A

TOUR

Thro' the whole ISLAND of

GREAT BRITAIN,

Divided into

Circuits *or* Journies.

GIVING

A Particular and Diverting ACCOUNT of Whatever is CURIOUS and worth OBSERVATION, *Viz.*

I. A DESCRIPTION of the Principal Cities and Towns, their Situation, Magnitude, Government, and Commerce.

II. The Cuſtoms, Manners, Speech, as alſo the Exerciſes, Diverſions, and Employment of the People.

III. The Produce and Improvement of the Lands, the Trade, and Manufactures.

IV. The Sea Ports and Fortifications, the Courſe of Rivers, and the Inland Navigation.

V. The Publick Edifices, Seats, and Palaces of the NOBILITY and GENTRY.

With Uſeful OBSERVATIONS *upon the Whole.*

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

By a GENTLEMAN.

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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.* MDCCXXIV.

THE

PREFACE.

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 described, 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;*

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,

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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.*

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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

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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

TOUR,

IN

CIRCUITS,

THROUGH

ENGLAND, &c.

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.

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 *Yarmouth*; 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 inlarge 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 *Man* 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. Fanſhaw*, 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 *Muſco-*

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 Grasing 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* Grasiers 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 Advantange 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 Fortress 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 adjoyning 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

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 Counterscarp, 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-*

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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 *Osey* 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 theyhave 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 *Shooberry-Ness*, and that from the Town of *Shooberry*, which stands by it. From this Sand, and on the Edge of *Shooberry*, 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 *Wyvenhoo* 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 *Wyvenhoo*, where they are laid in Beds or Pits on the Shoar to Feed, as they call it; and then being barrelled 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 Whitings, 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; inſomuch, 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 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 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 *Kelendon*, Mr. *Creſnor*, a 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 brought out. I ſhall take Notice of this in a general Head, and when I have run

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.

[illegible] with them.

A DIARY:

Or, an Account of the

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

ON 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 Honywood*, 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 Churchyard, 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 Ingineers 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, 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 Campion*: 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, oppreſſed with Numbers on the Left, were obliged 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 Voluntiers, being all Gentlemen, kept their Ground with the greateſt Reſolution: But the left Wing being routed, as above, Sir *William Campion* 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 *Barkſtends* 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

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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 *Suffolk* for more Forces; alſo he order'd the Trained Bands to be raiſed, 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 ſtragling 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 detatching 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 quanty 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 *Wevenhoe.*

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 ſight.

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 Waggons 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 *Goreing* 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

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 threatning 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 Maſham* 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

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 spik'd 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 *Hithe* 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 Horse 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 Voluntiers, 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 Suburbs 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. *Ashburnham*, for Sir *William Masham*; 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 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 ſally'd out at Midnight, to diſcover what the Enemy were doing at a Place where they thought a new Fort raiſeing; 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; 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

go out to the Enemy, which a great many did willingly ; upon which the Lord *Goring* ordered 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,

	Earl of Norw. (Goring)	69	*Enſigns*
	Lord Capell.	183	*Serj. and Corpor.*
	Lord Loughbro'	3067	*Private Soldiers*
11	*Knights*	65	*Servants to the Lords and General Officers and Gentlemen.*
9	*Colonels*		
8	*Lieut. Colonels*		
9	*Majors*		
30	*Captains*		
72	*Lieutenants*	3503.	in all.

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.*

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* *Camd.* Brit. Fol. 353.

Tho'

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 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 Expence.

On this Promontory is a new Mark, erected by the *Trinity-Houſe Men*, and at the Publick Expence, 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 Inhatants 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 Houses, 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; insomuch, 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 *Ness*, 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 Droves of Cattle, Provisions, and Manufactures for *London*.

