

Historical Register

8. OCT. 88

Containing

An Impartial RELATION
of all TRANSACTIONS, Foreign
and Domestic

WITH A
Chronological Diary
OF ALL

OCCURRENCES,
Marriages, Deaths, Removals,
that happen'd in this
Year with the Characters and
Persons deceased. of emi-

VOLUME XVIII.

For the Year 1733.

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THE
Historical Register.

NUMBER LXIX.

HOLLAND.

THE Affairs at Home, and the Disputes between the King and Parliament in *France*, being of greater Importance than any other Occurrences in *Europe*, we thought it not improper to give them the Chief Place in our two last Registers. But there having been other remarkable Incidents very worthy the Reader's Notice, and those two important Articles being dispatched, we are now able to find Room for inserting them.

Among others, the following Treaty is not the least considerable, by which the long Dispute between the King of *Prussia* and the Prince of *Orange*, about the Succession to King *William's* Estates as Prince of *Orange*, was at last accommodated. This grand Affair was brought to a Conclusion by Mess. *Lincius* and *Duncan*, Counsellors respectively to the King and the Prince, who revived the Plan which was drawn up above Six Years ago by Mess. *Meyndershausen* and *Vultejus*, but did not then take Effect, by Reason of the Minority of the Prince, and because the King of *Prussia* insisted, that their High-Mightinesses, as his Guardians, should guarantee the Execution of the Articles. By the Prince's being come of Age, that Difficulty has been removed, and the Agreement concluded between those two Princes; and on the 1st of *August* the Commissioners of the King of *Prussia* and of the Prince of *Orange*, who settled this Affair, delivered to their High-Mightinesses a Letter from his *Prussian* Majesty, and another from his Highness,

Highness, notifying the Accommodation to them in Form, and a Copy of the Treaty was at the same Time deliver'd by each Party: Of this Treaty of Accommodation we shall here insert a full Copy.

In the Name of the Holy and Undivided Trinity.

THE many successive and repeated Negotiations for adjusting the Differences which happen'd after the Death of William III. King of Great Britain, of Glorious Memory, between his Majesty the King of Prussia, and the most Serene House of Orange and Nassau, in Relation to the Principalities, Cities, Lands, Estates, and Domains, descended from the late Princes of Orange, and lastly from the said King of Great Britain, made it too evident that they really wished to accommodate the same in an amicable Manner, not to hope but that sooner or later the same would be attended with Success; and consequently that they would at last be terminated to their mutual Satisfaction.

The Majority of his Most Serene Highness the Prince of Orange and Nassau, occasioned Overtures which tended to renew the Conferences formerly holden for that Purpose, and particularly the last Negotiation begun at Berlin in 1722: His Majesty the King of Prussia answer'd favourably thereto, and the two contracting Parties having nothing so much at Heart, as to regulate at length, upon just and reasonable Conditions, a Dispute which had lasted so many Years, agreed to cause Enquiry to be made what it stuck at in 1722, and to make it, as it were, the Basis of a new Negotiation.

It is therefore, in order to attain so salutary an End, and to strengthen with new Ties the Bands of Kindred and Friendship, by which they are already united, that the Most Serene and Most Potent Prince and Lord Frederick-William, King of Prussia, Margrave of Brandenburg, Arch-Chamberlain and Prince-Elector of the Holy Roman Empire, Sovereign Prince of Orange, Neuchâtel and Valengin, Gelderland, Magdeburg, Cleves, Juliers, Berg, Steirin, Pomerania, the Cassubia's, the Vandals, and Mecklenburg; as also in Silesia, Duke of Crossen; Burgrave of Neuremberg; Prince of Halberstadt, Minden, Gravin, Vandalia, Swerin, Racheburg and Meurs; Count of Honenzzollern, Ruppin; La Mark, Ravensberg, Hohenstein, Tecklenburg, Lingue, Swerin, Bauren and Loerdam; Lord of Ravenstein, Rostock, Stargard, Lawenburg, Arlay, and Breda, &c. And the Most Serene Prince and Lord

William-Charles-Henry-Frifo, by the Grace of God, Prince of Orange and Nassau, Count of *Ca. Genellebogen, Vianden, Dietz, Spiegelberg, Buuren, Leerdam*, Marquis of *Ter-Peer* and *Flushing*; Baron of *Breda, Rysstall*, of the Town of *Grave*, and County of *Cuyk*; of *Ysselstein, Cranendonck* and *Eindhoven*, and of *Liesfelt*; Lord of *Bredenvoort, Turnhout, Gertrudenberg, Willemstad, Clundert, S. Maartensdyk, Seebergen, Steenbergen, Upper and Lower Swaluwe, Naaltwyk, Grimbergen, Herfial, Arloy, Noseroy, S. Vith, Rengenbag, Dagsburg, and Warneton*; Independent Lord of the Isle of *Amelandt*, Hereditary Burgrave of *Antwerp* and *Bejangan*, Hereditary Marshal of *Holland*, Stadtholder and Captain and Admiral General of *Gelderland* and the County of *Zutphen*, Hereditary Stadtholder and Captain-General of *Friesland*, Stadtholder and Captain-General of *Groningen* and the *Ommelands*, and of the Country of *Drenthe*, &c. have nominated and authorized their Ministers, namely, his Majesty the King of *Prussia*, his Ministers of State-Lieutenant-General *Adrian-Bernhard Von Borcke*, *Henry Von Podewils*, and *William-Henry Von Thulemeier*; and his Most Serene Highness the Prince of Orange and Nassau, his Ministers *Diderick Baron of Lynden*, Lord of *Parck*, Brigadier and Colonel of a Regiment of Horse, and Great Master of his Household, *Hobbe*, Baron of *Aylua*, Colonel of a Regiment of Foot, his Master of the Horse, and *Droffaert* of the County of *Buuren*; and *John Duncan*, his Counsellor in Ordinary, and Master of Requests, and Counsellor and Comptroller of his Domains; who having mutually conferred together, and exchanged their Full Powers, Copies whereof shall be inserted at the End of this Treaty; and having resumed the Thread of the last Negotiation at *Berlin*, and debated on what remained to be regulated, have agreed, in the Name of his Majesty and of the Most Serene Prince, their respective Masters, on the following Articles and Conditions, viz.

I. An equal Partition of the said Principalities, Counties, Domains, Lands, Houses, and Effects, having been the Foundation of the preceding Negotiations, it was agreed still to have Recourse thereto, as the best-Expedient for putting an End to all past and future Contests; and all that remains to be adjusted, in order to regulate and perfect the Plan of Partition drawn in 1722, having been discussed, and carefully weighed, it was agreed, in order thereunto, in Manner as follows:

A 2

II. The

II. The Lord the King of Prussia shall have for his Share, the Principality of Orange, with the Lordships and Places of the Succession of Chalon, and Châtel-Belin, situate in France, and in the County of Burgundy, the whole in the Manner his Majesty yielded the Property thereof to the Most Christian King, by the Treaty of Peace signed between him and France at Utrecht, the 11th Day of April 1713; and the Lord Prince of Orange and Nassau declares that he acquiesces with that Cession, so that he will not trouble or molest the Most Christian King in the peaceable Possession of the Principality of Orange, and the other Estates above specify'd.

III. As his Majesty is engaged and promised, on this Occasion, to satisfy by an Equivalent the Pretension which the Heirs of the late Prince of Orange and Nassau made to the said Principality and the other Estates above-mention'd; the Most Serene Prince declares for himself, and for his Heirs and Descendants, Male and Female, that he does and will rest content, in that Respect, with the Equivalent which he shall receive for his Share, as hereafter mention'd; so that the Lord the King shall not be obliged to make him any further Satisfaction on that Account, in any other Manner, or for any Reason whatever.

IV. The Lord the Prince shall have the Liberty of giving the Name of Principality of Orange to any other of his Domains as he shall think proper, and to retain the Title and Arms thereof, as well for himself as for his Heirs and Descendants, Male and Female, in the Manner stipulated in Favour of the said Lord the King, by the Treaty afore mention'd; and his Majesty promises and engages to use his good Offices, that the Most Christian King may give his Consent thereto, in order to remove and take away every Thing which may occasion new Disputes. Provided however, that this shall not be of any Prejudice to his Majesty the King of Prussia, with regard to the Titles and Arms of Orange, which shall be always continu'd in the Royal Family, Princes and Princesses of Prussia.

V. His Majesty the King of Prussia shall have more for his Share, and keep as sole and whole Proprietor, as well for himself, as for his Heirs and Successors, the Principality of Meurs, the County of Lingen, the Army of Montfort, the Lordship of Upper and Lower Swalwe, the Lordships of Naaltwyk, Hoenderland, Wateringen, Orange-Polder, and Gravefande; the Tolls of

Gennep, the Barony of *Herstal* entire, the Lordship of *Turnhout*, the House at the *Hague* call'd the *Old Court*, and the House at *Honflaart*; and the Lord the King shall enjoy the said Estates, Domains, Lands, and Houses, with all their Appurtenances and Dependencies, Rights, Revenues, Justices, Jurisdictions High and Low, Regal Rights, Prerogatives, and Preeminencies thereunto annexed, Tithes, Mills, and Dependencies which belong to the said Lordships and Estates, situate and raised in their Districts, which the Princes of *Orange* enjoy'd; without Exception or Distinction by which of the said Princes they might be acquired; and with Regard to the Houses, with the Furniture belonging to, and now actually in them; and the Lord the Prince does and shall renounce, as well for himself, as for his Heirs and Descendants, Male and Female, in Favour of his Majesty, and his Heirs and Descendants, Male and Female, all the above mention'd Rights of Property, and others, to the said Estates, Domains, Lands, and Houses; so that neither he, nor his Heirs and Successors, shall ever form any Pretensions thereto, under any Title or Pretence whatsoever.

His Most Serene Highness will likewise take Care, that as soon as the present Treaty is ratify'd, the Toll which has been hitherto gathered in the Town of *Grave*, under the Name of the Toll of *Gennep*, shall entirely cease.

VI. The Lord the Prince shall make no Pretension with Regard to the Ammany of *Montfort*, by Virtue of the Sentence of the Court of *Ruremonde*, of the 23^d of *April* 1704; nor yet with Regard to the Principality of *Meurs*, the County of *Lingen*, and other Domains, Lands and Effects above mention'd, which the Lord the King now actually does, or shall hereafter enjoy by Virtue of the present Treaty, under Pretence of having been improved or augmented, or upon Account of Provisions, Arrears, and Reminders of Accounts, which were due to the late King *William* and his Heirs, when his Majesty took Possession of them; but all those Improvements, Augmentations, Provisions, Arrears, and Reminders of Accounts shall likewise be to the Use of the Lord the King.

VII. The Lord the Prince of *Orange* and *Nassau* shall have, for his Part, and shall keep as sole and whole Proprietor, as well for himself, as for his Heirs and Successors, all the other Domains, Lands, Houses and

Goods

Goods belonging to the Succession of *Orange*, as well those which are already deliver'd up to him, as those which are still under the Administration of their High-Mightinesses the States-General of the United Provinces, or in the Hands of Foreigners, without any Exception; as also the Houses which his Majesty the King of *Prussia* actually enjoys, and which he shall yield to him by Virtue hereof; and also all the Estates, Domains, Lands, and Houses belonging to the Succession of *Orange*, which are not comprized in his Majesty's Part.

As first, the Domains, Lands, Houses and Goods which are already deliver'd up to his Most Serene Highness, and which he is actually possessed of; namely, the Ammay of *Bredenvoort*, the Tenth of *Buuren*, the Lordship of *Sevenbergen*, the *Hondenhuys* at the *Hague*, the Tenth under *Delft* and *Monster*, the House call'd the *Kruytberg*, *Cokmplant*, and the other Estates in *Noordbeveland*; the Barony of *Visselstein*, the Estates in the *Hulster Ambacht*, the Palace at *Brussels*, the Barony of *Diest*, the Lordship of *Zichem* and *Scherpenheuvel*, the Lordships of *Roozendaal*, *Nispen*, *Oosterhout*, and *Dongen*; the Lordship of *Steenbergen*, the Lordship of *Prineland*, the Barony of *Kranendonk*, and the Lordship of *Eindhoven*.

And secondly, the Domains, Lands, Houses and Goods, which are still actually under the Administration of their High-Mightinesses the States-General of the United Provinces, or in the Hands of Foreigners, without any Exception; namely, the House of *Dieren*, with its Appurtenances and Dependencies; the House of *Loo*, with its Appurtenances and Dependencies; the Lordship of *Klundert* or *Nierwaard*; the Lordship of *Gertrudenburg*, with its Appurtenances and Dependencies; the Marquisate of *Ter Veer* and *Flushing*; the Lordship of *S. Maartensdyk* and *Scherpenisse*; the House of *Soefdyk*, with its Appurtenances and Dependencies; the County of *Buuren*, the County of *Leerdam* and *Acquoy*, the Lordships of *Grimbergen*, *Meerhout*, and *Voorst*, the Burggraviate of *Antwerp*, the Barony of *Breda*, the Estates of the Commandery of *Braque*, the Barony of *Grave* and of the Country of *Cuyk*, the Lordship of *Willemslad* and *Ruygenhill*, the Estates of *Weernhout*, *Vyander*, *S. Vith*, and *Eutgenbach*, *Daasburgh*, and *Warneton*.

The Lord the Prince, having, by the Fifth Article above, yielded to his Majesty the King of *Prussia*, the Barony

Barony of *Haystack* all entire, one half of which his Most Serene Highness had hitherto enjoy'd; he shall have in Exchange for his Part, and shall likewise keep as sole and whole Proprietor, as well for himself as for his Heirs and Successors, the Lordships of *Monster*, *Ter-Heiden*, the Moiety of *Loosduynen*, the Fiefs of *Polaanen* and the Farm adjoining, the House of *Neuburg* near *Ryswick*, consisting of 15 Acres 580 Rods, formerly rented by *Peter Colin*.

And his Majesty the King of *Prussia* moreover does and shall yield to the Lord the Prince, as a particular Mark of his Friendship, the House of *Neuburg* situate near *Ryswick*, and the House in the Wood call'd the *Orange-Saal*; and his Most Serene Highness shall likewise be discharged from the yearly Rent of 1000 Florins, which was to be paid for the Maintenance of this last House, out of the Revenues of *Seevenbergen*: Provided however, that the Most Serene Prince shall be obliged to make Satisfaction to the General *Baron de Keppel* for the Improvements which he shall prove he has made in the said House in the Wood, and its Appurtenances and Dependencies; and the said Lord the Prince shall likewise enjoy the said Estates, Domains, Lands, and Houses, with all their Appurtenances and Dependencies, Rights, Revenues, Justices, Jurisdictions high and low, Regal Rights, Prerogatives and Pre-eminencies thereunto annexed, Tents, Mills and Dependencies, which belong to the said Lordships and Estates, situate and raised in their Districts, which the Princes of *Orange* enjoy'd, without Exception or Distinction, by which of the said Princes they might be acquired; and with Regard to the Houses, with the Furniture belonging to and now actually in them; and the Lord the King does and shall renounce, as well for himself, as for his Heirs and Descendants, Male and Female, in Favour of the Lord the Prince, and his Heirs and Descendants, Male and Female, all the above mention'd Rights of Property, and others, to the said Estates, Domains, Lands and Houses; so that neither he, nor his Heirs and Successors, shall ever form any Pretensions thereto, under any Title or Pretence whatsoever.

VIII. The two high Contractors, and their Heirs and Descendants, Male and Female, shall keep all the Titles and Arms which they have hitherto made Use of, each on his Side, with Regard to the Principalities, Counties, Domains, Lands, Houses and Goods belonging

to the Succession of *Orange*; but this without Prejudice either to his Majesty the King of *Prussia*, or to the Most Serene Prince, or to their respective Heirs and Descendants, Male and Female; and without Derogation from the perpetual Validity of the mutual Cessions made by this present Treaty.

And as his Majesty the King of *Prussia* has declared, as well during the former Negotiations, as in the Course of this, that he would be glad if the Lord the Prince would not hereafter assume the Titles of *Meurs* and *Lingen*; his Most Serene Highness, eager to embrace every Opportunity of doing his Majesty a Pleasure, has condescended to renounce the same; and he does renounce them by the present Treaty, including the Arms, as well for himself, as for his Heirs and Descendants, Male and Female; in like Manner as the Lord the King, out of the same Complaisance, has condescended to renounce, as his Majesty does by this Article renounce, as well for himself as for his Descendants, Male and Female, the Titles and Arms of the Marquisate of *Ter-Veer* and *Flushing*: And thus the two high Contractors are not for the future to make Use of the Titles and Arms above mention'd, on either Side respectively.

IX. And with Regard to the Supply which the Lord the King, as well as the Lord the Prince, should have received yearly, pursuant to the Resolution of their High-Mightinesses of the 11th of *July* 1711, whereof the Council of Domains have paid them but about one Year only, because the other unavoidable Expences for the pressing Occasions of the Succession, which, by Virtue of the said Resolution, were to be prefer'd to the said Supply, did not afford them Means and the necessary Sums to continue the Payment; his Majesty shall, as he does, hereby renounce all Rights and Pretensions which he might form upon that Score, and consequently the Arrears he might demand thereof, which shall be apply'd to the Benefit of the Succession in general.

X. As there are others, who, as Heirs, or calling themselves such, form Pretensions to part of the Estates, Domains, and Lands of the Succession of *Orange*, which are included in the present Partition; the two high Contractors promise each other a reciprocal Guaranty against those Pretenders, and mutually to assist each other, Violence only, and Force of Arms, being excepted, with all kind of Endeavours, Actions, and other

other substantial and effectual Means, which their Rights can furnish them, jointly or separately; according as it shall be found most conducive to the common Interest; and to keep and maintain themselves and each other in the Possession and peaceable Enjoyment of every Thing that is yielded to one and the other Party by this Accommodation; and this Guaranty shall particularly regard the Pretension which the Prince of *Nassau-Siegen* forms to some of the said Estates, Domains and Lands; and the Lord the King of *Prussia* engages, if Occasion requires, and it is demanded by the Lord the Prince, to bring his Action immediately, by Way of Intervention or otherwise, against the said Prince of *Nassau-Siegen*; which his Majesty will prosecute with the utmost Vigour and Dispatch that is possible; and his Majesty obliges himself to use all other imaginable Means, as well judiciary as extrajudiciary, to induce the said Prince to desist from so unjust and ill-grounded a Pretension.

XI. The Lord the Prince will take upon himself, and takes upon himself all the Debts which are standing out in general, from the Succession of the said Lords the Princes of the House of *Orange*, including the Debts which to the Day of the signing of the present Treaty are due from *Westland*, and the Pension settled by way of Feoffment of Trust by Prince *Frederick Henry*, upon *M. Frederick de Zulestein*, and his Descendants, as well for the Time past as to come, except those which redound to the Profit of the Lord the King; and his Most Serene Highness shall have the Benefit only of the Debts and other Pretensions thereunto belonging, including the Annuity settled by the States of *Holland* and *Zealand* in the Year 1684, in Favour of Prince *Frederick Henry* of *Orange*; as well for the Time past as to come, without any Exception, unless of such as belong to his Majesty; so that the Pretensions which the two high Contractors might form one against the other, shall be more particularly compromised here below; and the two Annuities of 80,000 and 20,000 Florins, arising from the Duties of Import and Export on the *Maes*, in Regard to which, it has been particularly agreed as follows:

XII. For what concerns the two Annuities of 80,000 and 20,000 Florins, arising from the Duties of Import and Export on the *Maes*, it is stipulated and agreed, that

the Lord the King shall have the Annuity of 80,000 Florins, and the Prince that of 20,000 Florins for his Share.

