3.030.101

England's Path

T O

Wealth and Honour,

I N A

DIALOGUE

Between an

ENGLISH-MAN

A N D A

DUTCH-MAN.

L U K E V. 4.

*Launch out into the deep, and let down
your Nets for a draught.*

Printed, 1700.

L O N D O N.

Reprinted, in the Year, 1707.

MS. A. 9. 2. 1. 3. 11
1707/682

and Honour

A. M.

ALLOE

1707/682

W. H. M. M.

A. M.

W. H. M. M.

1707/682

1707/682

1707/682

1707/682

The Most Noble
THOMAS Duke of **LEEDS**,
 Marquiss of **CARMARTHEN**,
 Earl of **DANBY**,
 Viscount **LATIMER**,
 Baron Osborn of **KIVETON**;
 A N D
KNIGHT of the most Noble
 Order of the **GARTER**,
GOVERNOUR of the Royal
 Fishery of **ENGLAND**.

May it please your Grace,

NO Person having spent more
 Money and Pains than
 Your Grace, to Re-establish the
 Fishery of England; I presume to
 Dedicate to you the following
Dialogue: Not that I have the

A 2

Vanity

vanity to think this my poor
Mite can make any Addition to
your *Grace's* Great Treasure of
Knowledge: But as believing the
Fact therein contain'd, so true, it
might safely appear before the
Best of Judges.

With all Respect I am,

Your Grace's

most Humble

most Faithful

most Obliged

and most Obedient Servant.

James Puckle.

P R E F A C E.

THE Highlands of Scotland, Wales, Biscay, Switzerland, and other Countries (not worth conquering) continue still in Possession of their Aborigines: Whereas, England being a Country (as was said of the Tree of Paradise) good for Food, pleasant to the Eyes, and to be desired, hath been possess'd by Five several Nations, and coveted by many more.

Yet view its Coasts, they'll appear Bold, and but thinly Inhabited, and the Civil Wars of our Island having occasioned the demolishing of its strong Holds, in case of Attack, how can we be defended against Foreign powerful Enemies, but by a Naval Power?

Allowing us Masters of more Tall Ships than any of our Neighbours. What Security can a numerous Navy afford, if Mariners be wanting?

Whether England wants Mariners best appears by our turning 'em o're from Ship to Ship, by our long, long Embargoes, and yet excessive Charge in Pressing, and by so many of our Ships being lost (during the late War) for want of their Complement.

Nor can the Number of our Seamen be readily Encreast, without Establishing a Fishery. For Men of War and Merchant-

P R E F A C E

men spend many Marriners, and breed Few, the great and best Nursery for Seamen is the Fishery; where each Dogger brings up (it may be) Six, Eight, or Ten, new Men every Year, and the Fishermens Business lying where our Ship's Danger lies, makes them know how the Sands shift, where the Rocks and Shelves are; Consequently most able Coasters and admirable Pilots.

Besides by frequent riding out great Storms in small Busses and Doggers, Fishermen become so steeled and habituated to Danger, that in Tempests and Engagements they work Wonders; and the Fish lying upon our own Coasts, the Men we employ to catch them (though out of His Majesties Pay) will be ever at Hand, and so ready for Service, as to make our watchfullest Enemies despair of surprizing us.

Again, “ A due Care for our Poor, is
 “ an Act of great Civil Prudence and Poli-
 “ tical Wisdom, for Poverty
 “ in it self is apt to Emascu-
 “ late the Minds of Men,
 “ or at least it makes Men
 “ tumultuous and unquiet;
 “ where there are very ma-
 “ ny Poor, the Rich cannot
 “ long or safely continue such; necessity ren-
 “ ders

L. C. I. Hale in
 his Discourse
 touching Pro-
 vision for the
 Poor.

P R E F A C E.

“ ders Men of Phlegmatick and dull Na-
 “ tures, Stupid and Indisciplinable, and
 “ Men of more fiery or active Constitutions,
 “ Rapacious and Desperate.

The Poors Rates of England (besides Vol-
 untary Charity) amounts to near a Million
 per Annum; by which its Evident what
 vast Numbers of Beggars and Idle Persons
 live upon the Publick without return of La-
 bour for their Bread.