The last of these Towns is indeed the County-Town, where the County Jayl 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*, *Braintre*, *Thaxted*, and *Coggshall*; 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 Flitch 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 Flitch 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 Flitch 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 *Peverell*, 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 called *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*,	I EDWARD the King, Have made Ranger of my Forest of *Chelmsford* Hundred, and *Deering* Hundred,
To RANDOLPH PEPERKING, And to his kindling.	*Ralph Peverell*, for him and his Heirs for ever;
With Heorte and Hind, Doe and Bocke,	With both the red and fallow Deer,
Hare and Fox, Cat and Brock	Hare and Fox, Otter and Badger;
Wild Fowle with his Flock;	Wild Fowl of all sorts,
Patrich, Pheasant Hen, and Pheasant Cock,	Partridges and Pheasants,
With green and wild Stub and Stock,	Timber and Underwood Roots and Tops:
To kepen and to yemen with all her might,	With Power to preserve the Forest,
Both by Day, and eke by Night;	And watch it against Deer stealers, and others:
And Hounds for to hold, Good and Swift, and Bold;	With a Right to keep Hounds of all sorts,
Four Greyhound, and six Raches,	Four Grey-Hounds, and six Terriers,
For Hare and Fox, and Wild Cattes,	Harriers and Fox-Hounds, and other Hounds.
And therefore Iche made him my Book	And to this End I have Registred this my Grant, in the Crown Rolls or Books;
Witnes the Bishop of *Wolston*, And Book ylrede many on,	To which the Bishop has set his Hand as a Witness for any one to read:
And *Sweyne* of *Essex*, our Brother,	Also Signed by the King's Brother, (or, as some think, the Chancellor *Sweyn*, then Earl or Count of *Essex*)
And taken him many other	He might call such other Witnesses to Sign as he thought fit.
And our Steward *Howelin*, That *By-fought* me for him.	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 Assemblèe 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 *Yarmouth* 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 *Thames*? 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*,

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

within

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 Loaden*, 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 encreas'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 offeers 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 Shalloups; 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 *Wolſey'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 Waggons.

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

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-pœdo 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 Pleasantness 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 *Yarmouth* : Mr. *Camden* ſays they are choſen out of twelve Burgeſſes 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. *Beeſton*, 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 equall'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 pleaſed 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 ſuppoſed 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 indebt-"ed 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

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 unmarry'd, 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 eſteemed 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 wholſome 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 *Sweno*, 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 Churchyard. 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 *Jermin*, afterwards Lord *Dover*, and since his Lordship's Decease, Sir *Robert Davers*, enjoy'd the most delicious Seat of *Rushbrock*, near this Town.

The

The present Members of Parliament for this Place are, *Jermyn 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

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 Aſſemblèe he juſtly commends for the Bright appearance of the Beauties; but with a Sting in the Tayl of this Compliment, where he ſays, They ſeldom end without ſome conſiderable Match or Intrigue; and yet he owns, that during the Fair, theſe Aſſemblèes are held every Night. Now that theſe fine Ladies go Intrigueing every Night, and that too after the Comedy is done, which is after the Fair and Raffling 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 Aſſemblèes 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 Aſſemblèe, 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 Aſſemblèe, 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 Aſſemblèes, 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 Dreyn*, 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 Vth, 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 Cheese, 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 resolved 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 *Perſepolis*, 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 *Yarmouth*; 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 uneaſie 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 *York*, 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 *Yarmouth*, 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,

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 determin, 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 farher North, the Paſſage of the Sea being, as I ıppoſe, too broad from *Flambro'* Head, and ıe 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, Harlſton*, &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 fanſied 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 Droves of Turkeys (for they drive them all in Droves 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 Droves, 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 Droves 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 Droves, 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.

NORFOLK.

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 Juſtitiarii
Gulielmo Regi Annæq; Reginæ
Conſiliarii perpetui:
Libertatis ac Legum Anglicarum
Aſſertoris, Vindicis, Cuſtodis,
Vigilis Acris & Intrepidi,
Rolandus *Frater Unicus & Hæres*
Optime de ſe Merito
poſuit,
Die Martis Vto. 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 *Yorkſhire*, 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.*

Thetford,	*Hingham*,	*Harleſton*,
Dis,	Weſt*Deerham*,	E. *Deerham*,
Harling,	*Attleboro'*,	*Watton*,
Bucknam,	*Windham*,	*Loddon*, &c.

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 *Yorkſhire*, 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 *Yarmouth* and *Lynn*; beſides, that it has ſeveral other Sea-Ports of very good Trade, as *Wisbich*, *Wells*, *Burnham*, *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 Inscriptions in this Church, to which I refer the Reader.

The River *Yare* 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 *Thyrn*, 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 *Yare*, 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 *Yarmouth* 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 *Yarmouth* Men, the *Leostof* Fleet being Overthrown and utterly Destroyed; and that upon this Victory, the

the *Yarmouth* 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 *Yarmouth*, 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* Graſiers 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 *Yarmouth*.