XIII. And as for the Arrears of those two Annui-
ties, which are due to the Succession from the Year 1703,
to the Day of the Ratification of the present Treaty;
it is agreed, that they shall be equally divided between
the two contracting Parties, and that each of them shall
enjoy one Moiety; provided however, that his Maje-
sty the King of Prussia, shall not be obliged to contri-
bute to the Payment of his Arrears, tho' he had a
Share of the Duties of Import and Export on the Maes,
since the Year 1713.

XIV. As among the Debts owing to the Succession,
there are two Pretensions charged on the King of Spain,
assigned by his Majesty upon the Revenues of the Indies,
by the Treaty of the 26th of December 1687; one of
them an Annuity of 50,000 Florins a Year, and the other
a Principal Sum of 120,000 Crowns; the Lord the King
engages to assist the Lord the Prince by all Sorts of good
Offices in the Recovery and Payment of those Claims,
and his Majesty will endeavour to obtain the Payment
thereof, as well for the Time past as to come.

XV. In Relation to the Debts owing to, or charged
upon every Domain, or Land Estate in particular, it is
stipulated and agreed, that except those belonging to the
Westland, which are disposed of as aforesaid, all the others
shall remain to the Profit or Charge of such of the Con-
tracting Powers as shall have the Property thereof; and
not only the Produce and Revenues which they have re-
ceived from the Lands and Estates which they have actu-
ally in Possession, but also all the Revenues, Fruits and
Arrears of Accounts which are not yet paid, of the Lord-
ships and Estates which they receive by the present Par-
tition, shall redound to the Advantage of such of the
high Contractors, as shall have them for his Part.

XVI. With regard to the Jewels and Plate belonging
to the Succession of *Nassau Orange*, it is agreed, that each
Party shall abide by the Partition which was made there-
of in the Year 1702.

XVII. And in order to prevent all new Occasion of
Difference and Dispute between the two contracting
Parties, and fully to obtain the salutary End proposed
by this Accommodation, they will and do renounce re-
ciprocally, for themselves, and their Heirs, and Des-
cendants,

cedants, Male and Female, all Sorts of Actions and Pretensions whatsoever, which on this Occasion they have commenced, or may commence against each other, upon any Cause or Pretence whatsoever; and all such Actions and Pretensions shall be entirely compromised and annulled; as also the Processes, Proceedings, and Prosecutions begun on either Part on that Account, shall cease, and be extinct, as soon as the present Treaty shall be ratify'd.

XVIII. The two contracting Parties shall reciprocally deliver and surrender up to each other, the Originals of all the Titles, Charters, Documents, Registers, Accounts, and in general all the Records and Papers relating to the Estates, Domains, Lands, and Houses, which belong to each by this Partition, and of which they mutually yield up the Property and Possession by the present Treaty; and each of them shall dispose thereof as he thinks the most suitable to his Interests; and this not only with Respect to the Records and Papers they actually have in their Custody, but also those which by Virtue of the Administration of the States-General of the United Provinces, are in the Keeping of the Council of the Domains of the late King William.

XIX. As soon as this Treaty shall be concluded and ratify'd, the two contracting Parties shall jointly apply themselves to the States-General of the United Provinces, as Executors of the Wills of the late King of Great Britain, William III. and of Frederick-Henry, Prince of Orange, to communicate to them this Accommodation, to the End that the Surrender of the Estates, Lands, and Houses, with the Records, and every Thing that depends thereon, which belong to each by this Partition, and are still under the Administration of their High Mightinesses, may ensue; and the contracting Parties shall mutually and in concert do all they can that the said Surrender may be made without any Delay, as soon as possible.

XX. The present Treaty shall be ratify'd and approved by the Lord the King and the Lord the Prince, and the Letters of Ratification shall be deliver'd within the Space of four Weeks, from the Day of signing thereof, or sooner if it be possible.

In Witness whereof, we the Ministers of his Majesty the King of Prussia, and of his Most Serene Highness the

the Prince of Orange and Nassau, by Virtue of our respective Full Powers, have put our Hands and Seals to this present Treaty.

Done at Berlin,
May 14, 1732.

Sign'd,

A. B. Borken,
H. D. Podewils,
G. H. de Thulemeir.

Done at Dieren,
June 16, 1732.

Sign'd,

D. V. Lynde, de Park,
H. Van Aylse,
J. Duncan.

The Counsels of this State are so perfectly united to those of Great Britain, and both are so entirely directed to preserve that universal Peace which (by the Blessing of God) Europe enjoys at present, that we have no other political Informations from this Country to lay before our Readers. But a very extraordinary natural Event has happen'd here, which when the Report of it first broke out, caused very strange Discourses and Alarms, both in this Country and in other Parts; it being said, that the Worm was got into the Piles there; which, if it had been true to the Degree that was represented, would have endanger'd the very Being of the State. But because all our Readers may not so perfectly understand the Nature of this strange Mischief, without some additional Explanation, we shall give a more particular Account of it.

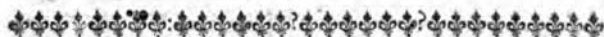
Now it is well known to all Sailors, that in several Parts of the World, more especially in the hotter Regions, Ships are grievously infested with Worms of a very strange and dangerous Nature. These little Creatures, by the Instruments with which Nature has provided them, joined with a strange Activity they are endued with, do in a wonderful Manner either find or make their Way into those Planks in the Ship's Sides, which are under Water, though at a Time when they are so extremely small, that it is scarce possible to find out the Place they entered at. When they are once lodged, they increase apace in Bulk and Numbers; for being particularly disposed for that Habitation above any other, they quickly fall to feeding on the Wood, and, as it should seem, by the Nourishment they gain from thence, (whatever that be) they become of a very considerable Magnitude, as of two, three, four, or six Inches

Inches long, and of a very considerable Thickness. They breed also very fast, and in great Numbers; and thus their Forces daily growing, and the Work going on Day and Night among such busy Labourers, they will in no long Time eat out the Heart of a stout Oaken Plank. Their Method of doing this is, not by eating all about them as soon as they are entered, and so making the Hole bigger and bigger, as they devour more and more of the Wood; but each Worm, as soon as he is able to work, begins to make a Hole of the Bigness of his Body; and when this is done, he goes on in a right Line, making this Hole longer and longer, like a Canal or Pipe, through the Body of the Timber, till he is come to the End of it. Then he turns aside on either Hand, and goes back again towards the Place he set out from, making another new Canal not far from the other. In the mean Time, in his Passage he is always breeding young ones, which as soon as they are able to shift for themselves, do not follow their Parent in a Train, but take each their several Roads through the Plank or Beam, in different Lines. And thus the Timber being eaten through long-wise and cross-wise, and in all manner of Directions, by an Enemy daily increasing, becomes at last like a Sponge or a Honeycomb, and by consequence utterly unable to bear the Shocks of a tempestuous Sea. It is to be observed farther, that all the Mischief done by these Worms is as secret as it is pernicious; for as they die as soon as they come to the open Air, they never, in the various Passages they make through the Timber, pass through the Outside, which by that Means looks as fair and sound to the Eye as if all were ever so firm and solid within. And to prevent this Havock made by these Creatures, Ships that go to the Places where they have Reason to expect them, are sheathed; that is, their Bottoms are covered with a Layer of a Composition made of Hair and Pitch, and other proper Ingredients; over which a false Bottom is fastened on to keep the same close to the true Bottom. And thus the Worms are in good measure prevented from hurting the Ship; for though they will enter the false Bottom, and harbour there according to their Custom; yet they can't hurt the true Bottom, because the Composition that covers it being disagreeable to them, they don't care to make their Way through it.


It was always thought that these Worms were peculiar to the hotter Climates, and that the Cold of our Northern Regions was fatal to them, till this last Year several Rumours came from *Holland* that they were found among the Piles there. They could not have appeared in a worse Place; for the Country being in a great Measure gaided from the Sea by Industry and Art, they are obliged to keep the Water from recovering its own by strong Banks made to resist its Force; which are what they call the Dykes of *Holland*. And it is not more strange than true, that a great Part of that Country lies several Foot below the Level of the Sea, which were it not kept out by the Dykes would in a few Hours lay all under Water to a prodigious Extent. And yet such is the Force of the Dykes, that in Dependance on the Strength of them, Towns and Villages lie thick in those Parts, where nothing could save them if the Banks should give way for Half an Hour. Now these Dykes being founded on Piles, it is easy to see that if the Worms should get into those Piles, and eat thro' them in the Manner above described, all the Country, whose Security depends on the Dykes, must be in the utmost Danger that is conceivable; for they could never be sure that the Sea would not break in upon them and swallow them up the next Moment, it being impossible for worm-eaten Piles to stand long against the Weight and Fury of the Waters; and what Hour they would give Way no one could tell. Besides this, another terrible Destruction was also threatned to them from these fatal Animals; for a great Part of their Buildings, and especially the whole City of *Amsterdam*, are built upon Piles driven in with vast Labour through the boggy Surface of the Earth to a great Depth, in order to reach at last to a firm Foundation. Now if the Worms should get into these Piles also, the Foundations of the whole City would be in danger; and it would be impossible to prevent the Mischief, because there could be no way of getting at it, or of remedying it if they could.

What is here mentioned will, we hope, give some Light to our Readers as to the Nature of this Alarm, and the Ground there was for it: But how far those Rumours were true, and whether there was any Occasion for such exceeding terrible Apprehensions as those above-mentioned, we are not able from any authentic Grounds to inform them. Thus much is certain, that these

these Vermin were got into some of the Piles; and that a Fast was order'd by the States of *West Friesland*, that this Judgment might be averted from the Country. But as the Discourse on this Subject is lately grown cool, it is to be hoped that there was not so much in it as was at first imagin'd; or else, that the Cold of the Winter, by killing those Insects had removed all future Fear. However, as few of our Readers can have miss'd hearing of this extraordinary Alarm in Conversation, we thought it necessary to give this general Account a Place in our *Register*; tho' the Particulars, by the Jealousy of that State, have not been expos'd to publick View; and as to doubtful Reports, the Insertion of them is not suitable to our Design.



S P A I N.

HE Court here has taken a very extraordinary Step, which has occasion'd great Discontents among the trading Nations, especially the *Dutch*; they having lately set up an *East-India Company*, which is a Thing altogether unknown to this Kingdom before, which had hitherto contented itself with the *American Commerce*. As this Affair is of great Consequence to the Trade of *Europe*, and may, perhaps, make as great a Bustle as the *Ossett Company* has done, we shall therefore present our Readers with a Copy of the Charter granted to them.

THAT forasmuch as it is conducive to his Majesty's Service, to promote Trade between the Subjects of his respective Kingdoms and the *Philippine Islands*; his Majesty, at the Instances which have been made to him by Don Emanuel Ariaga, as well in his own Name, as in the Name of Don Francisco de Arteaga, Don Juan Martines de Albinagouza, and Don Juan de Ledegni, Spanish Merchants, Undertakers of the said Commerce, and Inhabitants of Cadiz, as also in the Name of all the other Spanish Merchants and Vassals, who shall be inclined to adventure their Fortunes therein, has approved, upon the following Articles and Conditions,

tions, the Memorial presented to him upon that Subject by the said Don Emanuel Ariaga.

I. The Spaniards alone shall be admitted into this Commerce, and may continue it for ten Years, with two or four Ships from 500 to 800 Tons, and from 30 to 50 Pieces of Cannon, more or less, according as the Circumstances or Occasion may require. These Ships shall sail from the Bay of Cadix, and shall be expedited in Form, and with a proper Register, by the Presidents and Counsellors of the College of Commerce in the same Manner as is practised with Regard to Ships which sail for the Ports of America under his Majesty's Dominion.

II. As these Merchants, at their own Expence and Hazard, open a Commerce which may be very useful and advantageous for these Kingdoms, they shall pay no Duty or Custom, by the Ton or otherwise, call'd by the Name of *Extrangeria* and *Media Anata*, excepting only 800 Pieces of Eight Reals de Plata, which they shall pay for each Ship, or what Burden soever, which shall be at the King's Disposal, to be laid out in Works of Piety, or whatever else his Majesty shall think fit.

III. The Captains and Lieutenants of every Ship shall bear the King's Commissions. The two chief Officers shall certainly be Spaniards, with Power to serve either by Sea or Land.

IV. If the Officers do not execute their Instructions, but violate the Laws and Ordinances of the Indies, they shall be severely punish'd for it, and the Directors shall not be answerable for the ill Conduct of the said Officers.

V. The said Ships shall be provided with the needful Artillery, Arms, and Ammunition; and there shall be put on board them, in Case of Need, 30 or 40 Marines, to keep the Crews in awe, who, as well as the Officers, shall consist of two Thirds Spaniards at the least.

VI. In Case the Undertakers should think fit, for their greater Security, to hire one of the King's Ships, they shall have one of what Burden they please, provided they agree with his Majesty's Ministers about the Freight and other Expences.

VII. The Cargoes of the said Ships shall consist of Wines, Brandy, Dyers Wood, Oils, Almonds, Figs, Olives, and other Fruits and Produce of the Kingdom;

as also of Hats, fine Cloths, Serges, Camblets, Barragons, Perpets, and other Cloths and Stuffs, in which there is *Spanish* Wooll, made by Foreigners, and such other Merchandizes as they shall think most saleable at the Places they are design'd for: They shall pay no more for the Exportation of the said Commodities, than the Duties stipulated in the Ordinance of the 5th of April 1720, concerning the *Flota's*, Galleons, and Registered Ships. They may likewise put on board each Ship 250 or 300,000 Pieces of Eight in Silver, to be laid out in the Purchase of such Merchandizes of the *East-Indies*, as their Ships may bring into these Kingdoms, provided nevertheless, that the Money be registered: And in order to favour this new Commerce, they shall pay but One *per Cent.* in Specie for the Exportation of that Money.

VIII. Every Ship that goes out, shall have a Register of her Cargo, with the necessary Dispatches for the King's Ministers in the *Manilles*.

IX. The Company shall trade in all the Ports of the *Philippine Islands* which they shall judge proper, with their Ships or other smaller Vessels; in the same Manner as the Inhabitants of those Islands might do, if they were not prohibited by the *Recopilation*, or Laws of the *Indies*; but those Laws shall not take Effect with Regard to the Ships and Vessels of this new Company, to which his Majesty will grant the necessary Instruments and Permission for that Purpose. They shall pay no Duty of Custom, or other, for any Thing they shall have bought on Account of the Company, and carry'd to the *Manilles*, to load their Ships. In Case the said Ships should be oblig'd to put into the Ports of other Powers, either by Storm or any other Accident, or to get Provisions or Water, they may freely do it by Virtue of the Royal Protection which is granted them, and which will be respected by all Nations and Princes, &c.

X. Precise Orders shall be sent to the Governor and Captain General of the *Philippine Islands*, to favour and defend in all and every Thing this Navigation and Commerce, that the Undertakers may make it freely, without Hindrance, and without being liable to any Contributions; as also to furnish them, or cause them to be furnished, at a reasonable Price, with Wood, Cordage, Provisions and other Things they may stand in need of. The said Governor shall moreover be ordered to give Notice to those of the Commerce in the said Islands, that

that the Ships will arrive there every Year, that the Merchants may provide the Commodities which the Company's Factors will want, or which they shall be willing to put on board the Company's Ships to be brought to *Spain* on their Account, and at their Hazard, pursuant to the said Company's Charter.

XI. The Company's Ships shall sail from *Cadix*, in the Months of *October* and *November*. They shall put in at *Brazil* for fresh Water, as also at the Cape of *Good Hope* and *Madagascar*, and shall pass through the Streights of *Sunda*, &c. The Prohibition against navigating in the Streights of *Magellan*, to prevent the Frauds which might be committed in the *Spanish* Ports of the *South-Sea*, shall remain in its full Force.

XII. If the Ships, in their Voyage to the *Philippine Islands*, should have Occasion, or should judge it convenient to put into any Port, or to go on Shore in any Island of the Negroes in *Ethiopia*, to buy Negroes for Sale in the *Philippine Islands*, or to bring them into *Spain*, they shall be permitted to do it with all freedom.

XIII. The Merchandizes which the Company's Ships shall load at the *Philippine Islands*, to be transported to *Spain*, shall be registered by the King's Officers at *Manilles*; and on their Return they shall declare, *bona fide*, to the President of Commerce, what other Goods they have loaded in their Passage at other Ports.

XIV. The lading of the Ships homeward bound, shall consist of Copper, Raw and Thrown Silk, Bohee and Green Tea, China Ware, Damasks, Jewels, Cottons, Cloves, Nutmegs, Cinnamon, China Root, Rhubarb, Cocoa, Gums, Borax, Musk, Benjamin, and all Sorts of Drugs and medicinal Herbs, whereof there is great Consumption in *Spain*, and all over *Europe*. As for wrought Silks, it shall not be permitted for the present to import any more than a certain Quantity in each Vessel, and on Condition of their being exported out of *Spain*, after having paid the Duties which shall be laid on those Merchandizes.

XV. The Ships shall pay on their Arrival in this Kingdom 8 per Cent. *ad valorem* for the Spices, as Cinnamon, Cloves, Pepper, &c. and 5 per Cent. *ad valorem* for the other Merchandizes, according to a List which shall be given them, and the Merchandizes shall be taxed on the Foot of the Price they bear, on the Arrival of the Ships.

XVI. Among

XVI. Among these Duties shall be included those of Importation and Exportation, which are paid at the Custom-house, and belong to his Majesty's Revenues, or to the Communities of Towns, or private Persons, as also the Duty called *Alcanata*, and the Duties on the Consumption of those Sorts of Goods and Spices; which Duties, however, shall be paid by those Merchandizes which Foreigners import and sell here; and in order to prevent the Frauds, which may happen on that Account, an Invoice of the Cargo of every Ship shall be brought into the Registry of the College of Commerce, upon unloading of the said Cargoes at the Custom-house at *Cadix*, where the Goods shall be put into Ware-houses.

XVII. The Company may chuse such Warehouses as they shall think proper to contain all the Goods which shall come from the *Indies*, and may also cause them to be sold by Directors, either publicly or privately, in Whole or in Part, without paying for the first Sale any *Alcavalas* or other Duties, all those Duties being included in the 8 and 5 *per Cent.* stipulated in the 15th Article.

XVIII. This new Company shall also have Liberty to trade to the *West-Indies*, for which Purpose they may ship off on board the Flota, Galleons, and Register Ships, such Merchandizes, Spices, &c. as they shall think proper to be sold there, upon paying the King's Duties, and those of the Ports where Merchandizes shall be loaded.

XIX. The Company may export to Foreign Countries, the Goods and Merchandizes which they cannot sell in this Kingdom, nor send to *America*, without paying any Duties but those included in the 8 and 5 *per Cent.* afore mention'd, on account of the general Good which will accrue to the Royal Revenues, and the Subjects in general.