Now Beggars Children (if not de-
 stroy'd in the Womb, or at the Birth,)
 being bred up in Want and Laziness,
 become of unhealthful Bodies, and more
 then ordinary subject to many loathsome
 Diseases, whereof abundance die in their
 tender Age; and such as attain to riper
 Years, by idle Habits contracted in their
 Youths, are rendred for ever unapt and un-
 disposed for Labour, and serve only to stock
 the Kingdom with Thieves and Beggers. So
 that without a due Care for Relief of our Poor
 in a way of Industry, they'll daily Encrease.

Suppose, to employ our Poor any one Ma-
 nufacture be encouraged: It may perchance
 remove the present Trade of one City or
 County to another, and occasion such Com-
 plaints as the Button-Makers (not long
 since) made against Cloth Buttons, yet leave

P R E F A C E.

the generality of our Poor destitute of a convenient Support & Provision.

Nay, could we at once Encourage every Manufacture in England, encreasing our Manufactures and not our Food, would only lessen the Misery of our present Poor by sharing it amongst all the People of the Kingdom.

The most effectual Expedient then to employ our Poor, is to Establish a Fishery; which by affording them at once both Food & Employment, wou'd quickly turn the great Burthen of our Nation into an equal Benefit.

Much more might be said to this Purpose; but at present I shall only add that within thirty Years past, our active Neighbours the French have encreased their Navigation to a Proverb; given Europe much disquiet, and cost England (in particular) abundance of Blood and Treasure. But had not Englishmen been guilty of more than Spanish sloath in not putting forth their Hands to take that Rich blessing, (the Fishery) which Providence by placing upon our Coasts, courts us (as it were) to receive, all our Sovereigns (as well as Queen Elizabeth,) might have bounded the Numbers of the French Fleet, and been by the blessing of God

*Pacis Europæ Arbitri,
Maris Domini & Vindices.*

A NEW
DIALOGUE

Between an

ENGLISH-MAN

A N D A

DUTCH-MAN.

Dutch-Man,

GOOD Morrow
Friend, what art
musing on?
English - Man,

Considering the Extent of these your
Dykes, I was thinking what excessive
Charge and Pains *Holland* is yearly at to
defend it self against invading Waves:
Whereas the Sea that encircles *England*
(Barrier like) fenceth it against Surprize
and Ravages, exempts us from the Charge
and Terrour of Garrisons and Fortificati-
ons, and (with our Floating Castles)

continues to us that quiet Liberty and Security the rest of *Europe* more or less have lost.

D. *England indeed is fenc'd in by the Sea, but (Money is the Sinews of War and) happier Holland hath a Main Ocean of Wealth to Defend it.*

E. The cold Winds (being moistened by the Vapours, or softned by the warmth of the Seas motion before they reach our Island) are less fierce, and the Air is far more Mild and Temperate (if not more Healthy) than any part of the Continent under the same Climate; so that we have no necessity for *Grottoes* in Summer, or *Stoves* in Winter.

D. *In my Opinion, that Country is still Happiest that is stored with the Richest growths and products for Traffick and Commerce, and the Air ever best where most Money is stirring; for Poverty and Want will render People unhealthy in all Climates.*

E. *England* abounds with Mines, Rocks, Pits and Quarries of (a) *Alabaster*, (b) *Antimony*, (c) *Ardois*, (d)

(a) *Darbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire.*

(b) *Darbyshire*, (c) *Cornwall*, (d) *Cumberland*
Black

Blacklead, (e) Chalk, (f) Chrystal, (g) Tobacco-pipe-Clay, (h) Coals of divers Sorts, (i) Copper, (k) Fullers-Earth, (l) Freestone, (m) Iron, (n) Lapis Calaminiaris to make Brass, (o) Loadstones, (p) Lead, (q) Marble, (r) Milstones, (s) Plaister (harder than that) of Paris, (t) Potters-Oar, (u) Slate, (w) Salt, (x) Steel, (y) Tinn, (z) Whetstones, &c.