YARMOUTH 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 *Yare* 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-fasts on Shore, that for half a Mile together, they go cross the Stream with their Bolsprits 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 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 *Leostof* 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 *Sussex*, as from *Foulkston*, *Dover*, and *Rye* in *Kent*, and from *Brithelmston* in *Sussex*, 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 *Yarmouth* 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 *Yarmouth*, 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 *Yarmouth*, the Church of St. *Margaret* at *Lynn*, and of St. *Mary* at *Elmham*. 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 punifhed as in this Place, which I name to their Honour.

Among all thefe Regularities, it is no Wonder if we do not find abundance of Revelling, or that there is little Encouragement to *Affemblies*, Plays, and Gaming-Meetings at *Tarmouth*, as in fome other Places; and yet I do not fee 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 Difadvantage, *that they generally go beyond them in Fortunes.*

From *Tarmouth* I refolv'd to purfue my firft Defign, (*viz.*) To view the Sea-fide on this Coaft, which is particularly Famous for being one of the moft dangerous and moft fatal to the Sailors in all *England*, I may fay in all *Britain*; and the more fo, becaufe of the great Number of Ships which are continually going and coming this Way, in their Paffage between *London* and all the Northern Coafts of *Great-Britain.* Matters of Antiquity are not my Enquiry, but principally Obfervations on the prefent State of Things, and if poffible, to give fuch Accounts of Things worthy of Recording, as have never been obferved before; and this leads me the more directly to mention the Commerce and the Navigation when I come to Towns upon the Coaft, as what few Writers have yet medled with.

The Reafon of the Dangers of this particular Coaft, are found in the Situation of the County, and in the Courfe of Ships failing this Way, which I fhall defcribe as well as I can, thus; the Shoar from the Mouth of the River of *Thames* to *Tarmouth* Road, lies in a ftrait

Line

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

From *Winterton Nefs*, which is the utmoft Northerly Point of Land in the County of *Norfolk*, and about four Miles beyond *Tarmouth*, the Shoar falls off for near fixty Miles to the Weft, as far as *Lynn* and *Boften*, till the Shoar of *Lincolnfhire* tends North again for about fixty Miles more, as far as the *Humber*, whence the Coaft of *Torkfhire*, or *Holdernefs*, which is the Eaft Riding, fhoots out again into the Sea, to the *Spurn*, and to *Flambro'* Head, as far Eaft almoft as the Shoar of *Norfolk* had given back at *Winterton*, making a very deep Gulph or Bay, between thofe two Points of *Winterton* and the *Spurn* Head; fo that the Ships going North, are oblig'd to ftretch away to Sea from *Winterton Nefs*, and leaving the Sight of Land in that deep Bay which I have mention'd, that reaches to *Lynn*, and the Shoar of *Lincolnfhire*, they go, I fay, *N.* or ftill *N. N. W.* to meet the Shoar of *Holdernefs*, which I faid runs out into the Sea again at the *Spurn*; This they leave alfo and the firft Land they make, or defire to make, is called as above, *Flambro'* Head; fo that *Winterton Nefs* and *Flambro'* Head, are the two Extremes of this Courfe, there is, as I faid, 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 ftretch away *S. S. E.* for *Tarmouth Roads*; and the firft Land they make is *Winterton* Nefs (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 Ness*, 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 *Yarmouth*, 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 *Yarmouth* 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 *Yarmouth* 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 Ness*, 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 *Ness*, 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 carryed 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 Fertil, as well in Corn as in Pastures; particularly,

cularly, (which was very pleasant to see) the Phesants 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 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 cary'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 carryed 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 small 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 *Yarmouth*, and has I think Parishes, yet I cannot allow that it has more People than *Yarmouth*, 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 *Yarmouth*, or even in *Norwich* it self; the Place abounding in very good Company.