XX. Those who by purchasing at the Sales, shall become Debtors to the Company, and shall not pay the Day it becomes due, shall be sued with the utmost Rigour of the Law, without any Stay of Prosecution.

XXI. The first Director of this Company shall be authorized to nominate, in case of his Absence or Sickness, another Person to direct the Affairs in his Stead for awhile, provided he gives Notice thereof to the Parties concern'd.

XXII. The Person principally concern'd in this Company, shall be deemed the Proprietor, till he has formally

formally renounced it in Favour of another, and caused him to be register'd in the Books of the Company.

XXIII. The Directors shall not be arrested, neither shall their Goods be liable to Distress, for any Charge of Mal-Administration, or for the Salaries of those employ'd by them, till the Judge's definitive Sentence be first obtain'd; and in the Cases above mention'd, as well as in what regards the Invoyses and Deposits, the Consulate of the *Cargators*, or *Supercargoes*, shall act as Judges.

XXIV. The Directors shall be chosen from among the Merchants that trade to the *West-Indies*, and are qualified for it: They shall be obliged to live at *Cadiz*, and shall not accept of any publick Employ. If any Director happens to fail, he shall be obliged to resign the Direction, immediately after his Failure is publickly known.

XXV. The Directors shall take an Oath before the President of the College of Commerce, that they will act in this Undertaking with all the Candour and Honesty that can be required of them.

XXVI. The Directors shall form a Company, without limiting any Fund or Capital, that all such *Spaniards* as are minded to be concern'd, may be admitted: Only the *Spanish* Merchants shall have Privilege of voting in their Assemblies: They shall chuse the twelve Directors at a General Meeting, either for a Year or a longer Term; and these General Meetings shall be held as often as they shall be thought conducive to the Good of the Company.

XXVII. The Books of the Company or those of the Directors shall not be taken out of the House which is called by their Name, nor from the Book-keepers, in order to be revis'd or examin'd; but due Credit shall be given to the Certificates which the Company shall give, when required so to do.

XXVIII. During the Continuance of this Undertaking, no Person whatsoever shall be permitted to navigate to the *Philippine* Islands, or to return from thence to *Cadiz*, either by the Way that the Company designs to take, or by the Streights of *Magellan*, or by *Cape Horn*; to the End that the Inconveniencies which might result therefrom, may be prevented.

XXIX. The Prizes which the Company shall take from the Pyrates, or from the Enemies of the Crown, shall belong to them, only paying 10 per Cent. *ad valorem*.

XXIX,

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XXX. The Company shall have the Property of the Countries they shall conquer from the Infidels; as also of the Countries deserted, which they shall people, the whole according to the Laws of *Spain*, contained in the *Recopilation* (Body of Laws) of the *Indies*, &c. They shall likewise have the Power of sending Clergymen and other Persons thither, to instruct the *Indians*. On the other Side, the Company shall be obliged to maintain the Garrisons of the Forts they shall build in the Islands deserted, or elsewhere, for their Defence.

XXXI. The Company shall likewise be obliged to carry to the *Philippine Islands*, the Ammunition and Troops the King may have Occasion for there, without demanding any thing for the Freight; but there shall not be put on board any one Ship above 25 or 30 Tons, nor more than 20 or 30 Soldiers.

XXXII. The Company shall be permitted to send out every Year, at what Time they shall judge most proper, the Ships they shall have Occasion for, either to trade, or to serve as Convoy.

XXXIII. The Ships which the Company shall purchase, either in or out of the Kingdom, with all their Rigging, Provisions, &c. shall enjoy the same Franchises and Privileges, as the Ships that trade to the *West-Indies*.

XXXIV. The Company's Marines and Officers shall enjoy the same Franchises, as the Officers and Marines on board the King's Fleet; and they shall be employ'd only in the Company's Service; excepting, however, in Cases of urgent Necessity, with the Consent of the Directors.

XXXV. The Officers and Marines shall not, under any Pretence whatsoever, put on board or carry with them any Goods, Merchandizes, or Silver, to be employ'd only on their own Account, upon Pain of forfeiting the same.

XXXVI. The Company may make Ordinances for the Good of their Trade, which shall be approved by the King.

XXXVII. The Company may build as many Warehouses as they shall have Occasion for, which shall enjoy the same Franchises as the Royal Warehouses of the *Caracca's*.

XXXVIII. The Effects belonging to the Company shall not be seized under any Pretence whatsoever, that the Course of their Trade may not be interrupted.

XXXIX.

XXXIX. If, after the Return of the first Ships, the Company shall be of Opinion, that this Trade cannot be useful or advantageous, either to the Publick or to Private Persons, they shall not be obliged to continue it.

XL. The King gives his Royal Word, that during the Term of this Charter, he will observe all and every Article therein contain'd; and even defend them with his Arms in Case of Need, against any Nation which may oppose the same.

XLI. As this Commerce is to be carry'd on, not to the Indies only, the Administrators or Farmers of any of the Revenues, be they what they will, shall not concern themselves with any Affair relating thereto; and the said Administrators are hereby forbid to take any Cognizance of the Goods or Effects which the Company shall bring from the Indies; so that they shall not demand any other Duty or Impost, but what is specify'd in this Charter.

XLII. This Grant shall be register'd in the Council of *Castile*, and in those of the *Indies* and *Finances*; to the End that the necessary Orders for its Execution may be sent to the respective Offices and Places within their Jurisdiction.

A List of the Duties which are to be paid to the Royal Finances at Cadiz, as well for the Loading which the Ships of this Company shall carry to the Philippine Islands, as for the Loading which they shall bring hither from those East-India Countries, formed according to the Royal Project of the 5th of April 1720, concerning the Equipement of the Flota's, Galleons, and Register Ships for America, &c.

For all Bale Goods, which shall be shipp'd, having first been lawfully register'd, shall be paid after the Rate of 5 1 half *Reals de Plata* for each cubical Palm, or Span Square, of the Bulk of each Bale, Pack, Bag, Chest, or Cask of Merchandizes, in the same Manner as is expressed in the Royal Project.

For all other promiscuous Goods, there shall likewise be paid into the Royal Finances, the utmost Duties specified in the said Project, according to their Bulk or Weight.

For the *Peso's de Plata* coined in the *Indies*, which shall be carry'd over, One per Cent. shall be paid as the Duty of Exportation.

Duties

Duties to be paid at Cadiz for the Gold and Merchandizes which shall be brought from the Philippine Islands.

For Gold in Ingots, or wrought, the same Duties shall be paid, according to the Ordinances, as are paid in Spain, for the register'd Gold brought over by the Flota's and Galeons, pursuant to the Royal project above mention'd.

For fine Spices, after the Rate of 8 Peso's *ad valorem*, in the following Proportion, *viz.*

Cinnamon, 100 Peso's *excudos per Quintal.*

Cloves, 100 Peso's of the same Coin *per Quintal.*

Pepper, 25 Peso's *per Quintal.*

Nutmegs, 150 Peso's *per Quintal.*

Cacao, according to the List thereof, subsisting in this Kingdom.

For all other Goods herein after mention'd, 5 Peso's shall be paid *ad valorem*, in the following Proportion, *viz.*

Brass and Copper, eight Peso's *per Quintal.*

Raw Silk in Proportion, at four Peso's *excudos per l.*

Thrown Silk of all Colours, 4 1 half Peso's *per l.*

Brocades with Gold Flowers, 17 Peso's of eight Reals *de Plata*, old Coin, *per Piece.*

Damasks black and colour'd, 13 Peso's *per Piece.*

Flower'd Sattins, 15 Peso's *per Piece.*

Plain ditto, 13 Peso's *per Piece.*

Georgeanes, 13 Peso's *per Piece.*

Pecquees, eight Peso's *per Piece.*

Taffeta's double and single, 8 1 half Peso's *per Piece.*

Soofey's, four Peso's *per Piece.*

Figur'd Linnen, 5 1 half Peso's *per l.*

Plain ditto, 4 1 half Peso's *per l.*

Silk Stockings, 2 Peso's *per Pair.*

China Basons, Cups and Sawcers, 3 Peso's *per Dozen*, and the other Pieces in Proportion to their greater or lesser Value.

Bohea and Green Tea, one with another, 7 Reals *de Plata* provincial *per l.*

Coffee, three Reals *de Plata* *per l.*

Callicoes, three Reals *per Ell.*

We must here take Notice, that at the End of the 5th Article of the Treaty of Peace made at Munster in the Year 1648, between the King of Spain and the States-General;

General, there is the following remarkable Clause, viz.
 ' Moreover it is stipulated and agreed, that the *Spaniards* shall confine their Navigation in the *East-Indies*
 ' in such a Manner as it is at present possessed by them,
 ' without having it in their Power to extend the same
 ' any further; as also the Inhabitants of the *Nether-*
 ' lands shall abstain from frequenting those Places which
 ' belong to the *Castilians* in the *East-Indies*.

This is the Clause which furnished the States-General with a Right to oppose the *East-India* Company, erected by a Charter from the Emperor at *Ostend*; and may furnish them with a more undoubted Right to oppose any Company erected in *Spain* for carrying on or enlarging their Trade to the *East-Indies*. As the *Dutch* are by the said Clause possessed of a Right to prevent the *Spaniards* from extending their Trade in the *East Indies* further than it was at that Time, they certainly have a Right to oppose the erecting of any Company in *Spain* for trading to the *East-Indies*, because at the Time of that Treaty, there was no such Company in *Spain*. But it is probable, that we may have Occasion to mention this Subject again, and therefore we shall at present say no more of it

. In the *Hist. Reg.* N^o LXVIII. we gave an Account of the Descent of the *Spaniards* in *Africa*; of the taking of *Oran* and *Mazalquivir*, and of the Return of their Fleet to *Spain*, after having left strong Garrisons in those two Places, under the Command of the Marquis de *Santa Cruz*, who was made Governor. The *Spaniards* had not continued there long, before *Bigotillos*, the *Moorish* Governor, who had abandoned those Places so hastily, to recover his Honour brought an Army before them, and began to attack the Fortress or Castle of *Santa Cruz*, [vid. the above Register, at the End.] The Place being advantageously situated, and well defended, he made however no great Progress, tho' he followed it with a very vigorous Application. The Particulars of the whole Siege have not been made publick in any authentick Manner; but the following Account of what happened during some Part of it, being very exact, and what we are assured may be relied on as true, we believe it will very properly be inserted.

It was near a Month that *Bigotillos* had laid Siege to *Oran*, having erected a Battery high up upon the Mountain *Mazeta*, the Point of which lay to the Southward,

ward, a Musquet Shot off *Santa Cruz*, but separated from it by a Neck or Passage very deep and steep towards the Mountain. This Passage leads to the *Bar-ranco* of the *Madre Vieja*, a hollow Valley full of Rocks, the two Sides of which were difficult enough to mount; the South Side, possessed by the Enemy, terminated in a pretty high Hill, called *Palmarajo*, which runs from the Foot of *La Mazeta* by an easy Descent, 'till it comes opposite to the *Alcagavar* of *Oran*.

Bigotillos, whose Battery was rais'd so high as not to be expos'd to the Insults of the Artillery of *Oran*, or any of its Works, and also cover'd from *Santa Cruz*, by the Point of a Rock, had already made a Breach in the Wall of that Fortress; but the mounting of it was in a manner impracticable, because of the Steepness of the Rocks, and being likewise expos'd to a perpetual Fire from the Garrison: However, he sprung here two Mines unprofitably, having no other Effect than rendering the Wall more steep, by moving and throwing down the exterior Side of it, without penetrating the Rock in the least, on which the Work was rais'd. The Fire and the Attacks were incessant Night and Day, and *Bigotillos* made Attempts by his *Moors* altogether impracticable, hardy, and to the last Degree ridiculous.— He ordered Men to scale a Place where certain Death attended them; thus a great Number of those miserable Wretches perished by the Fires of Bombs, Grenades, Artillery and Muskets, in attempting to climb up to an inaccessible Breach; besides, many of them were destroyed by their own Mines, by the Effect of our Countermines which we work'd underneath them. So much did it run in *Bigotillos's* Head, the retaking *Oran*, after he had so shamefully abandoned it to the Christians.

This Bey bears all the Expence of the Siege, in paying 10,000 *Turks*; as to the *Moors*, whom he tyrannizes over, he obliges them to maintain themselves, and forces them every Moment upon impossible Enterprizes, in which the least Disobedience of his own Orders, or those of the meanest of the *Turks*, is punish'd with present Death, by striking off their Heads upon the Spot; but as much Slaves as these Creatures are to him, he himself is no less subject to the Will of the Son of the Bey of *Algier*, to whose Caprice he sacrifices many of the unhappy *Moors* every Day. *Bigotillos* knows that the surest and the only Way, perhaps, of taking

taking *Oran*, 'tis first to make himself Master of *Santa Cruz*, and if his Slaves are hardy enough to attempt it, it is not out of Bravery but Despair.

The Garrison of *Santa Cruz*, which hitherto despis'd the utmost Efforts of those People, began to be in want of Necessaries, their Ammunition was spent, and their Provision exhausted. The Castle contained at first but 100 Men; but these were augmented the Day the Siege began, though it was not then expected; and now they found themselves reduced to such Extremities, that without a Supply, and that speedily, they must either perish or Surrender.

The Marquis *De Santa Cruz*, was resolved to hazard all for their Relief, for indeed all depended upon it; and therefore a Detachment of 1300 Men was drawn out, commanded by the Chevalier *Wogan*. Before this Detachment began their March, the Governor made a false Attack from the Castle of *St. Philip*, upon the Turkish General's Battery, on the Right of the Enemies Trenches; this Fire from a Multitude of Cannon, Mortars, &c. made a thundering Noise, and was done with design to draw *Bigotillos's* Troops from their Post, on the Left, upon the Mountain of *Mazeta*, and out of the Grand *Barranco*, or hollow Valley, before spoken of, on the Side of which the Detachment was to form in Battalia, to cover the Convoy in their Passage to *Santa Cruz*.

On the 4th of October, a good Half Hour before Day break, the Chevalier *Wogan*, after having receiv'd his Orders from the General, the Marquis *De Santa Cruz*, marched out of the Gate *de Canastel* at the Head of his Detachment compos'd of several Companies of Grenadiers and Piquets to gover the Convoy of Provisions and Ammunition, and also a Body of Horse charged with Fascines, and all for the aforesaid Castle, which commands not only the Town, but the Forts without, and the Sea likewise.

The Colonel Commandant ordered four Companies to advance half Way up the Hill, between the Castle of *San Gregorio* and that of *Santa Cruz*, where he formed them in different Columns, their Head to the Valley, to stop those who should undertake to cut off the Convoy on the Height. He detached two other Companies to the Bottom of the Rock, at the Foot of *Santa Cruz*, towards the Head of the *Barranco*, or Valley, to the end that in case the Enemy should pass over the said Rock, they

they might be expos'd to three several Fires, that is to say, from the Body of the Detachment, from the Garrison of *Santa Cruz*, and from the said Companies drawn up in Columns. He march'd afterwards in Battalia with the Body of his Detachment, the Front of which filled up the Extent of the Plain, to the Border of the *Barranco*.

As soon as he had formed three deep on the said Border, he made a general Fire in the *Barranco*, where commonly a Number of *Turks* and *Moors* lie concealed every Night as far as the Point of *Alcaçavar*, in order to snatch some Opportunity of striking a Blow, or to get Intelligence from some straggling *Moors* of the Country. This Fire was at the first Dawn of the Morning, and as the Commandant had made a silent March, the Infidels were thrown into the utmost Consternation; they ran on all Sides like Men distracted; never Flight was more precipitate, and the Fire continuing without ceasing, those who durst not gain the Height of *Palmarajo*, hid themselves behind Bushes, Briars and Rocks, that they might steal off, and fire upon the *Spaniards* from under some Cover.

At the rising of the Sun, the Head of the Convoy was advanced as far as *Santa Cruz*; and the four Companies that the Commandant had posted between *San Gregorio* and that Fortrefs having joined the Detachment on the Top of the Rock which commands the Valley, some other Companies of the Garrison of *Santa Cruz* came out to reinforce us, and posted themselves under the Wall of this Castle, at the Spur of the half Bastion, which is of such an Elevation, that it overlooks the *Barranco*, or Valley. — The continual Fire which was made from the Angle of the said Bastion to that of the *Alcaçavar* of *Oran*, cast the Enemy into such a Pannick, that they abandon'd their Standards planted upon the steep Rock behind *Santa Cruz*, insomuch that could the Commandant but have dispensed with his Orders, so positively express'd and repeated to him by his General, who had absolutely forbid him to pass the Border of the *Barranco*, he might in that Momentary Fright, not only have seized their Standards, but perhaps thrown their Battery from the Height down the Precipices; but having no other Thing in View than to cover the March of the Convoy and the Horse, we were obliged to stop there, and run no further Hazard.

But now the Enemy seeing that we had no Intention to pass the *Baranco*, they recovered out of their Fright, and fired upon us from their lurking Places, and from the Height of *Palmerejo*, where they planted other Standards after their Fashion, by way of Defiance, expecting a powerful Reinforcement from the Trenches of the Battery against *St. Philip*, whither the main Body of their Troops had assembled upon the false Attack. The Fire continu'd without Intermission on both Sides; but that of the *Spaniards*, for the Space of an Hour, was much the hotter of the two; a greater Fire, or better follow'd, was hardly ever seen by a Body of 12 or 1300 Men; though it was the Fire of the Artillery, which play'd incessantly upon the Barbarians from all our Fortresses, which carry'd so many off, some being bury'd under great Pieces of the Rocks beat down by the Cannon, which before serv'd them for Shelter. As for the *Spaniards*, they were entirely without Cover, and in close Order, and they having the Advantage of the Height over us, must needs kill a great many Men; but had they been able Marksmen, it is believ'd not one in ten of the *Spanish* Troops could have gone alive off the Place.

During this odd Kind of Combat, the Enemy enraged to see our Convoy pass by their Noses securely to *Santa Cruz*, and being largely reinforced, ventur'd down the Hill in great Multitudes, and descended to the Bottom of the Valley by a hollow narrow Way on our Right, which occasion'd our Colonel Commandant to draw out two Companies to the Height towards the Center, where this hollow Way open'd itself on our Side, in order to hinder them from penetrating by that Road; by the Favour of this Pass, both Sides of which were almost bounded by Rocks, a great Fire was made upon them, as also from the Height below *Santa Cruz*. Their Number now, by a modest Calculation, including those who faced us upon the Height of *Palmerejo*, and all the Side of the *Barranco*, where they swarm'd like Bees, as well as in the Defile just mention'd, at least amounted to 15,000 Men; but seeing that the Opening was taken up by our Men, and after suffering some of our Cannonading off the Spot, they thought fit to quit that Post, and alter their Design; whereupon they travers'd the *Barranco*, to the Foot of the great Rock under *Santa Cruz*, and there put up their Standards. Great Numbers cover'd themselves within the Clefts of the Rocks,

with Intention to force their Passage by the Precipices, which they climbed like Goats, because there they found fewer Enemies, and a more accessible Passage to the Valley.

