Mariners, as foreknowing of what Importance it should be, and how in future Ages these Seas should be thus Throng'd with Merchant Ships, the Protection of whose Wealth,  
and

and the Safety of the People ; navigating them, was so much her early Care, that she stretched out the Land so very many ways, and extended the Points and Promontories so far, and in so many different Places into the Sea, that the Land might be more easily discover'd at a due Distance, which way soever the Ships should come.

Nor is the *Lizard* Point less useful (tho' not so far West) than the other, which is more properly call'd the *Land's End* ; but if we may Credit our Mariners, it is more frequently, first discover'd from the Sea ; for as our Mariners knowing by the Soundings when they are in the Mouth of the Channel, do then most naturally stand to the Southward, to avoid mistaking the Channel, and to shun the *Severn* Sea, or *Bristol* Channel, but still more to avoid running upon *Scilly*, and the Rocks about it, as is observ'd before : I say, as they carefully keep to the Southward, till they think they are fair with the Channel, and then stand to the Northward again, or North East, to make the Land ; this is the Reason why the *Lizard* is generally speaking, the first Land they make, and not the *Land's End*.

Then having made the *Lizard*, they either (first) run in for *Falmouth*, which is the next Port, if they are taken short with Easterly Winds, or are in want of Provisions and Refreshment, or have any thing out of Order, so that they care not to keep the Sea or ; (2dly) stand away for the *Ram Head*, and *Plymouth-Sound*, or (3dly) keep an Offing to run up the Channel.

So that the *Lizard* is the general Guide, and of more use in these Cases than the other Point, and is therefore the Land, which the Ships choose to make

make first, for then also they are sure that they are past *Scilly*, and all the Dangers of that Part of the Island.

Nature has fortify'd this Part of the Island of *Britain* in a strange manner, and so as is worth a Traveller's Observation, as if she new the Force and Violence of the mighty Ocean, which beats upon it; and which indeed, if the Land was not made firm in Proportion, could not withstand, but would have been wash'd away long ago.

First, there are the Islands of *Scilly*, and the Rocks about them, these are plac'd like Out-works to resist the first Assaults of this Enemy, and so break the Force of it; as the Piles, or *Starlings* (as they are call'd) are plac'd before the solid Stone-Work of *London-Bridge*, to fence off the Force, either of the Water, or Ice, or any thing else that might be dangerous to the Work.

Then there are a vast Number of *sunk Rocks*, (so the Seamen call them,) besides such as are visible, and above Water; which gradually lessen the Quantity of Water, that would otherwise lye with an infinite Weight and Force upon the Land; 'tis observ'd, that these Rocks lye under Water for a great way off into the Sea on every Side the said two Horns or Points of Land; so breaking the Force of the Water, and as above lessening the Weight of it.

But besides this, the whole *Terra Firma*, or Body of the Land, which makes this Part of the Isle of *Britain*, seems to be one solid Rock, as if it was formed by Nature to resist the otherwise irresistible Power of the Ocean; and indeed if one was to observe with what Fury the Sea comes on sometimes against the Shore  
here

here, especially at the *Lizard Point*, where there are but few, if any Outworks, (as I call them) to resist it; How high the Waves come rowling forward, storming on the Neck of one another; particularly when the Wind blows *off Sea*, one would wonder, that even the strongest Rocks themselves should be able to resist, and repel them. But, as I said, the Country seems to be as it were one great Body of Stone, and prepar'd so on purpose.

And yet, as if all this was not enough, Nature has provided another strong Fence, and that is, that these vast Rocks are, as it were, Cemented together by the solid and weighty Oar of *TINN* and Copper, especially the last, which is plentifully found upon the very outmost Edge of the Land, and with which the Stones may be said to be Soder'd together, lest the Force of the Sea should separate and disjoynt them, and so break in upon these Fortifications of the Island, to destroy its chief Security.