The

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 Counterſcarp, 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 Horſeback, erected at the Charge of the Town. The *Owſe* 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 perſwaded 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 Dreyns 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 impolitick 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 ſharping Part of the Sport, their Wagers and Bets, that to me they ſeem'd juſt as ſo many Horſe-courſers 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 *Suſſex*, 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 clumſie, 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 my ſelf 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 fansy'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 *Jermyns*, 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 Daughther 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 *Welland*, and the River which runs from *Bury* to *Milden-Hall*; the Counties which theſe Rivers drain, as above, are as follows,

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

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 Waggons 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 fansy 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 Retale, and who come principally from *London* with their Goods; scarce any Trades are omitted, Goldsmiths, Toyshops, Braziers, 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 Quanti-

ties

ties of Goods they bring are ſo Great, that the Inſides of them look like another *Blackwell Haſt*, 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 *Huthersfield* in *Yorkſhire*, and from *Rochdale*, *Bury*, *&c.* in *Lancaſhire*, with vaſt Quantities of *Yorkſhire* Cloths, Kerſeyes, 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-

Horſe-Packs of ſuch Goods from that ſide of the Country, and theſe took up a ſide and half of the *Duddery* at leaſt; alſo a part of a Street of Booths were taken up with Upholſterer's Ware, ſuch as Tickings, Sackings, *Kidderminſter* Stuffs, Blankets, Rugs, Quilts, *&c.*

In the *Duddery* I ſaw one Ware-houſe, or Booth with ſix Apartments in it, all belonging to a Dealer in *Norwich* Stuffs only, and who they ſaid had there above Twenty Thouſand Pounds value, in thoſe Goods, and no other.

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

But all this is ſtill out done, at leaſt in ſhow, by two Articles, which are the peculiars of this Fair, and do not begin till the other Part of the Fair, *that is to ſay for the Woollen Manufacture* begins to draw to a Cloſe: Theſe are the WOOLL, and the HOPS, as for the Hops, there is ſcarce any Price fix'd for Hops in *England*, till they know how they ſell at *Sturbridge* Fair; the Quantity that appears in the Fair is indeed prodigious, and they, *as it were*, poſſeſs a large Part of the Field on which the Fair is kept, to themſelves; they are brought directly from *Chelmsford* in *Eſſex*, from *Canterbury* and *Maidſtone* in *Kent*, and from *Farnham* in *Surrey*, beſides what are brought from *London*, the growth of thoſe, and other Places.

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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 *Broomſgrove*, 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*, *York*, *&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 ſurpriſing 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 Groſs of the People lodge; nay, which s ſtill more ſtrange, there are Wherries brought from *London* on Waggons to plye 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 univerſally 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 unſeaſonable 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 *Eaton* 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 Fenns, 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 Dutchess 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 NobleFamily 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 Onger*, *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 *Suſſex* 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 Infælix*.

From

From hence I came over the Foreſt again, *that is to ſay*, over the Lower or Weſtern Part of it, where it is ſpangled with fine Villages, and theſe Villages fill'd with fine Seats, moſt of them built by the Citizens of *London*, as I obſerved before; but the Luſtre of them ſeems to be entirely ſwallow'd up in the magnificent Palace of the Lord *Caſtlemain*, whoſe Father, Sir *Joſiah Child*, as it were, prepar'd it in his Life for the Deſign of his Son, tho' altogether unforeſeen; by adding to the Advantage of its Situation innumerable rows of Trees, planted in curious Order for Avenues and Viſto's, to the Houſe, all leading up to the Place where the old Houſe ſtood, as to a Center.

In the Place adjoining, his Lordſhip, while he was yet Sir *Richard Child* only, and ſome Years before he began the Foundation of his New Houſe, laid out the moſt delicious as well as moſt ſpacious pieces of Ground for Gardens that is to be ſeen in all this part of *England*. The Green-Houſe is an excellent Building fit to entertain a Prince; 'tis furniſh'd with Stoves and artificial Places for Heat from an Apartment, in which is a Bagnio, and other Conveniencies, which render it both uſeful and pleaſant; and theſe Gardens have been ſo the juſt Admiration of the World, that it has been the general Diverſion of the Citizens to go out to ſee them, till the Crowds grew too great, and his Lordſhip was oblig'd to reſtrain his Servants from ſhewing 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

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,

SIR,

Your Moſt Humble,

And Obedient Servant.

APPENDIX.

WHOEVER 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 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 Domûs
In Agro Natali Extruendæ,
Robertus *ille* Walpole
Quem nulla neſciet Poſteritas:
Fauit Deus.

Poſtquam Maturus Annis Dominus,
Diu Lætatus 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 Par-
" liament 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 Pro-
" mentary, 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 ſeve-
" ral Chanels, 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 ſeve-
" ral 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*, *Wevenhoe*, *Malden*, *Leigh*, &c. are ſaid " to be Members of the Port of *Ipſwich*.