The Colonel Commandant perceiving they had chang'd their Measures, order'd back what remain'd of the two Companies, and sent them with another Reinforcement up the Rock, in order to make that Passage also impracticable to them, and so secure our own Retreat when the Business should be over.

The Fire was incessant on all Sides; the *Spanish* Artillery did great Execution, and the Garrison of *Santa Cruz* rolled down Bombs and Grenadoes Royal directly upon them from the Castle. The *Bay Bigotillos*, in a kind of Revenge, order'd the Cannon of his Battery to be pointed down upon the *Spaniards*; but as it was planted from too great a Height, the Balls pass'd over their Heads, and plunged into the Sea; there was one Shot only that by Chance came near enough, but without any other Effect, than the taking off the Calf of an Officer's Leg, and covering the Colonel Commandant all over with Dust.

Nevertheless, the *Spanish* Troops being entirely uncover'd, suffer'd much, and diminished in Proportion as those of the Enemy increased; the carrying off the Wounded every Moment required so many Men, that the *Spaniards* had not enough to make good their Front to the Extent of the *Barranco*; and because of this Loss, the Fire of the *Spaniards* slackned in the same Measure as that of the Enemy augmented; so that had it not been for the wise Precaution of the Chevalier Governor of *St. Philip*, the *Spaniards* could not have had Men enough to the End of the Combat to have carry'd off their Dead, and assisted the Wounded. The said Governor detach'd in good Time a good Body of Horse and Dragoons, which, with the small Body of Horse, form'd a good Line behind the *Spaniards*. But now Powder began to fail; but this Want was supply'd from Time to Time chiefly by the *Marquess de Turbilly*, Lieutenant Colonel of the Day, who perform'd all manner of Offices, that of Adjutant itself, and from a little Fort on the *Spaniards* Left, furnish'd the Soldiers with the Ammunition, distributing it on his Side, as the Colonel did on the Right.

Towards Nine in the Morning, after the Carts and other Carriages, as well as the Horse, were return'd in Safety;

Safety; the Horse formed on the Right of a little Fort towards the Sea Side, with Design to support the Infantry in their Retreat, the Colonel Commandant receiv'd a Shot, which obliged him, to his great Regret, to go out of the Battle, having first concerted with his Lieutenant-Colonel the Manner of making the Retreat. In this Case, the *Turks* and *Moors* upon the Rock at the Foot of *Santa Cruz* only were to be fear'd, because of some Dispositions they seem'd to be making there, in Opposition to it. Of the six Companies of Grenadiers, which had been ill enough treated, three of them were to return to the Garrison of *Santa Cruz*, and the other three to join the Gruffs of our Detachment for *Oran*. The Horse, by some unhappy Mistake in the general Orders, were already filed off in the great hollow Way towards *Oran*, and left the Infantry destitute of all Support, of which, two Thirds of the Officers, and half the Soldiers had been kill'd. This false Step was visible to the *Turks* as well as *Christians*, which animated the one, and quite disconcerted the other.

Orders were forthwith given for the Retreat, a Quarter of an Hour after the Colonel retired. These six Companies seeing themselves abandoned, and almost without Officers, lost Ground, and fell into Disorder; upon which a Body of 300 *Turks* and *Moors* fell in upon them with Sabre in Hand. The three Companies who were making their Way to *Santa Cruz*, though with a little too much Precipitation, found themselves supported by the Garrison of that Place, who fired warmly upon the Enemy as they advanced, whereby many of them approaching the Castle, met their Fate near the very Wall. In Revenge of this, they struck off three or four of the Heads of the wounded *Spaniards* that dropped in their Way, and carried them after the broken Remains of three other Companies, who marching too confusedly towards *San Gregorio* to get Shelter under the little Fort upon the Sea-side, whither the *Marquis de Turbilly* had brought the rest of the Detachment, found their Way cut off by the *Turks*: Surprise so seized them thereupon, that instead of putting themselves in Battalia, with their Bayonets at the End of their Musquets, they ran directly towards the Sea, and the *Turks* pursued them with such Fury, that a Captain (the only Officer that remained alive of all the three Captains) casting himself as a lost Man, with six of his Grenadiers, off a frightful Precipice;

eight or ten of the *Turks*, out of a blind Rage to overtake them, followed after in the same Manner, and perished with them.

The Marquis of *Santa Cruz*, observed all that pass'd from the Height of *Alcagavar* with great Dissatisfaction, and made Signs with his Hat for some Horse to fall upon those insolent *Barbarians*; but they being in a Bottom, behind the Wall of the Town, the Officers either did not comprehend, or did not perceive those dumb Orders, and therefore rested where they were, without moving towards them: But one Capt. *Willz*, of the Regiment of *Belgia* Dragoons, seeing the Enemy scour the Plain with Impunity, putting on a Soldierly Air, advanced with 30 of his Men, and fought stoutly till he lost half his Troop, having destroyed double the Number of the Enemy, three of which he killed with his own Hand, and afterwards came off in good Order with the rest of his Men.

After this little Exploit, the *Turks*, seeing the Ramparts of the Town, and the little Fort well lined with Fusileers, and the Horse posted in the Way between them leading to *Oran*, thought fit to retire after their own disorderly Manner, the *Spanish* Horse in the Bottom making no Motion to follow them. They gained the Rock, by which they mounted, but in descending the Side towards *Santa Cruz*, they could not help exposing themselves to the Fire of the whole Musketry of that Castle. They began immediately that sorrowful Occupation of carrying off and burying their dead, which took them up 24 Hours, all the *Palmarejo*, the Head of *Barranco*, and all under the Rock of *Santa Cruz*, being strewed with the Carcasses of the Enemy.

By the Judgment of those who were Eye-witnesses of the whole Action, *Bigotillo* could not lose less than 2000 Men, among whom (as was told by three *Turkish* Deserters) were 19 Agas of Janissaries, and one of *Bigotillo's* Sons, but whether this last was killed or wounded, they could not say positively, though the Difference is not much, for as they have not any Hospital or Surgeon, if the Wounded be not presently cured by Fire, or Application of certain Herbs, they have always the Charity to put the Patient out of Pain, by what we call the *Coup de Grace*.

This Day would have been more glorious in all Respects, could they have guarded against that little unlucky Accident that fell out to the three Companies in their

their Retreat. Nevertheless they gained the Fruits of a compleat Victory. — *Santa Cruz* was abundantly supplied with all Necessaries; their Communication with the Sea secur'd, and a considerable Blow given the Enemy. And though the Number of their Dead and Wounded amounted to 544 Men, they notwithstanding comforted themselves, in Regard that it proved an Enterprize which put their Troops in Security, preserv'd their Conquests, and did Honour to his Majesty's Arms.

Throughout the Course of this Action, we must do Justice to the Bravery and Constancy of the *Spanish* Troops, the Soldier and the Officer animated by the same Impulse, stood firm for several Hours, expos'd to a continual Fire, without the least Shelter, whilst the Enemy shifted and straggled about under Rocks and Covers to avoid the Fire of the *Spaniards*, who would much rather have charged a Battery of Cannon in hopes of making themselves Masters of it, than stand immoveable a whole Morning to wait and endure the Vigour of a powerful Enemy; yet did not one of their Men recoil a Step during so long an Action, except to carry off dead or wounded Men out of the Shot of the Enemy; after which, he instantly return'd and join'd his Company, where he could not expect much better Treatment than what his unfortunate Comrade had just receiv'd.

This Constancy and Resolution of the Christians and the Loss the Barbarians suffer'd, cast them into such a Consternation, that notwithstanding the Line call'd up behind their Camp, to hinder their Desertion, the *Moorish* Horse entirely abandon'd them, and the *Mosarabes* and *Moorish* Infantry stole away every Day from *Bigotillo*, who never fail'd to reward them suitable to his Tyranny and Cowardice.

Among the Dead and Wounded we reckon 17 Captains, 11 Lieutenants, 16 Sub-Lieutenants, and the Colonel was one of the latter. It seems this was the same Person that projected and executed the Escape of the Princess *Sobieski*, on the 28th of April 1719, from her Arrest at *Innsbruck*.

On the 16th, two Christian Slaves escaped into the Town from the *Moorish* Camp; they were conducted directly to the Governor, to whom they gave an Account of the State of the Infidels, viz. that the Camp was compos'd but of about 6000 Men, including in that
Number

Number 1000 Blacks and 700 Horse, which the *Moors* drew in by Force to the Siege of the Place; that they had only two Pieces of Cannon, but 24 more were expected, with a great Body of chosen Troops, and Provision in abundance; that as soon as this Reinforcement should arrive, the *Moors* made Account to lock up the Place, and attack it vigorously under the Command of *Ali Basha*, and by the Direction of the *Runagate Ripenda*, who keeps himself yet at *Tetudn*, where he lies afflicted with the Gout, and given over to all the fatal Errors, into which his detestable Ambition has thrown him.

As this Relation was conformable to the Advices received by different Ways, there was little to be doubted of the Truth of it; the Governor therefore judg'd it proper to assemble a Council of War, compos'd of all the principal Officers and other Chiefs, of the Troops of the Garrison. The Governor order'd all the Accounts to be read to them, and propos'd the Design which he had already form'd of making a Salley upon them, before all their Forces had join'd them. This Proposition was generally approv'd, Don *Joseph Vicaria*, Major General, who happened to be then at *Ceuta*, to make a Review of the Garrison, as Inspector, was also of the same Opinion. In short, it was resolv'd in this Council, that the next Morning at break of Day, a vigorous Salley should be made upon the Besiegers.

The Attack was to be in five different Places of the Camp, regulated after this Manner; four of them to be assailed, each with three Companies of Grenadiers and six Piquets, supported by three Battalions, which made twelve in all. The fifth Place to be on the Side towards the Sea, by 70 Horse and 100 Grenadiers, under the Direction of the Brigadier *Marques de Valdecagnas*. The other Detachments were commanded by so many Colonels, viz. Colonel *Mahoni*, Son to the famous Lieutenant-General of that Name, an Irish Gentleman, Don *Joseph Masones*, Don *Jean Pingarron*, and Don *Basile de Gante*, and all of them under the Command of Brigadier Don *Joseph Aramburo*, Captain of the Spanish Guards, an excellent Officer, the King's Lieutenant in the Town.

Orders were given for all those appointed for this Expedition, which together made a Body of 5000 Men (without counting 500 Pioneers) to be ready on the Esplanade by Four in the Morning, and after forming,

each Detachment to post themselves on the Side of the Salley Port, at which they were to go out. Each Soldier was to be furnish'd with 25 Charges, and 12 Mules were to follow them, loaded with Ammunition; that Hand-Barrows should be distributed to a certain Number of Men, to bring off the Wounded; that the Surgeons and Chaplains should be in the Train of the Detachments, to assist them; that an exact Silence, and an entire Subordination should be observed throughout; that all the Prisoners, and those banish'd from Spain to this Fortress should march after the Troops with Pioneers Utensils and Tools, and mostly with Shovels and Pickaxes, to destroy the Enemies Works; that the rest of the Garrison should be posted upon the Wall, and about the Parapets of the Place of Arms, and that all the Artillery should be in good Order; that after having beat off the Moors, the Troops of the Attack should range themselves in two Lines, the first joining the Grenadiers and Piquets, to have their Right towards the Bridge de Revero, and the Left towards the Height of la vigne, and the second to post themselves before the Trenches, with the Pioneers behind them, to fill up the Retrenchments.

These Orders were observed so exactly, as if every Soldier had been an Officer. The March being begun in the above Manner, the Moors found themselves exposed to the Slaughter before they were prepared, they fell on every Side, yet seeking at last a Resource in Despair, seeing themselves thus surprized, resolved to defend their Intrenchments. They fought with the utmost Fury, and great Havock was made among them before they abandon'd their Posts.

The greater the Resistance, the more eager were the Spaniards to obtain a Speedy Victory; animated with this noble Ardour, they overthrew, trampled under, and cut in Pieces, all who could not, or would not fly; so advantageous an Onset made the Spanish Chiefs reflect, that they ought not to give a Check to the Courage of the Troops, so as to contain them within Bounds of their first Orders; in short, they suffer'd them to pursue the frightened flying Moors to the Seraglio, half a League distance, where the General lay with a Body of Horse and Foot, which made some Stand, but not long enough for the Bashaw to put on his Breeches; in short, he rose in his Shirt, was confounded among his Infantry, which being put into Disorder, intirely dispersed,

perfed, fome taking the Road to *Tetuan*, and fome to *Tangier*, not without a great Part of them falling a Sacrifice to the *Spaniards*, without any Defence at all.

The Cavalry composed of chosen Men, difputed the Victory with Obftinacy enough, and held out long, with a Firmnefs that did but augment their Ruin. They faw themfelves expofed to the Fire of their Enemy, and yielded to their own Deftitution with a Stubbornnefs that differ'd little from Rage.

By this Time fome of the Troops firft routed, rallied upon the Hills, thefe return'd to the Charge two feveral Times; they defcended to the Foot of the *Seraglio*, but were repulſed as before, tho' by the Favour of the Mountains they kept skirmiſhing for feveral Hours, whilft the Pioneers fill'd up the Intrenchments, and demolish'd the Works.

The two Cannon which the Chriſtian Slaves ſpoke of were 36 Pounders, which they nail'd up, and threw into a deep Ditch, together with a Mortar-piece, it not being poſſible to conduct them to the Place for Want of Mules and neceſſary Tackling. The Alcaide *Alli Sucas*, a Renegade, was mortally wounded, and his Houſe pillaged and burnt by the Soldiers. The Camp was alſo abandon'd to their Diſcretion. The Powder of the Infidels was ſet on Fire, with a great Quantity of Croſsbows, beſides ſeveral Sorts of Inſtruments, with which they broke Ground, and work'd in their Camp. In fine, they took away their Provifion, razed their Works, burnt their Barracks, and fill'd up their Wells of freſh Water. Thus having executed every Thing with admirable Diſpatch, a Retreat was beat.

The Soldiers brought along with them four Colours, one of which belonged to the Baſha, call'd the Royal Enſign, having therein Arabian Characters embroider'd in Gold; the three others were of Damask, and all different Colours. They brought alſo to *Ceuta* many Slaves a great deal of rich Spoils, Arms with Silver Garniture, Horſes, magnificent Equipages, Tapeſtry Turbans, fine Belts, and ſome ſilver Money. The baniſh'd People, and thoſe imprifon'd in the Fortreſs of *Ceuta*, brought in a prodigious Quantity of Cattle and Provifions left in the open Country, amongſt the dead Carcaſſes of the Infidels.

The Retreat was made without the leaſt Confuſion; the Troops preſerving their Ranks, and always keeping up a ſkirmiſhing Fire upon the Enemies as they march'd.

a small Number of them following at a Distance, to no other Purpose but to be Witnesses of the good Order and Regulation with which this Detachment re-enter'd the Town; perhaps, overjoy'd enough, they did not push their Victory as far as *Tetuan*, which they had but too good a Reason at first to fear.

The *Spaniards* lost in this Expedition but one Subaltern Officer, three Serjeants, and 14 Soldiers, besides which, there were wounded seven Captains, six Subaltern Officers, eight Serjeants, and 150 Soldiers, many of whom were hurt by the blowing up of a Magazine of Powder at the Time they were plundering. Whilst the Garrison was making this Salley, some Ships seconded the Attack from the Sea, whose Fire contributed to put the *Moors* in that Consternation.

The Count *D'Aranda* was in this Action as a Volunteer, and distinguish'd himself by his Valour in a Manner that gave Occasion to the Governor to speak of him with great Elogiums. He did the same Justice to all the Officers, both Generals and Subalterns, but particularly Count *Mahoni*, who reaped no little Glory by that Day's Action; in short, the Troops in general behaved with such Bravery, that it would be some sort of Partiality, to give the Preference or Praise to any in particular.

The Count *de Welden*, a Danish Colonel, who came out of meer Curiosity to see the Fortress of *Geuta*, found Occasion to signalize his Courage. This Officer on his Part, gave all the Praise to the *Spaniards* that they merited in this Rencontre.

The *Moors* renewing the Siege of *Oran*, the Marquess *de Santa Cruz* made a second Sally, Nov. 21. in which the *Spaniards* were so successful, that they utterly routed the *Moors*, levelled all their Works, possessed themselves of their Camp, and set it on Fire, having first convey'd every Thing of Value into the Town. But the Victory was attended by a Misfortune that happen'd to the Marquess *de Santa Cruz*; who being engaged too far, was wounded, and made Prisoner, and we have since had no positive Account what is become of him. Shortly after, the *Moors* made a third Attempt, but were defeated again, and driven away with considerable Loss.

G R E A T B R I T A I N .

AS the general Way of Thinking now reigning among the Publick, lies very much towards our Commerce, we believe the two following Representations laid before the Parliament last Sessions, will be acceptable to our Readers, as they come from the Board of Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, who may be supposed to be the best informed of every Thing relating to that important Subject; and as they have been the Foundation of two Laws made this Session; the first of which relates to our Plantations, the second to our Woollen Trade.

The first REPRESENTATION.

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled.

HIS Majesty having been pleased, upon the Address of this Honourable House, (by his Order, bearing Date the 9th Day of June last) to direct the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, to prepare a Representation to be laid before the House this Session of Parliament, of the State of his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in *America*, with respect to any Laws made, Manufactures set up, and Trade carry'd on there, which may affect the Trade, Navigation, and Manufactures of this Kingdom.

We did forthwith send Circular Letters to all the Governors of the *British Colonies in America*, directing them to transmit an exact and particular Account of the Matters mention'd in the said Order, that we might be the better enabled to make a punctual and authentick Return upon proper Vouchers to the House.

But by the Address upon this Subject, (which was moved very late the last Session of Parliament) having been again repeated the 15th of last Month, we thought it our Duty to inform the House of the true State of this Matter, and to take their Sense in what Manner the Board should conduct themselves upon this Occasion, viz. Whether the House would accept of such Report as we are able to make from the Books and Papers in our Office,

fice, or wait the Returns from the Governors of the *British Colonies in America*.

And it seeming to be the Sense of this House, that the Board should make such a Report as they were then able to draw up from the Books and Papers in their Office; we have accordingly done so, having since that Time received Returns from *Maryland, New York, New England, South Carolina, Rhode Island, and Jamaica*, whereupon we humbly represent:

That it being required to lay before this House a State of his Majesty's Colonies in *America*, with Respect to any Laws made, Manufactures set up, or Trade carried on there, detrimental to the Trade, Navigation, or Manufactures of *Great Britain*; we shall begin with what regards the Laws, and premise some Particulars relating to the Constitution of the several Colonies, and to the Powers vested in them for passing of Laws.

Many of the *British Colonies in America* are immediately under the Government of the Crown, namely, *Nova Scotia, New Hampshire, the Jerseys, New York, Virginia, the two Carolina's, Bermuda, Bahama Islands, Jamaica, Barbadoes, and the Leeward Islands*; others are vested in Proprietors, as *Pennsylvania, Maryland*, and not long since the *Bahama's*, and the two *Carolina's* also: There are likewise three Charter Governments; the chief of these is the *Masachusetts Bay*, commonly called *New England*; the Constitution whereof is of a mixed Nature; where the Power seems to be divided between the King and People, but in which the People have much the greater Share; for here the People do not only chuse the Assembly, but the Assembly chuse the Council also, and the Governor depends upon the Assembly for his annual Support, which has so frequently laid the Governor of this Province under Temptations of giving up the Prerogative of the Crown, and the Interest of *Great Britain*.