Upon its Coasts are found (a) Amber, (b) Ambergrise, (c) abundance of Cop-

(e) Suff^x, (f) *Darbyshire*, (g) *Dorsetshire*, (h) *Carmarthenshire*, *Cumberland*, *Durham*, *Lancashire*, *Leicestershire*, *Northumberland*, *Shropshire*, *Staffordshire*, *Yorkshire*, (i) *Cornwall*, *Cumberland*, *Darbyshire*, *Staffordshire*, *Yorkshire*, (l) *Bedfordshire*, *Surry*, (l) *Dorsetshire*, (m) *Darbyshire*, *Durham*, *Gloucestershire*, *Hampshire*, *Shropshire*, *Staffordshire*, *Warwickshire*, (n) *Somersetshire*, (o) *Devonshire*, (p) *Cardiganshire*, *Carmarthenshire*, *Darbyshire*, *Devonshire*, *Durham*, *Staffordshire*, *Yorkshire*, (q) *Darbyshire*, *Dorsetshire*, (r) *Anglesey*, *Cheshire*, *Darbyshire*, *Flinshire*, (s) *Nottinghamshire*, (t) *Carmarthenshire*, (u) *Cornwall*, (w) *Cheshire*, *Cumberland*, *Worcestershire*, (x) *Gloucestershire*, (y) *Cornwall*, *Devonshire*, (z) *Darbyshire*.

(a) *Norfolk*, (b) *Cornwall*, (c) *Whistable-shallow*,
ie ice

perice Stone, (d) Jet, (e) Pearls, (f) fine Pebbles, transparent like Diamonds; also Flint Varrack, &c. to make Glafs: Besides (not to mention the Rich Commodities yearly Imported from its Fruitful Plantations, that are to it as so many Mines of Treasure,) *England* affords Plenty of Corn, Cattle, Fowl, Fruits Pulse, Leather, Wool, &c. Whereas, *Holland* produceth nothing but a few Hops, Madder, Butter and Cheese.

D. *The whole Product of your Island is nothing when compared to the (g) Golden Mines of our Provinces, which have yielded us more Treasure than the Mines of Potosi, or both Indies to Spain.*

E. *The Golden Mines of your Provinces; Pray where do they lie?*

D. *In Neptunes Store-pond, which the English call their Seas.*

E. Our Famous *Edgar* with a Navy of Four Hundred Sail, vindicated his Dominion on our adjacent Seas, and Records mention his Successor *Canutus* to have laid

(d) *Norfolk*, (e) *Cumberland*, (f) *Cornwall*, *Gloucestershire*.

(g) So the *Dutch* in a Proclamation 1624, filed the Fishing Trade.

that

that ancient Tribute called *Danegelt*, upon all (whether Strangers or *Denizons*) trading on our Coasts or Seas.

Egbert, *Althred* and *Ethelfred*, all stiled themselves Supream Lords and Governours of the Ocean, surrounding the *British* Shore.

King *John* (b) challenged the Honour (or rather) Duty of the Flag, universally paid us, not barely as a Civility, but as a Right (*debita Reverentia*) Acknowledging our Title and Dominion.

The Famous Record entituled *Pro hominibus Hollandia*, shews how Obsequious your Ancestors were, not only in acknowledging (i) *Edward* the First's Dominion on the Sea, but craving his Protection and Permission to Fish on the Coast of *England*: And had not the Sovereignty of the *British* Seas in fact been in the Crown of *England*, why did the (k) Earls of *Holland* petition *Edward* the Third (and the (l) *French* our *Henry* the Sixth) for leave to Fish therein? And

(b) *Anno* 1200. (i) *Anno* 1295. (k) *Rot. Par.* 23. *Ed.* 1st. numb. 5. (l) *Rot Par.* 22. *Ed.* IVth, numb. 2.

why did your (m) Skippers use to purchase License from Scarborough Castle, before they presumed to cast a Net upon the North Coasts of England? Wherefore did Philip the Second of Spain, (n) obtain License of Queen Mary for his Subjects to Fish upon the North Coasts of Ireland for the Term of Twenty one Years, for which was yearly paid One thousand Pounds into the Exchequer of Ireland, as by the Records appear?

D. *A Fig for your mouldy Records: I say the Sea is as free to Fish in as ———*

E. ---As the Roads of Holland are to Travel in, where both Natives and Foreigners are forced to pay passage Ghelt.

D. *Don't Interrupt me, Sir; I say, the Sea is as free to Fish in as the Air to Breath in; who doubts it, may read our Great Hugo Grotius's Mare liberum.*

E. Grotius in his *Sylvæ* upon the Inauguration of King James (before he was perverted by the Importunities of his Country Men,) speaking his Thoughts freely say's,

——— *Tria Sceptra profundi
In magnum coiere Ducem.*

(m) Camden's *Brittania*, (n) 1552.