This Obſervation may ſuffiſe 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 reſpect to *Rocheſter*, *Milton*, *Feverſham*, &c. in my Circuit thro' the County of *Kent*,

LETTER II.

SIR,

AS 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

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.

TheGround, 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 theGround 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 theReſtoration; and theDeſign 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 uſefulGentlemen of the late Armies, after having grown Old in the Service of their Country, and cover'd with the Honours of the Field, are retired 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.

OtherGentlemen ſtill inService,asin theNavy, 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 Nuſance and Offence to all ſober People, than to ſpend any time to enquire into its Original.

There

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 raiſed from, the Yards and publick Works, erected there for the publick Service. Here, when the Buſineſs of the Royal Navy encreaſed, 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 Chanel 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; inſomuch 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 raiſed, 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 Guard ſhip 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 *Erith*, *Greenhith*, *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 *Norſolk*, 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 *Maningtree*, 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 Extreams, 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 Swiming.

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 ſlaken 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

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 Fortreſs 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 e-

ſcaping

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 *Chatham*. 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-

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-

jesty 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 antient, 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, surprisingly 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 Magazins 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, Grapnells, 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 Admi-

rable.

rable. 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 sailed down to *Black-Stakes* in three Days, Sir *Cloudesly 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 *Upnore*, 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 exposed 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*, passes East, makes the Isle of *Shepey*, parting it on the South side, and opens to the Sea, near *Feversham*, 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 passes 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 Burgesses 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 Oyster-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,

Feversham, 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 surprising 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 *Feverſham*, 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 *Walfleot*; 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

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 pav'd with, which has never yet wanted the least Repair.
5. Also fine white Sand for the Glass-Houses, esteem'd the best in *England* for melting into Flint-Glass, and Looking Glass-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 embarass'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 Banks*, 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 14 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 surprise, 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 usurp'd 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 Soveraigns, 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 murther'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 *Feverſham*, 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 raiſed 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 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 Cæsar* 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 Antient 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 Champian 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

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*, *Brighthelmſton* 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-Ness*; 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 superiour 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 Tun 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-run 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*, *Suſſex*, 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 Raffling 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 Antient 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, Intrieguing; 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 Courſly, it is really among them that the Ladies Characters firſt, and oftneſt receive unjuſt Wounds; and I muſt confeſs the Malice, the Reflections, the Buſy Meddling, the Cenſuring, the Tatling 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 meaneſs 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 wholſome 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*, *Shelly*, *&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 exſpect 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 expreſly 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 *Yarmouth*, *Ipswich*, and the *North*.

The Builders of Ships seemed 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 gueſt 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 *Suſſex*, *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 *Peircy*, Earls of *Northumberland*, now Extinct; whoſe Daughter, the Sole Heireſs 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 *Seymor*, 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

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 Dutchesses are Dead (*viz.*) The Dukes of *Bucks*, *Bolton*, *Rutland*, *Manchester*, and *Marlborough*, and the Dutchesses 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

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 irreſiſtible 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 when ever 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*, *Emſworth*, 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 it ſelf 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 practiſed 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 Palliſadoes, 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 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 fitting 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 Soveraigns 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 Examin'd 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 unconfin'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* abovemention'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 *Bussleton*, 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, entring *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

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*, *Sussex*, *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 Waggons, 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*, *Tichfield*, 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 *Bugſhot-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 Deſart 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 be-

tween

tween *Godalming* and *Petersfield*, on the Road to *Portsmouth*, including some Hills, call'd the *Hind Head* and others.

Thro' this Desart, *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 o'erflowing full.

Here I remember'd that I had yet left the Inland Towns of the Two Counties of *Kent* and *Sussex*, 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 Husbandry, for his Diversion, not for *Bread*, according to the publick flight of his own Fancy.

Cowley's Works, Fol. 144.