The remaining Provinces, *Connecticut, and Rhode Island*, are Charter Governments also, or rather Corporations, where almost the whole Power of the Crown is delegated to the People; for they chuse their Assembly, their Council and their Governor likewise annually, and hold little or no Correspondence with our Office.

All these Colonies however, by their several Constitutions, have Power of making Laws for their better Government and Support, provided they be not repugnant

nant to the Laws of Great Britain, nor detrimental to their Mother Country.

In the *Massachusetts Bay* also, if their Laws are not repealed within three Years after they have been presented to his Majesty, they are not repealable by the Crown after that Time.

The Provinces of *Maryland*, *Connecticut*, and *Rhode Island* not being under any Obligation by their respective Constitutions to return authentick Copies of their Laws to the Crown for Approbation or Disallowance, or to give any Account of their Proceedings, we are very little informed what is doing in any of these Governments.

All the Governors of Colonies (which are under Appointment) ought within a reasonable Time to transmit home authentick Copies of the several Acts by them passed, to go through a proper Examination, but are sometimes negligent in their Duty in this particular, and pass Temporary Laws of short Continuance, that they have their full Effect before this Board can acquire due Notice of them: Some Attempts have been made to prevent this pernicious Practice, and many Laws have from Time to Time been repealed on that Account.

And from the constant Discharge of our Duty herein, it has so happened, that upon the most diligent Enquiry into all the Acts passed in the several *British Colonies* since the Accession of his late Majesty to the Throne, there are none that have yet come to our Knowledge, still remaining unrepealed or unexpired, which are liable to Objection, excepting those only in the following List, and even against them no Complaint has been made to this Board until very lately, viz.

In Massachusetts Bay.

An Act passed in the Year 1728, entitled, *An Act for the Encouragement of making Paper.*

This Manufacture has hitherto made but a very small Progress, and can hardly be said, in a strict Sense, to interfere with our own Paper, because almost all the Paper sent to *New England* from hence is foreign Manufacture; but it certainly interferes with the Profit made by the *British Merchant* upon foreign Paper sent to this Province; however no Complaints have ever been made to us against this Law.

By the Return to our Circular Letter from the Governor of *New Hampshire*, we are informed, that an Act passed

passed many Years since in that Province for encouraging of Iron Works, by which the Exportation of Iron Oar is prohibited, but upon the most diligent Enquiry no such Act is to be found in our Office; and we believe none such was ever transmitted to this Board; however, not knowing whether this Act might not have passed since the late King's Accession, we have inserted in this List.

In New York.

A Law passed in the Year 1728, entitled, *An Act to repeal some Parts, and to continue and enforce other Parts of the Act therein mentioned, and for granting several Duties to his Majesty for supporting his Government in the Colony of New York, from the first of September, which will be in the Year 1733; wherein (among other Duties) one was laid of five Ounces of Plate, or forty Shillings in Bills of Credit on every Negro imported from Africa, and a Duty of four Pounds on every Negro imported from any other Place.*

The Plantations in all Times past have laid Duties upon the Importation of Negroes; and as the Merchants have naturally increased their Price in Proportion to those Duties, so it is but lately that Complaints have been made against these Duties (unless they went to Excess;) but the Board are of Opinion, that it would be more for the Convenience of the Trade, that these Duties should for the future be paid by the Purchaser, than by the Importer; and his Majesty has (upon our Representation) been pleased to send an Instruction to that Effect to all the Governors in America.

By the Charter of *Pensilvania* it has already been observed, that the Proprietor is obliged to offer the Laws of the Province to the Crown for Approbation or Disallowance within five Years after they are passed; and if his Majesty does not think fit to repeal them in six Months from the Time they are so offered, it is not in the Power of the Crown to repeal them afterwards; but since the Year 1715, this Article of the Charter has been evaded, and the Laws of this Province have not been transmitted to this Board (except occasionally an Act or two) so that we are not enabled to lay a State of the Laws of this Province before the House.

That upon a late Petition to his Majesty from the Merchants of *London*, in Behalf of themselves and others, complaining that as the Law now stands in some of the Colonies, his Subjects residing in *Great Britain* are left without

without any Remedy for the Recovery of their just Debts, or have such only as is very partial and precarious, as also that in several of the said Colonies and Plantations greater and higher Duties and Impositions are laid on the Ships and Goods belonging to his Subjects in *Great Britain*, than on the Goods and Ships of Persons inhabiting the said Colonies and Plantations.

The said Merchants being desired to acquaint the Board, whether they knew of any particular Laws in the Colonies against which they had Reason to object; they did deliver to us a List of Laws, wherein the said Colonies appear to have been very partial in their own Favour; in some of them exempting their Persons from Arrests, in others, giving a Preference to the Inhabitants before the *British* Merchants in the Recovery of Debts; and enacting Duties, where a less Burthen is laid upon their own Effects, than upon those of the *British* Merchant.

We beg Leave to acquaint this House, that pursuant to an Order of the Committee of Council, this Board did on the Fifth of *December*, 1728, make a very particular Enquiry into the State of the Plantations at that Time with respect to Silk, Linnen and Woollen Manufactures established there, and having then discoursed with many Persons who had either been Governors of some of the Colonies, or were by other Means well acquainted with their Circumstances, it appeared to this Board, and we did accordingly represent,

That in the Colonies of *New-England*, *New-York*, *Connecticut*, *Rhode-Island*, *Pennsylvania*, and in the County of *Somerset* in *Maryland*, the People had fallen into the Manufacture of Woollen and Linnen Cloth for the Use of their own Families, but we could not learn they had ever manufactured any for Sale in those Colonies, except in a small *Indigo* Town in *Pennsylvania*, where some *Palatines* had then lately settled.

The Reasons why these People had begun this Manufacture were,

1st, That the Product of these Colonies being chiefly Stock and Grain, the Estates of the Inhabitants depended wholly upon Farming, and as this could not be carried on without a certain Quantity of Sheep, their Wool would be entirely lost, were not their Servants employed at leisure Times of the Year, but chiefly during
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the Winter, in manufacturing it for the Use of their Families.

2dly, That Flax and Hemp being likewise easily raised, the Inhabitants manufactured them into a coarse Sort of Cloth Bags, Traces and Halters for their Horses, which they found did more Service than those they had from any Part of *Europe*.

3dly, That these Settlements, which were distant from Water Carriage, and remotely situated in the Woods, had no Opportunities of a Market for Grain, and therefore as they did not raise more Corn than was sufficient for their own Use, they had the more Time to manufacture both Wool and Flax for the Service of their Families, and seemed to be under a greater Necessity of doing it.

Upon a further Enquiry into this Matter, we do not find, that those People had the same Temptation to go on with those Manufactures during the Time that the Bounty upon Naval Stores subsisted, having then Encouragement to employ their leisure Hours in another Way, and more profitably both to themselves and this Kingdom; for the height of Wages, and great Price of Labour in general in *America*, made it impracticable for the People there to manufacture their Linnen Cloth at less than 20 per Cent. more than the Rate in *England*, or Woollen Cloth at less than 50 per Cent. dearer than that which is exported from hence for Sale: We conceive it was to be wished that some Expedient might be fallen upon to divert their Thoughts from Undertakings of this Nature; so much the rather, because those Manufactures, in process of Time, might be carried on in a greater Degree, unless an early Stop were put to their Progress; and the most natural Inducement that we could think of to engage the People in *America* to desist from these Pursuits, was to employ them in Naval Stores: Wherefore we take Leave to renew our repeated Proposals, that a reasonable Encouragement should be given for the making, raising, and manufacturing of Naval Stores of all Kinds in the Plantations, from whence we might be furnished in return for our own Manufactures.

But several Alterations have happened since that Time; and by such Lights as we have been able to acquire, we find the Trades carried, and Manufactures set up there, detrimental to the Trade, Navigation, and Manufacture of Great Britain.

The State of the Plantations varying almost every Year more or less in their Trade and Manufactures, as well as in other Particulars; we thought it necessary for his Majesty's Service, and for the Discharge of our Trust from Time to Time, to send certain general Queries to the several Governors in *America*, that we might be the more exactly informed of the Condition of the said Plantations, amongst which there were several that related to their Trade and Manufactures, to which we received the following Returns.

New Hampshire.

Colonel *Shute*, Governor of *New Hampshire*, in his Answer to the same Queries in 1719, said, That there were no settled Manufactures in that Province, and that their Trade principally consisted in Lumber and Fish.

Massachusetts-Bay in New England.

Colonel *Shute* at the same Time, Governor of the *Massachusetts Bay*, informed us, that in some Parts of this Province, the Inhabitants worked up their Wool and Flax, and made an ordinary course Cloth for their own Use, but did not export any. That the greatest Part, both of the Woollen and Linnen Cloathing that was then worn in this Province, was imported from *Great Britain*, and sometimes Linnen from *Ireland*: But considering the excessive Price of Labour in *New England*, the Merchants could afford what was imported cheaper than what was made in that Country.

That there were also a few Hatters set up in the Maritime Towns, and that the greatest Part of the Leather used in that Country, was manufactured amongst themselves.

That there had been for many Years some Iron Works in that Province, which had afforded the People Iron for some of their necessary Occasions; but that the Iron imported from *Great Britain* was esteemed much the best, and wholly used by the Shipping.

That the Iron Works of that Province were not able to supply the 20th Part of what was necessary for the Use of the Country.

New York.

General *Hunter*, formerly Governor of *New York*, in his Answer to the Queries in the Year 1720, informed us, That they had no Manufactures in that Province that deserved mentioning, and that the Trade

consisted chiefly in Furs, Whalebone, Oil, Pitch, Tar, and Provisions.

New Jersey.

General Hunter, formerly Governor of this Province, also informs us in his Answer to the same Queries in the Year 1720, That there were in that Province no Manufactures that deserve mentioning, and that their Trade was chiefly in Provisions exported to New York and Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania.

Colonel Hart, formerly Governor of Maryland, who lived many Years in the Neighbourhood of this Government, in Answer to the like Queries in 1720, relating to this Province, said, That their chief Trade lay in the Exportation of Provisions and Lumber, and that they had no Manufactures established, their Cloathing and Utensils for their Houses being all imported from Great Britain.

New Hampshire.

Mr. Belcher, Governor of New Hampshire, in his Letter dated the fourth of December last, informs us That the Woollen Manufacture of that Province was much less than formerly, the Common Lands on which the Sheep used to feed, being now divided into particular Properties, and the People almost wholly clothed with Woollen from Great Britain; that the manufacturing of Flax into Linnen (some courser, some finer) daily increas'd by the great Resort of People from Ireland into this Province, who are well skilled in that Business.

And the chief Trade of this Province continued as for many Years past in the Exportation of Naval Stores, Lumber and Fish.

Massachusetts Bay in New England.

Mr. Belcher, the present Governor of this Province, in Answer to the same Queries which we sent him in June last, informs us,

That there is a Resolve of the Assembly of that Province subsisting, for allowing a Bounty of 20 s. to all Persons, and 10 s. more to John Powell the first Undertaker, for every Piece of Duck or Canvas by them made; but he does not give us any Account of the Quantity that has been made.

He further says, that there are some other Manufactures carry'd on there; as the making of brown *Hollands* for Women's Wear, which lessens the Importation of Callicoes, and some other Sorts of *India* Goods in that Province.

That there are likewise some small Quantities of Cloth made of Linnen and Cotton for ordinary Shirting and Sheeting.

That about three Years ago, a Paper-Mill was set up, which makes to the Value of about 200*l.* Sterling per Annum.

That there are several Forges for making Bar Iron, and some Furnaces for Cast Iron, (or Hollow Ware) and one Slitting Mill, the Undertaker whereof carries on the Manufacture of Nails.

As to the Woollen Manufacture, Mr. *Belcher* says, the Country People, who used formerly to make most of their Cloathing out of their own Wooll, do not now make a third Part of what they wear, but are mostly clothed with *British* Manufactures.

We are likewise inform'd by some Letters of older Date, from Mr. *Belcher*, in Answer to our Annual Queries, That there are some few Copper Mines in this Province, but so far distant from Water-Carriage, and the Ore so poor, that it is not worth the digging.

Col. *Dunbar*, Surveyor-General of his Majesty's Woods, in his Letter of September 15, 1730, takes Notice, that the People of *New-England* have an Advantage over those of *Great Britain*, in the Drawback for all *India* and other Goods exported, which pay a Duty in *Great Britain*, and no Duty is paid upon importing them into the Plantations. He has likewise sent this Board several Samples of Edge Tools made in *New England*, and in his Letter to our Secretary of the 4th of June, 1731, he says, they have 4*or* Furnaces, and 19 Forges, for making Iron in *New England*.

He also informs us in his Letter of the 19th of August 1730, That in this Province many Ships are built for the *French* and *Spaniards*, in Return for Rum, Molasses, Wines, and Silks, which they truck there by Conivance.

These Informations have been in great Measure confirmed by Mr. *Jeremiah Dunbar*, Deputy-Surveyor of the Woods; and also by Mr. *Thomas Coram*, a Person of Reputation, who resided many Years in *New-England*. To which they have added, that great Quantities of
Hats

Hats are made in *New-England*, of which the Company of Hatters of *London* have likewise lately complained to us: And Mr. *Jeremiah Dunbar* further says, that great Quantities of Hats made in that Province, are exported to *Spain*, *Portugal*, and our *West-India* Islands, and that they make all Sorts of Iron Work for Shipping; and that there are several Still-Houses and Sugar-Bakers established in *New England*.

New York.

Mr. *Rip van Dam*, President of the Council of this Province, in his Letter of the 29th of *October* last, informs us, that there are no Manufactures establish'd there, that can affect the Manufactures of *Great Britain*.

And as to the Trade and Navigation of the Province, he acquaints us, there is yearly imported into *New York* a very large Quantity of the Woollen Manufacture of this Kingdom for their Cloathing; which they should be render'd incapable to pay for, and reduced to the Necessity of making for themselves, if they were prohibited from receiving from the foreign Sugar Colonies the Money, Rum, Sugar, Molasses, Cacao, Indico, Cotton, Wooll, &c. which they at present take in Return for Provisions, Horses, and Lumber, the Produce of that Province and *New Jersey*, of which he affirms the *British* Sugar Colonies do not take off above one Half.

But the Company of Hatters of *London* have since informed us, that Hats are manufactur'd in great Quantities in this Province.

New Jersey.

Mr. *Morris*, who is at present Commander in Chief of this Province also, has made no particular Return for the same.

Pennsylvania.

Major *Gordon*, Deputy-Governor of *Pennsylvania*, in his Answer received the 24th of the last Month, informs us, That he does not know of any Trade carry'd on in that Province that can be injurious to this Kingdom, and that they do not export any Woollen or Linen Manufactures, all they make (which are of a coarser Sort) being for the Use of themselves and Families.

We are further inform'd, that in this Province are built many Brigantines and small Sloops, which they sell to the *West Indies*.

Rhode Island.

The Governor of *Rhode Island*, in his Answer to Queries dated the 9th of *November* last, informs us, That there are Iron Mines there, but not a 4th Part Iron enough to serve their own Use; but he takes no Notice of any Sort of Manufacture set up there.

Connecticut.

We have no Return from the Governor of this Province; but we find by some Accounts, that the Produce of this Colony is Timber, Board, all Sorts of *English* Grain, Hemp, Flax, Sheep, Cattle, Swine, Horses, Goats, and Tobacco, of which they export Horses and Lumber to the *West Indies*, and receive in Return, Sugar, Salt, Molasses, and Rum. We likewise find, that their Manufactures are very inconsiderable; the People there being generally employ'd in Tillage, some few in Tanning, Shoe-making, and other Handicrafts; others in Building, Joyners, Taylors, and Smiths Work, without which they could not subsist.

The Sugar Colonies, viz. Jamaica, Leeward Islands, and Barbadoes.

By the last Returns which we have had from those Islands to our circular Queries, we do not find that they have any other Manufactures establish'd, besides those of Sugar, Molasses, Rum, and Indigo of their own Produce; these, with Cotton, Aloes, Piemento, and some other Productions of less Note, are their whole Dependence, which are Commodities no ways interfering with the Manufactures of this Kingdom.

In the Year 1724, Mr. *Worsley*, then Governor of *Barbadoes*, inform'd us, that of Cotton they made Hammocks, a few Stockings and Nets for Horses.

From the foregoing State it is observable, that there are more Trades carry'd on, and Manufactures set up in the Provinces on the Continent of *America* to the Northward of *Virginia*, prejudicial to the Trade and Manufactures of *Great Britain*, particularly in *New England*, than in any other of the *British* Colonies, which is not to be wonder'd at; for their Soil, Climate, and Produce being pretty near the same with ours, they have no Staple Commodities of their own Growth to exchange for our Manufactures, which puts them under greater Necessity, as well as under greater Temptation of providing

viding for themselves at home. To which may be added in the Charter Government, the little Dependence they have upon their Mother Country, and consequently the small Restraints they are under in many Matters detrimental to her Interest.

And therefore we would humbly beg Leave to report, and submit to the Wisdom of this Honourable House, the Substance of what we formerly proposed in our Report on the Silk, Linnen, and Woollen Manufactures herein before recited; namely, Whether it might not be expedient to give these Colonies proper Encouragements for turning their Industry to such Manufactures and Products, as might be of Service to Great Britain, and more particularly to the Production of all Kinds of Naval Stores.

All which is humbly submitted.

Whitehall,
Feb. 15, 1731-2.

P. Dockminique,
T. Pelham,
Edward Aske,
Orlando Bridgman,
James Brudenel,
Arthur Croft,
Martin Bladen.

THE SECOND REPRESENTATION.

*To the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal
in Parliament assembled.*

May it please your Lordships,

HIS Majesty having been pleased, in Consequence of your Lordships Address of the 6th Day of May last, to direct the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, to receive all such Proposals as should be laid before them, for preventing the pernicious Practice of running of Wooll from England and Ireland, and to consider of and to propose proper Methods for preventing the same for the future, to be laid before your Lordships in this Session of Parliament; we did thereupon give publick Notice in the Gazette of the 12th of June last, that we were ready to receive any Proposals; which should be made to us on this Head, from all Persons whatsoever.

Since

Since the Publication of this Advertisement, which was often repeated in the *Gazette*, and other publick Papers, we have been attended by several Persons, and many Schemes have been transmitted to us from different Parts of this Kingdom, and from *Ireland*; containing various Proposals upon this Subject, some of which are come but very lately to our Hands; and it has been with great Satisfaction that we have observed the Zeal with which so many Persons have applied themselves to consider of proper Methods for putting a Stop to a Practice so very pernicious to the Trading Interest of their Country.

Those who seem to have most maturely considered this Matter, concur in Opinion, that nothing can put so effectual a Stop to this Evil, as the finding out some certain Method of knowing the whole Quantity of Wool that may be in the Kingdom, whether in Warehouses, or on the Sheeps Back, and tracing it through the Hands of the Wool-Stapler, and all the Traders who deal in this Commodity, till it shall be finally wrought up by the Manufacturer.