The

The Rights of the *English, Scottish* and *Irish* Seas, are united under one Scepter ; neither is he satisfied with that bare Profession :

Sume Animos a Rege tuo qui dat Jura Mari.

Take courage from the King that giveth Laws to the Seas.

And in the same Book, in the contemplation of so great a Power, he concludeth,

Finis hic est qui fine caret, &c.

This is an End beyond an End, a Bound that knows no Bounds, which even the Winds and Waves must submit to.

And if you remember when King *James* observed your Encroachments, he enjoyned his Ambassadour Sir *Dudley Carleton* to Expostulate the matter with your States, as may be seen in Mr. Secretaries Letter, (b) wherein he tells them,
 “ That unless they sought leave from his
 “ Majesty, and acknowledged his Right,

(o) 21 Dec. 1618.

“ as

“ as other Princes had done, and did, it
 “ might well come to pass, that they
 “ who would needs bear all the World
 “ before them by their *Mare Liberum*,
 “ might soon endanger their having nei-
 “ ther *Terram, nec Solum, nec Rempubli-*
 “ *cam liberam*: So much did that Wise
 Prince disdain to be wrangled out of the
 Ancient Rights and Regalities inherent-
 ly annexed to his Crown, by the subtle
 Arguments of Wit and Sophistry.

D. Don't tell me of King James, I say,
 that the Sea is free for every Body, and de-
 fy you to shew the Contrary.

E. Why then do the *Venetians* exercise
 Dominion in the *Adriatique*, and the
Tuscans Lord it in the *Tyrrhene* Seas?
 How comes it to pass that all your Skip-
 pers pay Toll to *Denmark* for passing the
Sound, and to *Swedeland* for sailing in the
Baltick? Wherefore doth the Republick
 of *Genoa*, let to Farm the *Fishery* for *Teu-*
nies in their Neighbouring Seas: And the
 Emperour of *Russia* compel all Fishermen
 (within his Seas) to pay him Tribute;
 How is't that the like is done by the Duke
 of *Medina Sidonia* in *Spain*, and by all the
 Princes of *Italy* bordering on the Seas?
 Nay, wherefore do the *Dutch* stile them-
 selves

selves Lord's of the *Southern Seas*, and allow far less Liberty in *India* than they take upon the *English Coasts*.

But to wave this Dispute : Pray Sir, how many Labourers have you in your Golden Mines as you call'd 'em ?

D. Upon taking an Account of the several Trades and Employments, by which the Dutch subsisted (in order to find which best deserved the Protection and Encouragement of the Publick,) it appeared, that in Anno 1668. The Subjects of the States General were (p) Two millions, Four hundred and Fifty thousand, of which (besides those employed in the Inland Fishery,) Four hundred and Fifty thousand were then maintained by Fishing at Sea, and the Traffick depending thereon ; since which time we have much encreased the Numbers of our Fishing Busses and Doggers, to the great Encouragement of our Navigation, and all Trades depending on the Fishery.

E. Which are they ?

D. Anchorsmiths, Bakers, Ballastmen, Basket-makers, Blacksmiths, Brewers, Butchers, Carpenters, Caulkers, Clapboard-

(p) Pol. Gron & Maxims Van Holl. Page 43.
Splitter,

splitters, Compass-makers, Coopers, Duck-weavers, Hemp-dressers, Hook-makers, Hoop-sitters, Joyners, Line-makers, Mariners, Mast-makers, Net-makers, Net-tanners, Plummers, Pulley-makers, Pump-makers, Rope-makers, Sail-makers, Sawyers, Ship-chandlers, Ship-wrights, Tallow-chandlers, Thread and Twine-spinners, &c. to the no small Profit of the Makers and Venders of all Materials, Tools and Utensils belonging to those Trades, and of all Tradesmen that make or sell Culinary Wares, Bedding, Cloathing, &c. for Mariners; to which may be added, Packers, Tollers, Dressers and Couchers, to carry, sort, and make the Herring lawful Merchandize, also Porters, Carmen, &c. In a Word, you can hardly cast an Eye, upon any sort or condition of People, but profit by our Fishery, and the Community most of all.