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 exposed 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 *Sussex* 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 notabove 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 practised 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 *Darking*: 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 surprising; and one sees to the North, or N. W. over the great *Black Desart*, call'd *Bagshot-Heath*, mentioned above, one way, and the other way South East into *Sussex*, 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 Beautify'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 *Dengil 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 *Letherhead*, 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* Micklehand, and working its way under Ground like a *Mole*, rising again at or near this Town of *Leatherhead*, where 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 *Molesy*, 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 Poſſitive, 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 doubting 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 Chanels 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 Chanel 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 Waggons 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 surrounds 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 passes 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 Sirname 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 raised 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. *Cambden* 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 *Leadell-Hall* Market; in a Word, they are brought to this Market from as far as *Horsham* in *Sussex*; 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 encreased 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 encreased 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 *Brighthelmston* 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 People, 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 Antient Times ſo unpaſſable a Wild, or overgrown Waſte, the Woods ſo thick, and the extent ſo large, reaching far into *Suſſex*, that it was the Retreat for many Ages of the Native *Britons*, who the *Romans* cou'd 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 *Bleechingly*, 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 Mannor, was always Elected; as Mr. *Paul Docminique*, 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 *Bleechingly*, 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 *Bleechingly*, 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 quanties 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 *Sussex*.

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 *Rootham*, *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 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 Intrieguing, 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 ſort

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 extreamly 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 scituate 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, crouded 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 House 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 Vilages; I shall speak of them again in bulk with their Neighbours, of *Mitcham*, *Stretham*, *Tooting*,

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-Offices, 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 Houses 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*; 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 over-match'd, if they are not upon their Guard.

After the *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, the *Green*, the *Great Room*, the *Raffling-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 fro of Errands, and Higglers and Butchers, carrying Proviſions to People's Lodgings.

This takes up the Town till Dinner is over, and the Company have repos'd 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 cover'd 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 Diverſion: 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 Fatiegue, 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 Cæsar* 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 *Cæsar* 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 *Peterson*, 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 *Peterson*, 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 Rariety, 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,

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 *Maſſlapatan* 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 Reſtrain, 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 *Eaſtſhene*, 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 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 intollerable 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*, *Hamerſmith*, *Fullham*, *Puttney*, *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 *Sein* 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 *Kenſington*, 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 courſly expreſs'd) in the buſy City; ſo that

in

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 Scawen*, 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*, *Wimbleton*, *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 thickend 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 Mortallity 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 Mortallity, make but one *London*, in the general Appellation, of which in its Order. I am, *&c.*

The End of the Second Letter.

LETTER III.

SIR,

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 croud my Obſervations ſo cloſe, (to bring *Hampton-Court*, *Windſor*, *Blenheim*, *Oxford*, the *Bath* and *Briſtol*, all into one Letter; all

 thoſe

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 slow

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 *Thame*, 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 publick 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 monſterous Quantity of Earth was raiſed 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 *Jette 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 over-look'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 Frouts 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 Surprize; 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 Surprize 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 Fleer 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 Houſhold; 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 *Hantshire*, 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 Desart, 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 Fortress, 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 Waggons, 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 grear 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' falſly, 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 Gothick 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 seperate 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 Curſory 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 Monaſtry 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 Charaties, 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 Graffe, 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

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 Closs*, 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 Year there be,
So many Windows in One Church we see;
As many Marble Pillars there appear,
As there are Hours throughout the fleeting Year;
As many Gates as Moons one Year 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 buryed in the *Abbey*, to be remov'd and brought down to this Vault, which lyes in that they call the *Virgin Mary's Chappel* 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-

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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 adjoyning 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*, andfrom 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

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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 exhaulted 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.

Nor 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 enteratain 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 Taſt 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

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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 ſcarſe 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 Rarieties at *Munick* in *Bavaria*.

Paſſing theſe, you come into ſeveral large Rooms, as if contriv'd for the Reception of the beautiful Gueſs that take them up; one of theſe is near 70 Foot long and the Ceiling 26 Foot high, with another adjoyning 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 particularly, 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.

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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 adjoyning to another,

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to be a diſtinct and ſeparate Body, or Stone by it ſelf.

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 Miſtery, 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 Precipeice 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 Stones at *Stonehenge*, as Mr. *Cambden* 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 other

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*, *Oldburgh-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

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Building a New Church from the Foundation, and getting an Act of Parliament past, for making it Parochial, it being but a Chappel of Ease before to an adjoyning 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 *Tottenham-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 Waste, and in which there is so great a Quantity of large Timber, as I have spoken of already.

This waste and wild Part of the Country was, *as some Record*, lay'd open, and waste 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 Deaſtation 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 Propoſal 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.