In order to this, it has been proposed, that Warehouses should be erected at the publick Expence in such Counties of *England* and *Ireland*, where considerable Numbers of Sheep may be fed, or where the Woollen Manufacture may be carried on in any great Extent, into which the Wool of the two Kingdoms should be brought within a certain Number of Days after it is shorn, in order to be afterwards transported under proper Regulations from *Ireland* to *England*, and from one County of *England* to another, in Proportion to the Demand that there may be for it among the Manufacturers.

Others have proposed, That general Registers should be established in *England* and *Ireland*, for entering the exact Number of Sheep and Lambs, with the yearly Quantity of Wool shorn from them, or pulled from the Skins, together with the Names of all such as deal in this Commodity.

In Addition to the Proposition for Publick Warehouses, it has been offered by another Hand, That all the Wool produced in this Kingdom should be bought in the King's Name at certain Prices, to be ascertained at a Medium upon the different Growths of Wool, for so many Years past; and that the Produce of the first Year's Growth, and the Value of the Stock in Hand,

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should

should be paid for, by a small Land-Tax of Three-pence or Six-pence in the Pound, by which Means the Growers would receive ready Money for their Wool, which would be very beneficial both to Landlords and Tenants. But if this should be thought impracticable, it is further proposed by the same Person, that Payment for the Wool may be postponed, till it be sold in Part, or in the Whole, or that the Growers should be left at Liberty to sell it themselves to the Manufacturers, provided they deliver it to the Store-keeper, under proper Regulations.

Many of the Proposers concur in Opinion, That the best Method of preserving an exact Knowledge of the Wool in its Progression, from the first Growers to the Manufacturer, will be to put it under the Inspection of the Officers of Excise, and different Methods have been suggested for putting this Proposal in Execution.

It has been said under the same Head, That all Dealers in Wool may be obliged to enter the Warehouses and Store-rooms, wherein they keep their Commodity, with the Excise Officer of their Division, into which the Officer should have free Admission at any Time, and no Wool should be brought into the Warehouse before Notice be given of it to the Excise Officer, under a certain Penalty.

That every Owner of Sheep shall give Notice when he intends to shear his Flock, that the Officer may be present to take an Account of the Number of Sheep, and Weight of the Wool shorn, and that every Felmonger may be obliged to inform the Officer of that Division of the Weight of the Wool which he shall pull from Skins; and in general, That all Dealers in Wool shall be obliged to give an Account to their Excise Officer of all the Wool in their Possession, that no Wool shall be removed from Warehouses so entered, except by virtue of a Permit from the Excise Officer, to be renewed as often as the Wool shall pass from one Dealer to another, till it comes into the Hands of the Manufacturer.

It has been likewise suggested, That the Excise Officer may take a Bond from the first Buyer, whereby he should oblige himself to manufacture the Wool he buys; but if the Purchaser be not a Manufacturer, that then Notice should be given to the Officer of the Division whenever the Wool should be re-sold, either in the Whole or in Part, and fresh Bonds be given by the Buyers, till the same shall be finally manufactured; and

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some have thought, that for the better Security of this Matter, the Manufacturer should be obliged to make Oath, that he will manufacture the Wool he buys.

Without Doubt, the keeping Sight of the Wool from the Time it is shorn, 'till it is brought into the Hands of the last Manufacturer, might greatly contribute to the putting a Stop to the Running of Wool: But all the foregoing Proposals will probably be attended with a Multiplicity of Accounts, besides other Difficulties and great Expence: We would therefore humbly offer some other Methods to your Lordships, which seem liable to fewer Difficulties, but may nevertheless be very conducive to the Cure of this Grievance.

With Regard to Great Britain, we would propose, That the Act 9 & 10 W. 3. now in Force in Kent and Suffex, entitled, *An Act for the Explanation and better Execution of former Acts, made against the Transportation of Wool, Fullers-Earth, and Scouring Clay*, may be extended to all Parts of the United Kingdom, within ten Miles of the Sea Coasts.

That no Wool be brought or imported from Ireland into this Kingdom, or Coast-wise in England, except in Vessels registered and appointed solely for that Purpose; and that all Wool shipped on board any other Vessel, shall be liable to Seizure by the Captains of his Majesty's Ships of War, by the Commanders of the Register-Ships, the Custom-House Officers, and Excise Officers, and by all other Persons duly authorised; and that Officers be appointed to put the Laws in Execution against the Running of Wool, with ample Encouragement to the Informers easily to be recovered, and proportionable Penalties laid on Offenders.

But as every Thing that may be proposed for the Cure of this Evil in Great Britain only, would be far from answering the Design upon the Whole, unless proper Methods should at the same Time be found to prevent the Exportation of Wool, and of Woollen Manufactures from Ireland to Foreign Parts: So, many of the same Persons who have considered this Matter, with respect to Great Britain, have also extended their Thoughts to Ireland.

And some of them have proposed to apply the foregoing Expedient of County Warehouses, General Registers, and the Inspection of the Custom-House Officers, as proper to be put in Practice in Ireland, with this

Addition, that certain Staple-Towns should be appointed in that Kingdom for the Reception of Wool grown there.

But we are of Opinion, That the most likely Means, and most attainable for these Purposes, would be absolutely to prohibit the shipping of Wool in Ireland, except in Ships and Vessels registered and appointed for that Service only, and no Wool-Licenses should be granted for shipping of Wool aboard any other Vessel.

That the Explanatory Clause contained in an Act, passed in the 11th and 12th of his late Majesty King William, entitled, *An Act for continuing several Laws therein mentioned, and for explaining the Act, entitled, An Act to prevent the Exportation of Wool out of the Kingdoms of Ireland and England into Foreign Parts, and for the Encouragement of the Woollen Manufactures in the Kingdom of England*, whereby Leave was given to every Mariner or Passenger on Board the Ship, to furnish himself with the Woollen Manufacture of Ireland, to the Amount of 40 s. may be repealed: Since it is highly probable, that under this Pretence the Woollen Manufactures of Ireland first found their Way to Foreign Markets in large Quantities.

That the Captains of English Men of War and Sloops, as well as the Commanders of the Register-Ships, and all Officers of his Majesty's Customs and Excise, may be invested with full Power and Authority to seize all Irish Woollen Goods, which they shall find on Board an Ship or Vessel whatsoever, and all Wool which shall be found on Board of any other but the said Register-Vessels.

And these Provisions are the more necessary, because we have been credibly informed, that of late Years British Merchants have given no small Encouragement to the Irish Woollen Manufactures, by buying up, and exporting great Quantities from that Kingdom on their own Accounts to Foreign Parts.

And provided an effectual Stop could be put to the Exportation of Irish Woollen Manufactures, and of Irish Wool to Foreign Parts, we should conceive, that it would be highly for the Benefit of Great Britain, freely and without Duties to admit the Importation of their Yarn.

And in order to make this Benefit more extensive, we would beg Leave to submit to your Lordships Consideration, whether it may not be proper to open all Ports

of Ireland and England, for the Exportation and Importation of Irish Wool and Yarn; but more particularly the Ports of *Galloway* and *London*: For we are informed, that great Quantities of the best Wool in Ireland, are produced within thirty Miles round that Town of *Galloway*, which is above 100 Miles distant from any Sea-Port now open for the Exportation of Wool from that Kingdom; so that the Land-Carriage in Ireland creates an Addition of about 6 per Cent. upon the prime Cost of the Wool, before it comes to any of the Ports from whence it can be sent to *England*, as the Law now stands; and in the same Manner, the Charges of carrying a Pack of Irish Yarn from the Port of *Bristol* to *Colchester*, or *Norwich*, has been computed to be no less than 5 per Cent. at a Medium, upon the prime Cost of the Yarn; and the Charge of carrying a Pack of Irish Wool, between these Places, is computed at near 15 per Cent. upon the prime Cost of the Wool; which being impartially considered, we conceive it will appear unreasonable to your Lordships, that the Manufacturers in one Part of the Kingdom should remain under the Necessity of working up the Irish Wool and Yarn near 10 per Cent. dearer than others: A Difficulty that would be entirely removed by opening the Port of *London*, which lies conveniently for supplying the Manufacturers of *Essex*, and of the adjacent Counties.

These are the principal Matters that have occurred to us upon this Enquiry, to which we would beg Leave to add, that those Provisions as shall be approved of, and more particularly, what relates to the Register-Ships, may be extended to the Isles *Man*, *Guernsey*, *Jersey*, *Alderney*, and *Sark*.

All which is humbly submitted to your Lordships great Wisdom.

Whitehall,
Feb. 25, 1731-2.

Westmorland,
P. Docminique,
T. Pelham,
Edw. Ashe,
M. Bladen,
Orlando Bridgeman,
Arthur Croft,
James Brudenell.

On the 29th of *November* there was held a General Court of the Royal *African Company of England*, when the Sub-Governor acquainted the Court that they were called together for laying a State of the Company's Affairs and Trade before them, which would appear from a Representation prepared by the Court of Assistants for that Purpose.

Then the said Representation was read, and was as follows,

THough it is a considerable Time since your Court of Assistants had the Satisfaction of meeting you in a General Court; yet they hope, from the Account of your Affairs, which is now to be laid before you, it will appear they have at no Time been wanting, either in Care or Zeal for your Service.

The State and Condition of the Company's Affairs about the Beginning of the Year 1725, cannot yet be forgot: A dead Charge of 20,000 *l. per Annum* for the Support and Maintenance of your Forts and Settlements on the Coast of *Africa*, your Trade to the *West-Indies* under very precarious and discouraging Circumstances, a Debt here at home of near 100,000 *l.* an almost total Loss of your Credit every where; and a general Despondency in those who wished well to your Affairs, make up a Part of the many Difficulties which your Court of Assistants had then to struggle with.

Supported, however, and encouraged by the Justice and Equity of your Pretensions to the Favour and Encouragement of the Publick, as well as by a firm Persuasion, that by taking proper Measures, and steadily pursuing the same, the Company might by Degrees extricate themselves out of all their Difficulties: Your Court of Assistants cheerfully undertook the Work, and the Progress which they have made in re-establishing your Affairs, they hope will prove, though not equal to their Wishes, yet not altogether unacceptable to you.

That which required their more immediate Consideration, was, how and by what Means to pay off and satisfy that great and heavy Debt, which the Company then owed: Many of those to whom Money was due being very necessitous, and all in general very uneasy at being kept out of their Money, without any Certainty when they might depend upon being paid; and

as your Court of Assistants judged, that nothing could have been more unwelcome to the Adventurers than to have had a Call upon them sufficient to discharge such a Debt; and as it would have been highly imprudent, if not inexorable, in those to whom you had intrusted the Care and Management of your Affairs, to continue to carry on your Trade upon a losing Foot; the only Course which your Court of Assistants had to take under such Circumstances, was, to put a Stop for some Time to the buying and exporting of any more Goods, and by that Means to avoid as much as possible the running further into Debt, and to appropriate all your Returns as they came home, towards the Payment and Satisfaction of those Debts which lay then so heavy upon the Company; the Result thereof was, that in about two Years, and without putting you to any extraordinary Charge, your Court of Assistants were enabled to make full Satisfaction to every Person who had any Demands on the Company.

During this Interval, a sincere Regard and Concern for the Safety and Preservation of this Trade to the Nation, as well as an earnest Desire of seeing your Affairs re-established upon such a Foot, as that you might reasonably hope to reap some Profit in future, for the many Losses you had hitherto sustained, were Motives sufficient to induce your Court of Assistants humbly to beg Leave to lay the State and Condition of the Trade to *Africa* in general before his late Majesty, in order to the obtaining such Relief and Redress, in relation to the Hardships which this Company had long laboured under, as his Majesty in his Royal Wisdom should think fit. But your Court of Assistants meeting with more and greater Difficulties at that Time in the Course of their Solicitations on your Behalf, than could be soon removed; and the Charges for the Maintenance of your Forts and Settlements in *Africa*, running still very high, without any Income to support or alleviate the same; the next Thing which your Court of Assistants thought incumbent on them to do, after having reduced the Salaries of the Court of Assistants from 2700 *l. per Annum* to 1000 *l. per Annum*, and the Number and Expence of your Officers and Servants at home from 2000 *l. per Annum* and upwards, to about 800 *l. per Ann.* and lessened your Charges abroad very considerably; was, to apply their Thoughts wholly to the Prosecution of those Branches of your Trade, which still afforded some Prospect of Advantage;

Advantage; and by that Means to try, if not to turn the general Ballance in your Favour, if not to defray your whole Charges, yet, at least, to ease you as much as in them lay of that great Burthen, which you were still unavoidably obliged to bear, until a more favourable Opportunity should offer of making your Case better known, and of obtaining that Relief and Assistance which you had so long, though in vain, sought for.

Pursuant to those Resolutions, your Court of Assistants, about the Beginning of the Year 1727, made sundry new Regulations in your Trade. They had Reason to believe, that Gold, Elephants Teeth, Beeswax, Dying Woods, Gums, and several other Commodities of great Use and Value, might be had in greater Quantities, as well as upon more easy Terms, if sought for in the Inland Countries of *Africa*, than at the Sea Ports along the Coast, where alone, they had hitherto been purchased; and therefore they strictly enjoined your Agents and Factors in *Africa* to apply themselves, in the first Place, to the making Discoveries, and improving the Trade towards the Inland Countries, in all its Branches, as much as in them lay. That Branch of the Negro Trade which consists in sending Negro Slaves to the *West-Indies*, they left entirely off, as being very chargeable, and attended with great Hazards and Uncertainties; but as they could not entirely leave off dealing in Negroes, without great Detriment to the other Branches of your Trade, they confined their Trade in them wholly to the Coast of *Africa*, and by that Means put the same on such a Foot as they were sure could not fail of yielding considerable Profit. And as for the Charges, &c. ad, they made several further Reductions and Alterations, but more particularly with regard to the Salaries and Commissions of your chief Agents and Factors in *Africa*; they entirely altered the old Establishments, for instead of allowing great Salaries and small Commissions, they reduced the Salaries very considerably, and made a proportionable Augmentation to their Commissions, with this special Proviso, That all Commissions on Negroes should arise from, and be paid out of the clear Profits which they should make for the Company, upon the Sale and Disposal of them again on the Coast, and not otherwise. And, as this was the only Method which your Court of Assistants could then propose for enabling the Company to carry on any Trade with Advantage, they can with great Truth say, that if it has not, as yet
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altogether succeeded, according to Expectation, it has been owing not to any Fault, or Want of Inclination in them to do all that lay in their Power for your Service, but to several other intervening Obstacles and Accidents; such as the Interruption given to your Trade on the North Coast by the *French*, the Loss of your Settlement in the River *Sierraleone*, (*Anno 1728*) with sundry of your Effects, Goods, and Stores, amounting to a considerable Value, the Wars and Troubles between the Sea Coast and Inland Countries on the Gold Coast; the total Destruction of the Kingdom of *Whydah*, and the Removal of almost all Trade thereupon from your Fort in that Country, to other Places, &c. But more-especially to two Things, which it has never yet been in the Power of your Court of Assistants wholly to remedy; that is to say, to the Scantiness of your Stock in Trade, at the Time when this Scheme was first set on Foot at home, and to the Want of a sufficient Number of honest and able Servants to manage and conduct the same abroad.

As for the Value of your trading Stock when this Method was first resolv'd upon, it consisted of sundry Goods then remaining in your Ware-houses on the Coast, many whereof, as has since appear'd, were damaged, sundry unvendible and improper for the Trade, and all in general very much unforted: In several outstanding Debts in the *West-Indies*, and elsewhere, most of which came in, not only very slowly, but much short of what was expected from them, by reason of the great Loss upon Returns in Sugar, and many not recovered to this Day; and in three small Ships or Vessels of some Years standing in the Trade; but what was most discouraging of all, at the very Time it was resolved to resume your Trade again, and to carry it on upon the new Foot, the Payment of your old Debts had entirely exhausted your Treasury; and your Court of Assistants had no other Fund to have Recourse to, but that little Stock of Credit and Reputation which the Company had acquired by acting in the Manner they had done by their former Creditors.

These and the like Difficulties and Discouragements, great as they were, yet were they not able to prevail upon your Court of Assistants to relax in their Endeavours for your Service: To them the Scheme agreed upon appear'd feasible and practicable, and therefore resolved to try what could be done thereupon. They built

and provided, with all possible Expedition, eight new Ships, proper for the intended Trade, which, with the three old ones, they judg'd would be sufficient to begin with; the Charges whereof to Sea amounted to above 10,000*l*. In the Years 1727, 28, and 29, they sent upwards of 38,000*l*. out in Goods and Stores, in Order to affort your Warehouses to carry on an Inland Trade, and to keep up and maintain your Forts and Settlements on the Coast; and by all Opportunities they sent out such Orders and Instructions for carrying on the said Scheme of Trade, as they judged would most effectually answer the Ends proposed thereby; but upon the whole, your Court of Assistants must observe, that most of those Outsets being made upon Credit, and your Servants in *Africa* failing to make Returns in any Degree suitable to such large Exports from hence; the only Thing which afforded your Court of Assistants any Relief under so great a Disappointment, and which, indeed, enabled them to go on with your Affairs, and saved the Reputation of the Company, was, the Money which came in by the Sale and Disposal of 82,739*l*. 11*s*. 4*d*. of the Trust Stock in the Years 1728, and 29; and the only Satisfaction which your Court of Assistants had, after a Trial of three Years, was to observe from the Books and Accounts that came home, that every Branch of your Trade, and particularly that of Negroes, as carry'd on under the late Regulations, had yielded considerable Profit; tho' upon the whole, not near sufficient to answer and defray all the Charges which you were still necessarily obliged to be at.

Thus, *Gentlemen*, your Affairs stood about the Beginning of the Year 1730; the Scheme of Trade, as it has been carry'd on for the three foregoing Years, had succeeded in Part; such Gold, Elephants Teeth, Bees-Wax, and other Commodities as came home, answered very well; and by the Accounts relating to the Negro Trade, it appear'd, that instead of losing thereby, as you had done for near 40 Years before, you are considerable Gainers upon the Ballance. And had your Agents and other Servants abroad, been able to have procured sufficient Quantities of Gold, and other dry Goods, to have freighted your Ships home with, and to have traded for larger Quantities of Negroes on the Coast; there is no Room to doubt, but that the Profits arising therefrom, would not only have defray'd all your Charges, but would likewise have produced a Surplus sufficient to have made
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a reasonable Dividend to the Adventurers. But it is with no small Concern, that your Court of Assistants are obliged to tell you, that whatever Endeavours they had used for that Purpose, yet the Success was by no Means answerable thereto.