E. Pray where, and at what times of the Year do you fish for Herrings?

*D. In the beginning of June, the Herring rising about two Leagues off Cranehead (the outermost part of Bratio-sound,) stay there about fourteen Days, thence go to Farry Islands, (seven Leagues to the Southward of Shetland,) round which they remain one and twenty Days, thence to Buf-
finness*

finness (*about thirty Leagues to the Southward of Farry Island,*) the Fishing place is called Buffin-deeps, and is twenty Leagues to the Northward of the Frith, where the Herring abide about fourteen Days, and in the Fishing ground under Chivit-hills and Chivit-chace about fourteen Days, thence we follow them to the Dogger-bank, where they stay about thirty seven Days; about the beginning of September, they come into Yarmouth Seas, where they continue near seventy Days, from whence they fall to the Southward, followed by small Fishermen, it being dangerous for Doggers.

E. What quantities of Fish are yearly taken by the Dutch ?

D. About (q) Three hundred thousand Lasts.

E. This confirms Sir Walter Rawleigh's Observations presented to King James, (r) and shews that the Learned Sir John Burroughs, in his Sovereignty of the British Seas, upon good Grounds affirmed that the Fish yearly taken by Strangers upon our Coasts, did amount to (s) above

(q) L. v. Aitzma. Anno 1653.

(r) Anno 1633.

(s) Page 140.

Ten millions of pounds Sterling. But pray Sir, where have you vent for all your Fish?

D. *At Artois, Brabant, Bremen, Cleveland, Cologne, Dantzic, Denmark, Elbin, Embden, Flanders, France, Frankford, Germany, Gulickland, Hamburgh, Henault, Holstein, Italy, Lief-land, Lithuania, Lubeck, Nerva, Norway, Poland, Pomerland, Portugal, Prussia, Quinsbrough, Revel, Riga, Russia, Spain, Stade, Stratten, Swedeland, &c.*

E. Are you never afraid of glutting the Markets?

D. *No more than we are that People will leave eating, great part of the trading World being yet unserved, which is the Reason we yearly so much encrease the Number of our Doggers.*

E. What Returns are made for your Fish?

D. *Allum, Armour, Baratees, and other Frankfort Commodities, Brandy, Bullion, Clapboard, Coin, Copper, Corn, Currants, and other Grocery Wares, Damasks, Dealboards, Dollars, Flax, Fruit, Furrs, Fustians, Glass, Hemp, Honey, Hulsop, Iron, Lace, Linnen, Mil-stones*

tones, Oyl, Pitch, Plate, Potash, Prunes, Rasbes, Rosin, Sarsenets, Sattins, Silks, Skins, Steel, Tapstry, Tar, Timber, Velvets, Wainscots, Wax, Wines, and other things in abundance; the exporting of which Commodities again to other Countries, gives our Ships full Employment, so that they need not go in Ballast to seek Freight, but by the Profit of outward bound Voyages, are enabled to serve Foreigners so cheap, as to render us the common Carriers of the World, consequently Masters of the most certain Profit in Trade; for when Ships arrive safe in Harbour, tho' Merchants happen to lose by their Goods, Owners and Seamen are paid Freight and Wages.

Besides by continual Bartering of such Exports, Holland is rendered the mighty Storehouse, and Empory of all Foreign Products and Manufactures, from whose infinite Miscellany of Goods its Inhabitants are compleatly furnished with such sortable Wares, as enables them to trade from Port to Port without danger of glutting Markets.

And thus as our Fishery hath encreased our Trade and Navigation, constant Employment hath still made Foreigners flock to us in such Numbers, that out of our Multitudes, supplying (from time to time) the loss

loss of so many Lives as the Change of Climates, Successes against the Portugese, and Victories against the Indians have cost us : we have forced Treaties of Commerce, exclusive to all other Nations : Built Forts upon Straits and Passes that command the Entrances into Places of great Traffick ; monopolized all the Spice Trade, and mightily advanced towards Engrossing the whole Commerce of the East Indies.

E. Well may you boast, that *Amsterdam* is Founded upon Herring Bones ; and no wonder that notwithstanding your so frequent and chargeable Wars ever since your Revolt from *Spain*, there is hardly a Beggar in your Streets.