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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 Propoſal 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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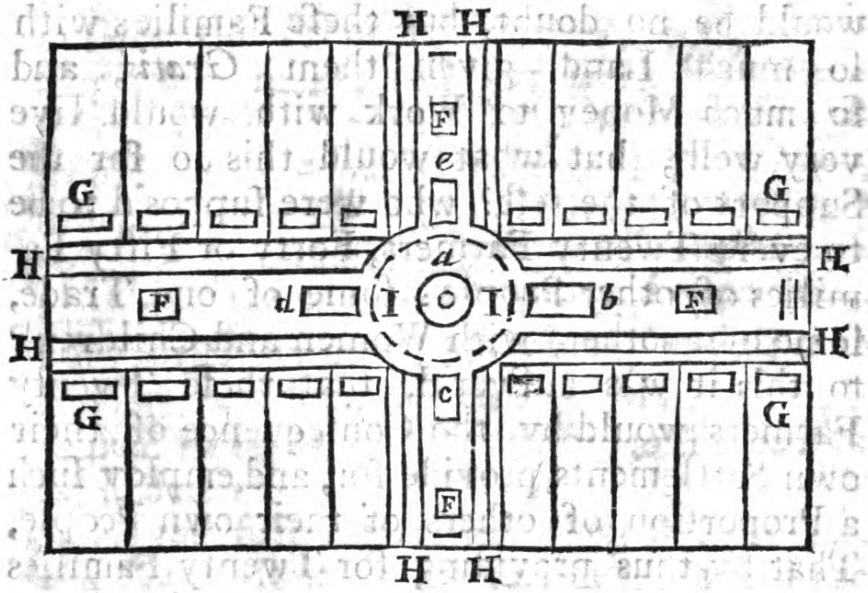
The Form of the ſeveral Farms would be laid out thus.



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 Tradſemen.

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

taken, that the Men and their Families, went to Work forthwith according to the Design.

Thus Twenty Families would be immediately supplyed, 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 Bushes, 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, Waggons, Plows, Harrows, Wheel Barrows, Hurdles, and all ſuch neceſſary Utentiſils 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 Familes 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 Familes 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, Houshold-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 Glaſiers, 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 Disbursses 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 *Lindhurſt*, 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 Northen 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 not find they have any Foreign Commerce, except it be what we call Smugling, 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. xxiii. 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* 23*d 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 Entring 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 *Brankfey*, which lying in the very Mouth of the Passage, divides it into two, and where there is an old Castle, call'd *Brankfey* 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

Wareham is a neat Town, and full of People, having a ſhare of Trade with *Pool* it ſelf, is ſhow'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 Purbeck*, 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, Kitchins, 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 extream.

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 adjoyning 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 Caſes, 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 monſtruous 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 is 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 Politicks, 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 extreamly 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 extreamly 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*, *Sedenhams*, 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

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 ſeperate 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*, leaden 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 prodigous 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 *Osting*, 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 Foul; 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 diviſe, 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 Familes, which are without Reflection 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 ſharping 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 bigeſt Towns in the North-weſt 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 Conventual

ventual Church, and may properly Claim to have more Inhabitants in it than any Town in *Dorſetſhire*, tho' it 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, adjoyning 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 Branhces 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 *Sommerſet* 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 Inhabitants fully Employ'd in the richeſt and moſt valuable Manufacture in the World. (*viz.*) The *Engliſh* Cloathing, as well, the Medley, or mixt Clothing, 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 *Teovil*, 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 *Teovil* is a Market Town of good Reſort, and ſome Clothing 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 Caſes; 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 Colums 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 Dunce 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 preſerved 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 miſſed 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 to 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*, *Yorkſhire*, 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*, *Sturmiſter*, and ſeveral other Towns Chooſe no Members, whereas *Weymouth*, *Melcom*, and *Bridport*, were all Burgeſs Towns; but now we come to *Devon-*

 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 Oterey*, 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 *Yorkſhire*, 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 *Eſk* 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 Commiſſions 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 Autry*, *Newton-Buſhell*, *Aſhburton* 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.

The

The Cathedral Church of this City is an antient 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 Coppying 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 Diverſion of ſeeing them catch Fiſh, with the aſſiſtance of a Dog. The Caſe is this, on the South ſide of the River, and on a ſlip, or narrow Cut or Channel made on purpoſe for a Mill, there ſtands a *Corn-Mill*; the Mill Tayl, or Floor for the Water below the Wheels is Wharſt 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 Croſs Bars of which ſtand bearing inward, ſharp at the End, and pointing inward towards one another, as the Wyers of a Mouſe-trap.