Disappointed however, as they were in this, as well as in many other Things; yet still they had the Satisfaction to reflect, that as they had left no probable Way unattempted in the Way of Trade, in order to re-establish your Affairs, and promote your Interest, so possibly, such a manifest Proof of the Difficulties and Discouragements which every Branch of this Trade labour'd under, might help to convince the Publick of the Necessity of taking the Company's Case into Consideration, and of granting them some suitable Relief and Assistance. And here your Court of Assistants cannot but with the greatest Satisfaction own, that their Hopes were so far from being ill grounded, that they shall ever look upon the Success and Encouragement, which the Company met with upon this Occasion, as a sufficient Recompence for all the Pains they had hitherto taken, in the Management of your Affairs: For tho' the Company continu'd still to have many Enemies, and tho' many Misrepresentations were daily thrown out against them; yet so good and indulgent was the Hon. the House of Commons, so sensible of the Importance of this Trade to the Kingdom, and so warm in their Inclinations as well for the Preservation of the Trade in general, as for giving all due Satisfaction and Encouragement to the several Parties concern'd therein; that upon the humble Application of the Company, they were pleased to appoint several Days for taking the State of the said Trade into Consideration; they were pleased, with the greatest Patience and Indulgence, to allow a full and free Hearing to all the Parties concern'd therein; and so sensible was that great and honourable Assembly, of the Importance of the Trade on one Hand, and so cautious of giving the least Check or Discouragement to the same, that they voted, That it should always continue free and open to all his Majesty's Subjects; and that no Duty or Imposition should ever be laid on the same; and so fully were they convinced, on the other Hand, of the Usefulness and Expediency of Forts and Settlements on the Coast of *Africa*, and of the Justice and Equity of relieving and assisting the Company, that they were pleased to grant the Sum of 10,000*l.* to be

apply'd towards enabling them to keep up and maintain their said Forts and Settlements. His Majesty, who was also most graciously pleased to recommend your Case to the Hon. House of Commons, did likewise, upon the humble Suit and Application of the Company, direct the Payment of the said Sum of 10,000*l*. and in the same Manner you have also been honour'd with the Royal Recommendation, and with the Aid and Encouragement of the Parliament every Year since.

After all the Care and Precaution that had been taken in your Affairs, before any Application was made to Parliament, but more-especially after the obtaining the above-mention'd Aid and Encouragement from the Legislature, your Court of Assistants must freely own, that it was very natural for the Proprietors of the Stock to expect to have reaped some Benefit and Advantage from the Trade before this Time: But in order to satisfy you, as to the Part which your Court of Assistants have acted since, as well as to acquaint you with the true Reasons of this Delay, they hope you will give them Leave, in the next Place, to proceed to lay before you the several Measures they have taken for your Service, since the Parliament was pleased to grant the said Allowance; and then to acquaint you, in as particular a Manner as they can, with the present Situation and State of your Affairs.

As for the Measures which have been taken since the Parliamentary Allowance was first granted, they consist chiefly of these Particulars, *viz.* in the providing and sending out sufficient Numbers of Recruits of Tradesmen, Artificers and Soldiers, for keeping up your Establishments on the Coast, pursuant to the Estimates deliver'd in to the Hon. House of Commons; in providing and supplying your Forts and Settlements with all Sorts of Stores, Ammunition, and Provisions, necessary for their Support and Defence; in entertaining the ablest and best qualify'd Persons that could be met with, for managing and conducting your Trade in *Africa*; in contriving the most proper Methods for keeping your Accounts, as well in Order to see what Branches of your Trade are profitable or unprofitable, and consequently fit to be encouraged or discontinu'd, and what Places are best situated for Trade, and which of your Servants are most industrious in promoting your Interest; as to distinguish exactly between the Charges of your Forts and Settlements, and those which ought to be placed to the Account of Trade: In building and fitting out sun-
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dry new Ships and Vessels for the better and more effectually carrying on your Trade, to all Parts along the Coast, as well as into the Inland Countries, by the Means of Navigable Rivers, and more particularly up the River *Gambia*, which is navigable for small Vessels above 300 Leagues: And lastly, in providing sundry large and valuable Cargoes, of the choicest Goods and Merchandize, for affording your Warehouses, and enabling your Servants to extend and improve your Trade every Way, as much as possible: The Cost and Charge of all which, in *England*, from the 24th of *June* 1730, to the 31st of *December* 1731, amounts to upwards of 50,000*l.* Sterling: From all which, your Court of Assistants cannot but observe, that had your Agents and other Servants abroad, faithfully done their Duty to the Company, in their several Stations, and kept your Books and Accounts in the Manner they were directed, and in all other Matters carefully observed the several Regulations, Orders, and Instructions, which your Court of Assistants prescribed to them, in the strongest and most express Terms, there is no Room to doubt, but that the Trade would have fully answer'd all our Expectations before this Time; and your Court of Assistants would have had the further Pleasure of being able to have laid before you a much more satisfactory and compleat Account of the present State and Condition of your Affairs than they can as yet possibly do.

From our Agents at *Gambia*, they have, indeed, received four Sets of Books, said to be made up and ballanced to the 31st Day of *December* 1731; but they are kept in so confused and irregular a Manner, and with so little Regard to the Orders and Instructions sent out to them for that Purpose, that your Court of Assistants have been obliged to employ several Hands here at home, for many Months past, in order to methodize and to form regular Sets of Books, made up and ballanced to the last Day of *December* 1731, as they had Reason to expect; they have lately received nothing but a Waste-Book of their Trade and Transactions, from the 30th of *June* 1730, to the 31st of *December* 1731, with other Accounts and Papers relating thereto, in order to have regular Journals and Ledgers formed and made up from them here at home; which are now likewise in Hand, and carrying on with all the Expedition that is possible: But in the mean Time, and until the Books and Accounts which are now coming home, can be brought up and

and ballanced, they must be obliged to comprize what they have further to acquaint you with, in Relation to the present State and Condition of your Affairs, under the following Heads and Particulars.

And first, with regard to the State of the present transferrable Stock; they are to acquaint you, that of the Sum of 272,739 *l.* 11 *s.* 4 *d.* of the new Stock, which was placed to the Names of sundry Trustees, by Order of the General Court held the 23^d Day of *March*, 1726-7, no Part thereof hath been sold and disposed of since the Year 1729; and in the Years 1728 and 1729, no more than the Sum of 82,739 *l.* 11 *s.* 4 *d.* as before-mentioned; so that there remains still in the Names of the said Trustees 190,000 *l.* Stock, not yet disposed of: And the whole Amount of the transferrable Stock, according to the Accounts formerly laid before you, should have been no more than 210,000 *l.* But your Court of Assistants must observe, that in the Month of *June* 1731, it came to be discovered, that one *Amos Stocker*, who had been intrusted with the Care of your Transfer Books for several Years before the Year 1727, as well as after; and who had always bore a fair Character, and was reputed to be a Person in good Circumstances, had, in several respects, grossly abused the Trust reposed in him; partly by giving in a wrong Account of the State of the Stock in the Year 1727, the better to cover his former ill Practices; and partly by making, or permitting others to make sundry fictitious Transfers since, to the Prejudice of the Company; so that upon making up the Stock Books in *July* and *August* 1732, it appeared, that the Transferrable Stock amounted to 19,985 *l.* 13 *s.* 7 *d.* more than it ought to have done, according to the Accounts formerly by him delivered in. Mr. *Edward Sparke*, your present Accountant, having first privately acquainted some Gentlemen of your Court of Assistants with this Discovery, and you further, that the said *Stocker* had made him an Offer of 500 *l.* to conceal the same; and it being apprehended, that without using great Caution in such an Affair, the said *Stocker* might withdraw himself from your Service, and perhaps leave the Kingdom, as some others under the like Circumstances have done since; Mr. *Sparke* had Directions to take the said 500 *l.* in order to keep him from suspecting that any such Discovery had been made, till Measures could be concerted for securing his Person, and obliging him to make the utmost Satisfaction he could, for the Wrong

Wrong he had done the Company; and accordingly being arrested on the 7th Day of July, 1731, at the Suit of the Company, in an Action of 10,000*l.* his Person was thereupon secured; and being several Times examined by sundry Gentlemen of your Court of Assistants, he at last confessed the whole Affair, and offered to make over what Estate and Effects he had to the Company, and to give his Bond and Judgment for whatever should appear due to them upon the Ballance; which being the utmost your Court of Assistants could do in so unhappy an Affair, they agreed to accept the same; and accordingly, upon his paying down 1603*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* in Money (the 500*l.* paid to Mr. Sparke as above-mentioned, being taken as Part thereof) and making over an Estate in *Somersetshire* to the Company, which came to him by Inheritance, and which has been since sold for 2200*l.* and giving his Bond and Judgment for the Ballance of what he was charged with in Account, the Action against him was withdrawn. Your Court of Assistants will only observe further upon this Head, that as the Money which had been received on this Account, has been already partly applied towards the buying in and replacing such Stock, and the rest is intended to be applied to the same Use, as well as some other Monies, which they doubt not but to recover from some Persons who they have Reason to suspect were in Confederacy with him; so, when all these Matters are settled and adjusted, the whole of your transferrable Stock will then be considerably under 220,000*l.* and the Loss, upon the Whole, will not be very considerable.

As for what concerns your other Affairs, your Court of Assistants can only inform you in general, that besides your Forts and Settlements which certainly are of a very considerable Value; it is computed, that your Estate in Goods, Merchandize, Negroes, Debts, &c. at this Time on the Coast of *Africa*, amounts to upwards of 120,000*l.* that Country Money: That your Estate in Shipping, in Goods and Merchandize, now on the Way to *Africa*; in Goods for Exportation, and in sundry recoverable Debts in the *West Indies*, and other Places, amounts to upwards of 30,000*l.* Sterling: That the Company owes at this Time upon Bond 27,000*l.* that all your Debts due to Tradefmen and others do not exceed 10,000*l.* And lastly, that they have Grounds to believe, by the Trade which was made on your Account, from the 31st of December 1729, to the 31st of December

December 1731, you gained upwards of twenty thousand; from all which Particulars, though your Court of Assistants have Reason to think, that upon a general Ballance, it will be found, that the Allowance granted by Parliament, together with the Profit made by the two last Years Trade, ending the 31st of *December, 1731*, will more than defray all your Charges at home and abroad; yet they cannot think themselves sufficiently warranted, to propose the declaring of any Dividend until all your Books can be brought up to that Time; and that it shall thereby more certainly appear what Profit has been made over and above all your Charges, and consequently what Dividend may be safely resolved upon: And all that your Court of Assistants can say further in relation to this Affair, is, only to assure you, that as soon as those Accounts are settled and adjusted, they will not fail to call you together, and to acquaint you with the Result.

Gentlemen,

Your Court of Assistants having thus acquainted you with their Proceedings for several Years past, with the many Difficulties and Discouragements which they have had to struggle with; with the Success of their Application to Parliament in your Behalf; with the several Steps and Measures they have all along taken, as well for retrenching all unnecessary Expences, as for making your Trade as profitable to the Company as possible: And lastly, with the Reasons which induced them to think, that in the Way your Trade is, and has been carried on for some Time past, some Profit has already been made over and above all your Charges; they hope you will not set the less Value on their Services, if they take the Liberty to tell you further, that had they not all along very frequently assisted the Company with their own Monies, as well as borrowed considerable Sums of others on their own private and personal Security, to answer your necessary Occasions; it had been impossible for them, with the Stock which you had in Trade, and under the many repeated Disappointments which they met with from Abroad, to have supported your Credit, and to have made that Progress in re-establishing your Affairs, which they have done.

This Representation being already drawn out to so great a Length, your Court of Assistants will only take Leave to mention two or three Things more; which,

as they conceive, are of the utmost Importance for your Interest; and therefore will deserve your most serious Consideration.

One is this; Your Trade is now upon a good Foot; you have a sufficient Number of Ships and Vessels of your own; your Warehouses on the Gold Coast, and at *Whydah*, are well stocked with Goods; and towards enabling the Company to defray the Charges of their Forts and Settlements, they are indulged with a handsome Allowance from the Publick; but then, to improve this promising Situation of your Affairs to the best Advantage, your Court of Assistants beg Leave to observe, that it will be absolutely necessary that every Branch of Trade, and more especially that up the River *Gambia*, and towards the Inland Countries of *Africa*, should be carried on, enlarged, and prosecuted with the utmost Vigour; and that this cannot be done effectually, and as it ought to be, but by your enabling your Court of Assistants to raise such further Sum or Sums of Money as shall be requisite for that Purpose.

Another Affair of no less Importance to the Prosperity of the Company is this; A new, and very advantageous Scheme, or Branch of Trade, hath lately been proposed to some of your Court of Assistants for increasing your Returns from *Africa*, with much Certainty, and to a very considerable Extent; and it is, as they are assured, very practicable, and consequently well worthy of the utmost Encouragement you can give it. But your Court of Assistants are further informed, that this Scheme, and the Advantages attending the same, cannot be obtained for the Company without a considerable Charge and Expence; and when it is obtained, that it will require a large Sum of Money wherewith to carry it on.

Your Court of Assistants wish they could be more particular upon this Head; but being assured that the Success of the whole Affair does, in a great Measure, depend upon its being kept private for some short Time longer, they must content themselves with telling you at present, that in order to enlarge and prosecute the several Branches of your Trade, as above-mentioned, and to put this new Scheme of Trade in Execution, will require the Sum of 100,000 *l.* in Addition to your present Stock in Trade.

And as there is no Time to be lost in making all due Preparations in Affairs of this Consequence, your Court of Assistants cannot but hope, that after all the

Care and Pains they have hitherto taken for retrieving your Affairs, you will think it for your Interest to join, assist, and concur with them in all proper Measures, as well for the introducing and carrying on of such a new and advantageous Scheme of Trade, as for prosecuting all the present Branches of Trade in the best and most advantageous Manner: And as there is an easy Way of answering all these Purposes, and which, with your Assistance cannot fail of succeeding, they hope you will give them Leave to propose the same to you as follows.

First, That in order to raise such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be requisite for enlarging and carrying on the Company's Trade in all its Branches, 1000 Bonds of 100 *l.* each, amounting in the whole to 100,000 *l.* numbered from N^o 1. to N^o 1000. successively, and marked, dated and payable, as follows, be issued out under the Common Seal of this Company, to such Persons as shall be willing to lend Money upon them, and that the said Bonds do carry Interest at and after the Rate of 4 *per Cent.* and that the Interest be paid Half-yearly.

Secondly, That in order to enable the Company to enlarge and carry on all the present Branches of their Trade with the utmost Vigour, 200 of the said Bonds, amounting in the whole to 20,000 *l.* be numbered, from N^o 1. to N^o 200. that they be marked with the Letter A. and dated the 31st Day of *December* next, and made payable the 31st Day of *December*, 1734.

Thirdly, That in case any new advantageous Scheme or Method of Trade, whereby this Company shall be enabled to enlarge their Returns from *Africa*, shall take Effect, the remaining 800 Bonds of 100 *l.* each, amounting to 80,000 *l.* be made out, marked and dated, and Money raised upon them, in such Manner, and by such Proportions as the Company's Affairs shall require, and as this General Court shall from Time to Time direct and approve of, and not otherwise.

Fourthly, That no other Bonds whatsoever under this Company's Seal shall be made or issued out until all such Bonds as aforesaid shall be fully paid off and discharged: And further, That such of the Company's Bonds as are now out, be paid off as they shall become due, and then immediately cancelled.

Fifthly, That as a Collateral Security for the Payment of the 20,000 *l.* in Bonds, which are to bear Date the

31st Day of *December* next, such of the Proprietors as shall think fit, do declare on or before the 15th Day of *December* next, what Sum or Sums they will be willing to contribute, if required, towards the paying off the said 20,000*l.* in Bonds when they shall become due; that they be allowed and paid a Premium of 1 *per Cent.* for such Sums as they shall oblige themselves to contribute: That 10 *per Cent.* of the Money so to be provided, be paid down, and that Interest after the Rate of 4 *per Cent.* be allowed and paid for the said Deposit Money, and for all such further Sum or Sums as shall be hereafter advanced for this Purpose, if any, until they shall be repaid.

Sixthly, That in order to the obtaining and gaining of any new Advantage or Advantages in the Way of Trade, whereby this Company shall be enabled to enlarge their Trade to, and to ascertain proportionable Returns from *Africa*, and for defraying the Charges and Expences which may attend the same, the Court of Assistants be empowered to take such Measures, and to make and conclude such Agreement or Agreements with any Person or Persons whatsoever, as they shall think fit; and in all Matters and Things whatsoever, to act and do in as full, ample, and effectual a Manner as this General Court could or might do, for enlarging the Trade and advancing the Interest of this Company.

By this Method your Court of Assistants conceive your Affairs may be put into a very flourishing Condition; and the several Sums of Money which will be wanted for carrying on your Business in all its Branches, may be raised on the Company's Bonds with great Ease, and without any Hazard to any Body; but whether you will be of the same Opinion, and how far you will think fit to favour and encourage these Proposals, are Matters which they must now submit to your Consideration.

After which, it was unanimously agreed to give the Thanks of that Court to the Court of Assistants, for the great Care and Pains which they had taken in the Management of the Company's Affairs. And then they came to the following Resolutions.

I. *Resolved*, That in order to enable the Company to enlarge and carry on all the present Branches of their Trade with the utmost Vigour, 200 Bonds of 100*l.* each, amounting in the whole 20,000*l.* be issued out under the Common Seal of this Company, to such Persons as

shall be willing to lend Money upon them ; the said Bonds to bear Date the 31st Day of *December* next, and payable the 31st Day of *December*, 1734, and to carry Interest after the Rate of 4 *per Cent. per Ann.* to be paid Half-yearly.

II. *Resolved*, That such of the Proprietors of this Company as shall be willing to take all or any of the said Bonds, shall have the Preference of any other Persons, provided they give Notice at the Secretary's Office on or before the 15th Day of *December* next, what Number they will take of the said Bonds, and pay down 5 *per Cent.* in Part.

III. *Resolved*, That in case any new and advantageous Scheme, or Method of Trade, whereby this Company shall be enabled to enlarge their Returns from *Africa*, shall take Effect, 800 Bonds of 100 *l.* each, amounting to the further Sum of 80,000 *l.* be made out, marked and dated, and Money raised upon them, in such Manner and by such Proportions as the Company's Affairs shall require, and as a General Court shall from Time to Time direct and approve of, and not otherwise.

IV. *Resolved*, That no other Bonds whatsoever, under this Company's Seal, shall be made or issued out, until all such Bonds, as aforesaid, shall be fully paid off and discharged: And further, that such of the Company's Bonds as are now out, be paid off as they shall become due, and then immediately cancelled.

V. *Resolved*, That as a Collateral Security for the Payment of the 20,000 *l.* in Bonds, which are to bear Date the 31st Day of *December* next, such of the Proprietors as shall think fit, do declare, on or before the 15th Day of *December* next, what Sum or Sums they will be willing to contribute, if required, towards the paying off the said 20,000 *l.* in Bonds, when they shall become due: That they be allowed and paid a Premium of 1 *per Cent.* for such Sums as they shall oblige themselves to contribute: That 10 *per Cent.* of the Money, so to be provided, be paid down; and that Interest, after the Rate of 4 *per Cent.* be allowed and paid for the said Deposit Money, and for all such further Sum or Sums as shall be hereafter advanced for this Purpose, if any, until they shall be repaid again.

VI. *Resolved*, That in order to the obtaining and gaining of any new Advantage, or Advantages, in the Way of Trade, whereby this Company shall be enabled to enlarge their Trade to, and to ascertain proportiona-
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ble Returns from *Africa*, and for defraying the Charges and Expences which may attend the same, the Court of Assistants be empowered, and they are hereby empowered to take such Measures, and to make and conclude such Agreement or Agreements with any Person or Persons whatsoever, as they shall think fit; and in all Matters and Things whatsoever, to act and do in as full, ample, and effectual Manner, as this General Court could, or might do, for enlarging the Trade, and advancing the Interest of this Company.