But if in *Holland*, which contains not above Five millions of Acres, its Bogs and Sandy-downs excluded.

Holland, where you have no Minerals, and where it is in vain to dig for any thing but Turf and Clay.

Holland, where you have no Tree but what you planted, nor Stone but what you brought thither.

Holland, so much lower than the Eb- bings of the Tides and Rivers, that at vast Expence you are obliged with Mills to drain the very Floods occasioned by Rain.

Holland,

Holland, where notwithstanding your continual Charge (as was said) in repairing Banks and Dykes; frequent Inundations destroy Man and Beast for several Miles together, and then vast Sums (and whole Years) are spent e're the Land can be regained.

Holland, where the *East* Winds coming to you o're a mighty length of dry Continent, extream Cold, and long Winters, put you to the expence of much Fire, Candles, Food and Rayment; and to great charge and pains in housing and foddering your Cattle, all which time they (living on dry Food) yield little Milk.

Holland, so exposed to bleak Winds, that blast the Blossoms of its Trees, and Storms that shatter off e're ripe their Fruit.

Holland, where that little Arable Land you have, lying generally on Sand or light Bottoms, requires much Soil, and where Seed-time is so short, that unless it be exactly nicked, no Profit can be reaped; for when the Seed rots in the Ground (as by great Rains it frequently happeneth,) the Season is generally past before it can be Sown again.

Holland,

Holland, whose whole Product is scarce sufficient to serve (t) one Eighth part of its Inhabitants, consequently the rest are obliged to purchase the so necessary Commodities, Food and Rayment, of Neighbouring Countries at the Rates they can get them.

Holland, whose Territories extending upon powerful Neighbours, to defend its Frontiers, and draw out a War in length by Sieges, in order to determine it, by force of Money rather than of Arms; you are obliged to be at vast Expence in Fortifications and Standing Troops, to defend them even in the time of the profoundest Peace, for Instance *Anno 1670*. After all Reforms, you had Ten Regiments of Horse and Nineteen of Foot making together Twenty six thousand Two hundred Men, the constant Charge of which Forces was 556281 *l* Sterling *per Annum*.

I say, if in *Holland*, naturally loaded with these Disadvantages and Misfortunes, and all their ill Consequences:

(t) Pol. Gron & Maxims van Holl. Page 44.

notwithstanding you are (u) *Bridled with hard Laws, terrified with severe Executions, environed with Foreign Forces, and oppressed with the most cruel Hardships, and variety of Taxes that were ever known under any Government.* Your People are become so numerous and wealthy, by Fishing upon our *Northern Coasts.*

Did we in *England* diligently apply our Selves to the Fishing Trade, what a continual Sea-Harvest might we reap, whose Coasts so abound with Cod, Hake, Conger, Whitings, Scate, Sprats, Soals, Oysters, Salmon, Pilchards, Turbets, Thornbacks, Mackerel, Herrings, or Ling, all the Year long.

D. *Why, e'en just such a Sea-Harvest as the Hamburgers did (who after five or six Years Trial to imitate us in the Herring-Fishery) found to their Cost we still out-did them, and so we shall you.*

E. The Reason why you out-did the *Hamburgers*, was, because they were yearly Frozen up (w) somewhat longer than you, but seeing by that Start you could out-strip them, surely we need not

(u) *Sir William Temple's Observation on the United Provinces, (w) Lex. Mercator. Fol. 171.*
 B fear

fear the Goal; who (besides what has been said,) have in Fishing many more Advantages of you, than ever you had of the *Hamburgers*.

D. *The generality of your Countrymen are of another Opinion.*

E. I am not Ignorant what Industry has been used to poyson my Countrymen with an Opinion, that only *Dutch-men* can thrive by Fishing: But upon examination, it will appear,

The *Dutch* have above an Hundred Leagues to Sail before they come to the *Herring Fishery*, which is only in the *British-Seas*, and when there, must lie at the mercy of the Winds for want of a Port to Friend, and in case of Unloading, have as far back again; which takes up a great deal of Time, hinders Business, and endangers the loss of their Markets: Whereas, in *England* we have the Fish upon our own Coasts, so near our Shoars, that in case of Storms, Unloading, taking in of Provisions, or the like, it is but four or five Hours work (commonly not so much) to recover an Harbour, and without loss of time put to Sea again; the work of Unloading, Repacking, and sending our Fish to Market, going on in all Weathers.