When the Tide flows up, the Fiſh can with eaſe go in between the Points of theſe Croſs-Bars, but the Mill being ſhut down they can go no farther upwards; and when the Water Ebbs again, they are left behind, not being able to paſs the Points of the Grating, as above, outwards; which like a Mouſe-trap keeps them in, ſo 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 ſaw about 50 or 60 ſmall Salmon, about 17 to 20 Inches long, which the Country People call *Salmon* Peal, and to Catch theſe, the Perſon 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 croſs 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

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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 Hawls, took about forty Thousand of them. We sent our Servant to the Key to buy some, who for a Halfpenny, 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 Semicirle, 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 Doctrine 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 Dissasters 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 Hoo*, 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

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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 inconſiderable 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 Warehouſes, 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 sat 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 carryed what he so got to an old decrip'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 *Saltash* 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 *Saltash*, than at *Plymouth*: This I say, is like to be a very great Advantage to the Town of *Saltash*, 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, Purses, 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.

Mr.

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 ſhow 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 here abouts. 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 Uſuage 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, diſtinguiſh'd by the Addition of Eaſt *Loe*, and Weſt *Loe*. Theſe are both good Trading Towns, and eſpecially Fiſhing Towns and which is very particular, are like *Weymouth* and *Melcomb*, in *Dorſetſhire*, ſeperated only by the Creek, or River; and yet each of them ſend Members to Parliaments: 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 confeſs 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.

(*viz.*

(*viz.*) *Grampound*, *Tregony Truro*, *Peuryn*, *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 Seigniorty; 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,

is

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.

Fal-

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 visisted 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 TINN. 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 Annum*; it has no Parish Church, but only a Chappel 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 Cel 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, no 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*,

 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 frighted 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 *Peverel* 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 ſtav'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 within 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 remote. Here are alſo a great many good Families of Gentlemen, tho' in this utmoſt Angle of the Nation; 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.

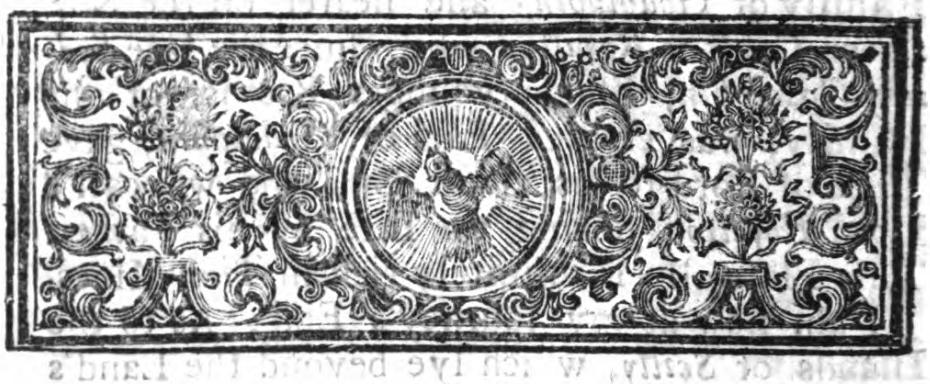
Near *Penſance*, but open to the Sea, is that Gulph they call *Mounts Bay*, nam'd ſo from a high Hill ſtanding in the Water, which they call St. *Michael's Mount*; the Seaman call it only, the *Corniſh Mount*; It has been fortify'd, tho' the Situation of it makes it ſo difficult of Acceſs, that like 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

a 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 *Excreſſences* 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 ſpight of the Mariners beſt Skill, or the Light-Houſes, and other Sea-Marks beſt No ice.

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 ſtreſs 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 *Cloudeſly 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 Outworks 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, aud 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.

ADDEN-

ADDENDA.

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.

FINIS.

ERRATA.

LEtter 1, Pag. 17. Line 3, for *Father*, read *Uncle*. ibid l. 9, for *the Kingdom*, r. *the Kingdom of* Ireland. ib. l. 24, for *Kelendon*, r. *Kelvedon*, ib. l. last but one, for brought out, r. Bought out. p. 20, for *Whittham*, r. *Wittham*. p. 24. l. 9, for *fall on*, r. *to fall on*. p. 25, l. 20, for *Barksterd*, r. *Barkstead*. p. 34, l. 30, for *Horse*, 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. *Cannon*. 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*.