• VII. *Resolved*, That no Part of the 190,000 *l.* Stock vested in Trustees for the Use of the Company, be disposed of without the Order of a General Court. And then the Court adjourned.

On the 17th of *January* came on the Election of Governors of the said Company, when were chosen

The King's most Excellent Majesty, Governor.

Sir *Bybye Lake*, Bart. Sub-Governor.

Charles Hayes, Esq; Deputy-Governor.

And next Day the following Gentlemen were chosen to be the Court of Assistants, viz.

Solomon Ashley, Esq;

* *Mr. Peter Asselin*,

Thomas Bradshaw, Esq;

Joseph Bradshaw, Esq;

John Baker, Esq;

* *Mr. Thomas Bird*,

Thomas Bodicoate, Esq;

John Badicoate, Esq;

Francis Boteler, Esq;

* *Mr. John Carr*,

Christian Cole, Esq;

Robert Cruikshank, Esq;

* *Mr. John Dale*,

Daniel Finch, Esq;

John Gascoyne, Esq;

* *Mr. John Goddard*,

* *Mr. Edward Jasper*,

John Laroche, Esq;

Charles Lloyd, Esq;

Henry Parsons, Esq;

Benjamin Periam, Esq;

Thomas Revell, Esq;

John Thomson, Esq;

Philip Wilkinson, Esq;

N. B. Those marked with * were not of the late Court of Assistants.

On the 13th of *September*, a certain Number of Gentlemen waited on the Directors of the *East-India* Company, and voluntarily subscribed 240,000 *l.* at 3 per Cent. Interest, for which Sum the Company issued Bonds at *Michaelmas* last, when the Money was paid in at 3 per Cent. for 12 Months, payable at six Months Notices.

On the 20th was held a General Court of the said Company, when Sir Matthew Decker from the Chair, acquainted them, that the Court of Directors had received three several Schemes for the Reduction of the Interest on the Company's Bonds, but that they thought them impracticable; and that having received Intelligence of a Probability of the Bank's advancing Money to the Company at a low Interest, they had made Application to the Bank Directors, but that they refused to lend them any Money under 4 *per Cent.* Then he acquainted them of their having taken the above Subscription for 240,000 *l.* and that some other Gentlemen were desirous to subscribe 285,000 *l.* more at 3 *per Cent.*

After this, there were long Debates about the Reduction of the Interest on their Bonds, and at last the Question was put, whether a Reduction should be made? which was carry'd in the Affirmative. Then another Question was put in Substance thus, That Notice should be given to the Possessors of the Company's Bonds, to come and receive, on the 31st of March next, the Principal and Interest then due, and that they should have a Liberty to exchange them for Bonds carrying 3 *per Cent.* Interest, payable in 18 Months, which Question occasion'd a new Debate, and it was resolv'd to have it determin'd by a Ballot: Accordingly the Question was ballot for, and the Ballot was closed on the 26th, when the Numbers stood as follows, *viz.*

For the Question	185
Against it	147.

And next Day the same was reported to the General Court, when the Reduction of the Interest on their Bonds to 3 *per Cent.* was accordingly resolv'd on: And an Advertisement was soon after publish'd, for giving Notice to their Bond Creditors, that they were to pay them the principal and Interest that would be due on their Bonds on the 31st of March next; but that the Possessors being by their Resolution entitled to a Preference of lending the Company at 3 *per Cent.* they should have till the 31st of October then next, to bring in their Bonds to be exchanged for others carrying 3 *per Cent.* from the 30th of September then instant, payable in 18 Months, and that 10*s.* *per Cent.* would be paid them, as a Premium, in lieu of the Six Months Notice.

This Resolution and Advertisement occasion'd a great Alarm among the Possessors of their Bonds; and the
very

very next Day an Advertisement was published signifying, That several large Proprietors of *India Bonds* desired that the Persons interested in such Bonds would give them a Meeting at the *Fleece Tavern* in *Cornhill*, on the 5th of *October* then next, at 11 o'Clock, to consider what was proper to be done for their Interest. And at Bottom they requested the said Bond Proprietors, not to receive the Interest to be due at *Michaelmas*, on their Bonds, till after the said Meeting. At which it was unanimously resolved,

1st, Not to carry in their 4 per Cent. Bonds to be marked or exchanged on or before the 31st of that Instant *October*, for new Bonds carrying 3 per Cent. Interest.

2dly, To meet again at the same Place, on the 8th of *November* then next, to consider further of Measures proper to be taken in support of the foregoing Resolution.

And the same Request to the Bondholders was again new'd.

Most of the Bondholders joined together in this Association, which made the Proprietors of the *East-India Company* begin to think of altering their Measures, and therefore at the next General Court, which was held on the 3d Day of *November*, they unanimously agreed to leave it to the Court of Directors, to agree with the Bondholders on such Terms as they should think proper. In pursuance of which, the Directors came to a Resolution, to allow the Bondholders 3 and a Half per Cent. Interest, and gave them to the 15th of *December* to come in and exchange their Bonds, for new Bonds bearing an Interest of 3 and a Half per Cent. from the said 31st of *March* next.

In the mean Time, the Bondholders met according to Appointment, on the 8th of *November*, and a Proposition was made, that a Committee might be appointed to treat with the Court of Directors; but it was rejected, and a Resolution made not to accept of the 3 and a Half per Cent. Interest, but to insist upon 4 per Cent. and some Persons even began to think of insisting upon a higher Interest: They also resolved to meet again upon Notice by Advertisement in the News Papers, in Order to support the former Resolution. Accordingly they met again on the 30th of *November*, and resolved to abide by their former Resolution of insisting upon 4 per Cent.

Cent. and further they resolved, not to receive any Payment but in ready Specie.

After which, they agreed to meet again upon the 13th of *December*, which they did, and confirmed their former Resolutions, and agreed to meet again on the 10th of *January*; but this last Meeting was not so numerous as the former, several considerable Bondholders having resolved to accept of the 3 and a Half *per Cent.* and before the 15th at Night so many Bonds were carry'd in and exchanged, as comprised the Dispute.

On the 8th Day of *September* last, was held a General Court of the *South-Sea Company*, when after reading the Minutes of the last General Court, Sir *John Eyles*, Baronet, the Sub-Governor, acquainted the Court with the Steps taken in Relation to the Choice of the Committee for inspecting the Company's Accounts; and that of the said Committee, several Gentlemen had declined acting, and that not more than five had ever met, whereas, by the Resolution of the former Court, seven were requisite to make a *Quorum*; on which a Motion being made for reducing the *Quorum* of the said Committee from seven to five, it was agreed to.

And a Motion was then made, That it should be the Request of the General Court, that the Committee should proceed upon Business; which being supported, and much pressed by Sir *John Eyles* and others, who signify'd that it would be a Satisfaction to the Gentlemen in the Direction, as well as the Proprietors in general, the same was agreed to *nem. con.*

Then a State of the Bonds was read and deliver'd to the Court, whereby it appeared, That upwards of seven hundred thousand Pounds had been paid off, and that above two hundred thousand Pounds, not then brought in, were ready to be paid off as soon as presented for that Purpose.

The Court of Directors of the said Company having received Advice, that their Factors in the *West-Indies* had had Notice given them to depart from thence in two Months, unless the *Spanish* Register Ship taken by Way of Reprisal, by his Majesty's Ship the *Deal Castle* Man of War, should be restored within that Time; but that upon remonstrating, that it was impossible to have an Answer from *Great Britain* in that Time, they had been indulged with four Months; the Company upon this Advice, presented a Memorial to the Duke of *Newcastle*, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, representing

presenting the Danger they were in of having their Effects in the *Spanish West-Indies* seized, in Case the said Ship should not be restored.

On the 27th of *October*, the said Court of Directors came to a Resolution to suspend their Trade in the *Whale-Fishery*, on Account of the great Losses they had sustain'd by carrying it on; for tho' the Fishery this last Season had been the best they had met with, yet it was far from a saving Account. And upon the 22d of *November*, the said Resolution was confirmed by a General Court then held; and it was resolved to sell their Ships and other Materials employ'd in that Trade at a publick Auction, which was afterwards done accordingly.

In the Month of *June*, Proposals had been made by *Spain*, for purchasing the *South-Sea* Company's Right of sending an annual Ship to the *Spanish West-Indies*. In further Pursuance of this Affair, Sir *Thomas Fitzgerald*, the King of *Spain*'s Agent here, having received from his Court Instructions relating thereunto, he, upon the 8th of *September*, proposed to the Court of Directors, by Authority from his Court, to give the Company Two per Cent. upon all the Returns of the Commerce of the *Spanish Flota* and *Galleons*, during the Remainder of the Time to run of the *Assiento* Contract; and afterwards he sent a Letter to the said Court of Directors, desiring an Answer to his former Proposal, and offering, that in Case it should be more acceptable to the Company to have a fixed Sum allow'd out of every Voyage of *Flota* and *Galleons*, he would (according to his Instructions) agree to treat with them upon that Footing.

This Affair came therefore of Course before the said General Court held upon the 22d of *November*, and it was then objected, that the *Assiento* Contract for supplying the *Spaniards* with *Negroes*, was attended with very great Loss to the Company; to compensate which, the Liberty of sending an annual Ship was granted as an Equivalent; and that therefore, if the one was given up, the other ought also to be surrender'd, which had not been taken Notice of in the Proposal made to the Company; whereupon Sir *Thomas Fitzgerald*, being present, inform'd them, that if they insisted on it, he would be ready in 24 Hours to treat with them on that Subject. But Sir *John Eyles* having signify'd to the Court, that as the Right of sending an annual Ship was procured by the Crown, it was a National Affair, and therefore he apprehended that the Company had no

Power to dispose of it, and the Court seeming to be of his Opinion, the Consideration of that Affair was suspended.

This Affair came again before a General Court of the said Company, held upon the 19th of *January*, when the Attorney General's Opinion, which had been taken as to this Affair, was laid before them; but as the General Court demed it to be an Affair of the greatest Importance, they thought it required the most serious and full Consideration, and therefore it was further deferred to the next General Court.

At this General Court they resolved to address his Majesty, humbly praying him to continue their Governor, the Election for that Purpose being soon to come on. They likewise resolved that the Dividend for the *Year* ended at *Christmas* last, should be *Two per Cent.* the Warrants to be payable the 13th Instant. And then *Sir John Eyles*, in a very handsome Speech acquainted them, that he was not any more to stand as a Candidate for being their Sub-Governor, and therefore recommended to them to think of a proper Person for that Station against next Election.

A very remarkable Affair has been stirred lately, which, tho' it had no Consequences, it is necessary to take some Notice of it in our Register. Most People know that the Dissenters are excluded from Offices in the Government, by a Law (call'd the Test Act) which obliges every Person in any Office, Civil or Military, to receive the Sacrament at certain appointed Times, according to the Usage of the Church of *England*. This Law was indeed originally levelled against the Papists, to whom it gave a great Blow in the Reign of King *Charles II.* and was not then complained of by the Dissenters, but indeed promoted (very much to their Honour, who sacrificed in that Case their private Views to the publick Good) by that whole Body; for being at that Time denied that Indulgence which they now enjoy, they seemed to desire no more than to have Liberty of Conscience, and of Worship after their own Manner; But the Revolution having laid Popery under Foot, and bringing on the Toleration, the Dissenters had not long been familiar with the Ease of that Indulgence, before (by a natural Disposition in Mankind) they began to extend their Views: They soon found that the Test Act stood in their Way to Posses of Honour and

and Profit; and they came by Degrees to see no Reason why one Subject should be distinguished from another, or why an Opinion in Religion should hinder a Man from serving his Country. Accordingly they made, during the Reign of King *William* and Queen *Anne*, some little Attempts towards getting this Act repealed, but without Success. For besides, that they were opposed by that whole Party, which was called the *Tories*, many of the *Whigs*, who were hearty Friends to the *Toler-ation*, were not convinced by the Reasons the Dissenters gave, that it would be proper to relieve them from this Incapacity. Some agreed that if the Publick Business was well done, it was no Matter what Scruples in Religion the Doer of it was possessed with; but they were not satisfy'd that this great Forwardness of the Dissenters to serve their Country, arose from such pure and disinterested Motives as they seemed to insinuate; and were apt to think, that in offering their Service so zealously, they might possibly have some Regard to the Authority and Revenue that waits upon eminent Posts, and not altogether to the Benefits that were to flow down upon the Publick, from their Attendance on them. Others remember'd the Example of the *Presbyterians* of *Scotland*, who, since the Establishment of that Hierarchy, had with the utmost Fury opposed, not only an Equality of the Episcopal Persuasion with themselves, but even that Indulgence, which by the amiable and christian Moderation of the Church of *England*, their Brethren enjoy'd in that Kingdom. And it was no Encouragement to give Power into their Hands, to see that where they were fully possessed of it, they used it so ill. These and other Arguments wrought so upon them, that tho' they were Friends to the Dissenters, they thought proper to defer the Repeal of these exclusive Laws, 'till some new Turn of Affairs might render such a Proceeding more adviseable. This was the Case during those two Reigns. But the mutual Jealousy between the Dissenters and the Church of *England*, being now in Appearance subsided, and the Principles of People of all Sorts, leaning very much to the Side of Liberty, and the Dissenters having besides in an eminent Manner approved their Loyalty and Affection to the present Royal Family, it seemed a very proper Juncture to make another Attempt of this Kind. For they supposed that the Royal Family and Ministry could not but favour the Interests of a Body so faithful and

constant to them; and the Moderation of those of the Church of *England*, being more eminent and universal than ever, it was concluded they could have no Opposers but those few Churchmen, who still retain the high Notions which were much more in vogue 50 Years ago, than they are now, and who make an inconsiderable Figure. Nevertheless, this promising Appearance of Success unexpectedly failed; but the Causes from whence this Disappointment arose being only conjectural, we shall content ourselves with giving an Account of the Matter of Fact.

In the Months of *November* and *December* last, the Dissenters in and about this City, and also in several other Parts of the Kingdom, had several Meetings about applying to the Session of Parliament for the Repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts. At first they appointed a Committee to consider whether it was a proper Time for making such Application? And that Committee having consulted and fully considered the Affair, a great Meeting of the most eminent Dissenters in and about *London* was held on *Wednesday* the 29th of *November* last; at which Meeting the said Committee chosen to consider when and in what Manner to apply for the Repealing or Explaining of Part of the Corporation and Sacramental Test Act, reported, as their Opinion, 'That if it was attempted at present, it was not likely to be attended with Success.' Mr. *Holden* acquainted the Meeting, that that Report was almost unanimously concurred to by the Committee. It was afterwards understood to have been concurred to by all but Lord *Barrington* and Mr. *Bradley*, of those that were present; and by two Gentlemen who were absent. It was then moved to agree with the Committee: A long Debate ensued, in which some of the Committee, who concurred in this Report, declared, 'That though they could not have said that this was an improper Time to apply for this Repeal, yet that they had agreed to this Report as it now stood, only because they feared they should not be so unanimous in attempting this Repeal as it was to be wished, and that without such an Unanimity, they thought the Attempt was not likely to meet with Success.' The Question moved being at last put, there seemed to be a Majority of five to one against the Report. The Report being disagreed to, the Lord *Barrington* immediately moved for recommitting it, which was carried without Debate, and with very few

against it: Lord *Barrington* then moved, that whereas the Committee had but very few in it of one of the three Denominations of the Dissenters, and not one of the other, in order to preserve a greater Equality, and give the greater Weight to any future Report, some of each of those Denominations should be added to the Committee: Several of the Committee desired to be excused from any farther Service, so that there was not a *Quorum* left; and soon after all the rest were understood to have excused themselves, except the Lord *Barrington*. One of those that had excused themselves, moved, that a new Committee should be named. The Reasons urged for excusing themselves were different; some declared for their Reason, because the Report was not agreed to; others, Want of Health or Leisure: On the whole, the Question for adding some to the Committee could not be put, because there was not a Committee subsisting. Lord *Barrington* earnestly desired the whole Committee to continue in the Service; and when the Gentlemen who had desired to be excused did not agree to it, about 18 Persons were named for a new Committee, and more were naming; and among them Mr. *Holden*, Mr. *Bance*, Dr. *Avery*, Mr. *Bradley*, and a few others of the former Committee, who were desired and urged by several in the Meeting to take their Places in the new Committee: Mr. *Bance* then said, he would serve, whether others of the old Committee did or no; but that he hoped some Temper might be restored, and that he believed the Gentlemen that had excused themselves in some Warmth, would serve again; provided but two or three new ones were added to them; and others of the former Committee immediately declared they would; so that four more being put up, were unanimously agreed to; and Lord *Barrington* then moved that to avoid the Inconveniencies that attend such numerous Meetings, and so constituted as these two last had been, it should be given as an Instruction to the Committee to report their Opinion to two Persons deputed by every Congregation within the *Bills of Mortality*, which upon a Motion of extending it to ten Miles round London, was unanimously agreed it, and as far as could be judged, approved of by every one in the Meeting.

At this Meeting Mr. *Holden* was in the Chair, and when he delivered the Opinion of the Committee, he was pleased to express himself in the following Manner.

Gentlemen,

Gentlemen,

THIS was the almost unanimous Opinion of your Committee, taken after mature Deliberation, and with a Concern equal to the Importance of the Matters referred to them; as they relate either to the Peace of the Kingdom, the Rights of *Englishmen* in general, or the Protestant Dissenters in particular. And, the better to form their Judgments, they have not been wanting to take in the Assistance of such as are undoubted Friends to the Religious and Civil Rights of their Country, and consequently to you; who, for a long Course of Years, have, at all Times, and in all Circumstances, not barely promoted, but also suffered for these valuable Blessings, which, through a kind Providence and an indulgent Prince (whose Glory it is to be the Father of his People) you do at present enjoy; and who cannot be doubted to have it in his Inclinations, whenever the Circumstances of Affairs will admit, to procure for all his Subjects in the most extensive Manner. Your known Attachment to his Royal Person and Family, your persevering Zeal for the Liberties of your Country, your prudent and peaceable Behaviour, will, it is to be hoped, pave the Way and conciliate the Minds of all such who have any real Concern for true Religion and the Welfare of their Country, to promote what is in itself so desirable; and can be opposed by none, but such as are unhappily under the Power of Bigottry, or the Byas of Interest.

Gentlemen,

In the present Situation of Affairs, I can think of nothing so proper to propose to you, as your own Example; who have (it is well known) on divers Occasions, postponed present Advantages for a Publick Good, when Opportunity seemed to invite the laying hold of them. It must be owned, the Returns have not been such as might reasonably have been expected; yet this, though no Argument to you, will, it is to be hoped, be such a Recommendation of you to those in Deference to whom it is for the present laid aside, as to draw very favourable Consequences after it.

Gentlemen,

It is your Unanimity only, that can render you either useful to your Country, or considerable to yourselves; all Discord and Division must weaken your Influence, lessen your Esteem, and, in a Word, render you contemptible.