D. *And*

D. *And have not we Dogger-Boats to take off our Fish at Sea, and refurnish the Fishermen with Cask, and other Necessaries.*

E. Yes, Sir, and you have the charge and risque of those Dogger Boats too (both which the *English* save,) after all, if it happens to be a Rowling Sea, you cannot work, but must lie by and wait for a Calm.

D. *What other Advantages can you boast?*

E. *England*, hath many convenient Tide-haven-ports, as at *Hull*, *Harwich*, and *Holy Island* to the *Northward*, and *Dover*, *Rye*, *Portsmouth*, *Southampton*, *Cowes*, *Weymouth*, *Dartmouth*, *Catwater*, *Hamose*, *Fowey*, *Falmouth*, *Hilford*, *Scilly*, and *Milford*, *Westward*, where at low Water all of them are small Chingle or Hard Sand; so that our Vessels may easily haul a shore, and Wash and Tallow at Pleasure; nor are Creeks and commodious Places wanting in *England* to lodge our Busses and Doggers safe when not employed, so as to prevent wear of Cables, charge of Watching, danger of Fire, &c.

D. *What else?*

E. The Shores of *England* are bold, its Coasts high-land, easily discovered, several of our Cape-lands opposite to

France and *Holland*, make *Eddy-Bayes*, whose depth of Water is mean, as fix, eight, ten, or twelve Fathom, the Tides (on our Coasts) are small Anchor hold, generally stiff Clay, Chalk or hard Gravel, so that we need not dread Winter Storms, besides the Advantage we have of lying in a moderate Climate, and in the very Center of the Trade of *Europe*, affords us opportunity of sending to Foreign Parts, from divers of our Ports, at all Seasons of the Year: Whereas, the Coasts of *Holland* are extreemly Low, subject to be Hazy and Foggy, have many Shoals and Sands, some of which lie so far off at Sea, that frequently Ships are Stranded before they see Land; its Ports are bad, and often choaked up with Quick-sands; its Havens yearly frozen up two or three Months together: And the *North-west* Wind (usually blowing the greatest part of the Year) make *Holland* a Lee, and *England* a Weather shore, so that (oft-times) whilst you are Wind-bound or Frozen up at home, we can supply the Markets abroad.

Besides, wanting Wood at reasonable Rates, you cannot share with us in the Red-herring Trade.

As for Pilchards, they cannot be well cured, unless brought fresh on Shore, and being taken on our Coasts, will be Stale ere they can be carried to Your's.

Not to mention our Rich *New England-Fishery*, our *Western Ports* are incomparably scituated for the *Newfound-Land Fishery*, and the Country itself belonging to the Crown of *England*, you can have no footing there.

Near the Pile of *Foudray* in *Lancashire*, and in several other Places along the Shores of *Wales*, we can Fish even without the Charge of Doggers, for by only setting Nets on the Sands at low Water, great quantities of Herrings are taken next Tide of Ebb.

D. *Those Herrings on the Coasts of Lancashire (coming newly out of the Ocean) are so fat they will not take Salt kindly, consequently are apt to Reast.*

E. We now find by Experience, that fat Herrings being pressed and cured like Pilchards, take Salt kindly, and yield store of Oyl; to the great Encouragement of our Ship-wrights, Curriers, Soap-boylers, &c.

D. *How chance this Method was not found out sooner?*

B 3

E. Dies

Dies Diem docet ; those noble Salt
Rocks in *Cheshire*, (sufficient to supply all
Europe) have not been many Years dis-
covered.

Besides, of a Coar abounding in *Shrop-
shire*, much Pitch is now made of so Ex-
cellent a Nature, Heat only causeth it to
penetrate deeper into Plank, and Cold
cannot make it crackle off; both which
are Advantages *Holland* can't pretend to.

D. *What more?*

E. The Coasts of *Wales* abound with
Ash; which as far excels other Wood for
drying Herrings, as its Bark doth all o-
thers for tanning Nets: Nor do we in
England (as you) want Willow - hoops
from *Hamburgh*.