This is certain, that there is a more than ordinary Quantity of *Tinn*, Copper, and Lead also, placed by the Great Director of Nature in these very remote Angles and, as I have said above, the Oar is found upon the very Surface of the Rocks a good way into the Sea, and that it does not only lye, as it were, upon, or between the Stones among the Earth, which in that Case might be washed from it by the Sea, but that it is even blended or mix'd in with the Stones themselves, that the Stones must be split into pieces to come at it; by this mixture the Rocks are made infinitely Weighty and Solid, and thereby still the more qualified to repel the Force of the Sea.

Up.



Upon this remote Part of the Island we saw great Numbers of that famous kind of *Crows*, which is known by the Name of *the Cornish Cough*, or *Chough*, so the Country People call them: They are the same kind, which are found in *Switzerland* among the *Alps*, and which *Pliny* pretended, were peculiar to those Mountains, and calls the *Pyrrhocorax*; the Body is black, the Legs, Feet, and Bill of a deep *Yellow*, almost to a *Red*; I could not find that it was affected for any good Quality it had, nor is the Flesh good to eat; for it feeds much on Fish and Carrion; it is counted little better than a Kite, for it is of ravenous Quality, and is very mischievous; it will steal and carry away any thing it finds about the House, that is not too heavy, tho' fit not for its Food; as Knives, Forks, Spoons and Linnen Cloths, or whatever it can fly away with, sometimes they say it has stolen bits of Firebrands, or lighted Candles, and lodged them in the Stacks of Corn, and the Thatch of Barns and Houses, and set them on fire; but this I only had by oral Tradition.

I might take up many Sheets in describing the valuable Curiosities of this little *Cherosonese*, or Neck Land, call'd the *Land's End*, in which there lyes an immense Treasure, and many Things worth Notice, I mean besides those to be found upon the Surface: But I am too near the End of this Letter. If I have Opportunity, I shall take Notice of some Part of what I omit here, in my Return by the Northern Shore of the County.



## A D D E N D A.

SINCE the Closing this Volume there are several Great and Magnificent Buildings begun to be Erected, within the Circuit of these Letters, which however, not being finish'd, cannot now be fully described, (*viz.*)

1. Sir Gregory Page's House on *Black-Heath*, which they tell us, will be a more Magnificent Work than any private Gentleman's Seat in this Part of *Great-Britain*.
2. The Lord Onslow's Seat, re-edifying near *Guildford*.
3. Sir John Williams's Seat all new, at *Stoke*, near *Nayland-Bridge*, in *Suffolk*.
4. A New Square, almost a New Town, at the East-Side of *Greenwich*, on the *Heath*, in the way to *Charleton*.
5. And, lastly, The famous Addition, or Square begun at *King's College Chapel* in *Cambridge*, of which the Foundation is but even now lay'd.

F I N I S.

An Alphabetical Index of the Chief Places and things  
mentioned in this Book. Note - the first figure shows  
the page - & the Letter -



# ERRATA.

*(Correcta sunt)*

**L**etter 1, Pag. 17. Line 3, for *Father*, read *Uncle*. *ibid* l. 9, for  
*the Kingdom*, r. *the Kingdom of Ireland*. *ib.* l. 24, for *Kelen-*  
*don*, r. *Kelvedon*, *ib.* l. last but one, for *brought our*, r. *Bought*  
*out*. p. 20, for *Whittam*, r. *Wittham*. p. 24. l. 9, for *fall on*, r.  
*to fall on*. p. 25, l. 20, for *Barkstera*, r. *Barkstead*. p. 34, l. 30,  
for *Har se*, r. *House*. p. 38, l. 26, for *Trenches*, r. *Entrenchments*.  
p. 39, l. 13, for *Wens*, r. *Worms*. p. 46, l. 7. for *Common*, r. *Can-*  
*non*. p. 47, l. 9, for *Mark*, r. *Sea Mark*.

Letter 2. p. 1, l. ult. after *Kent*, r. *at a Place which*, *ib.* l. 14,  
r. *and Suffolk*. p. 91. l. 10, for *Dengil*, r. *Denzil*. *ib.* l. 31, for  
*Micklehand*, r. *Mickleham*. *ib.* l. 34, for *wandring its Streams*, r.  
*its wandring Streams*. p. 93|l. 26, for *at*, r. *as*.



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