D. *Notwithstanding all the Advantages
you speak of, your Chief Fishing Towns, Yar-
mouth and Laystoffs, are beholding either
to us at Enckhuijsen, or the French at
Diep, for selling them Nets?*

E. Before the late War, they used to
buy Sail-Cloath of you too, but that now
made at *Fulham*, &c. is brought to equal
Perfection with your best *Hollands-Duck*;
and as for Nets, the Towns you mention,
have these seven Years last past made
most they used; and who knows, but that
our

our Artisans (universally allowed the best upon Earth for Improvements) may in a little time as much excel you in these Things, as they out-do the *Germans* in fine Steel-works; which though they first Invented, yet we now make and sell to them.

But seeing you talk of being beholden: I think you are beholden to us, for selling you our Thames Lamprons where-with you bait for *North Sea* Cod, else you might go whistle for 'em.

D. Have you any more Advantages of us?

E. Upon Exporting our Fish, we have the Benefit of a considerable Draw-back upon Salt.

D. If that's all, rather than suffer that Tide of Wealth that flows in our Fishery to be Diverted to another Channel; no doubt but our States will allow the Dutch the like Encouragement. But now you have told me all your Advantages, I hope.

E. Excuse me, Sir, England affords Timber, Iron and Hemp; whereas you are forced to purchase those Commodities in Foreign Countries.

D. Nevertheless, we have all Naval Stores in Barter for Herrings, which costs us little but the trouble of hawling up out of

the Sea, which being considered, and how much the catching such Herrings (by employing and encreasing our Ships and Mariners, adds to the Wealth and Strength of our Country,) it conduceth far more to our Advantage, than if Holland had Naval Stores of its own Product : Whereas, to purchase East Country Wares, the English are yearly forced to export much Coin, to the great exhausting of their Treasure.

E. We do not (as you) depend solely upon the East Country for Naval Store ; no, in case of Exaction or Rupture, we can be sufficiently supplied from our American Plantations.

But if a Fishery be Established in England, what should hinder us from having Naval Stores in Exchange for Herrings, as well as you ?

D. Your White Herrings are not so bright and good as ours.

E. Whilst your Clapboard is floating from Germany, the Rhine draws out its Sap, and if we also soak the Corrosive Sap out of our Clapboard, which now discolours and preys upon our Fish, and like you, gip and salt the Herrings as soon as taken, they'll be every whit as bright, and good as Yours.

D. We

D. *We build Cheaper in Holland than you do in England.*

E. Our Ships are much Stronger, and abler to brook the Seas, and will last twice as long.

D. *Our Vessels Sail with fewer Hands.*

E. We have no reason to envy you that happiness, whilst (in proportion to your Tunnage and Number of Mariners) you yearly lose (by undermanning) far more Ships and Mens Lives than we, for which Reason, in above three Parts of the World, our Ships yield better Freight; where then lies the Odds? Which were there any, could be only in Merchant-men, to carry our Fish to Market: Doggers and Fisher Boats carry more Men to catch Fish than are needful to Sail them: And in the *Greenland Trade*, each Ship to Man their Shallops, when a Fishing, must have Three times the Crew that can Navigate her. Were not this true, since in building *English* Shipwrights know no Masters, surely we might easily cause our Ships to be built and manned after your Mode.

But supposing your Assertion true, if as all Ships that carry Corn to *Venice*, are permitted to Load Currans at *Zant*: so

all Bottoms which Exported *English* caught Fish, might be allowed to return with a Loading of Naval Stores, without paying Alians Duty: That would set us upon even Ground with you, as to the Business of our *Fishery*.

D. *Two thousand Five hundred Persons are hardly able in a whole Year, to make a Fleet of Nets for Five hundred Doggers: Now England's many wastes and unimproved Lands, shews it's not half peopled, and of those in it,*

Consider,

How many Women and Children do just nothing, but spend what others get.

How many are meer Voluptuaries, and, as it were, Gamesters by Trade.

How many live by puzzling poor People with unintelligible Notions.

How many, by perswading credulous, delicate and litigious Persons, that their Bodies or Estates are out of Tune or in Danger.

How many by Trades of meer Pleasure or Ornament.

How many by Mysteries of Vice and Sin, or in a lazy way of Attendance upon others, where then can you hope to find Hands to carry on your Fishery.

E. The

E. The Numbers of the Idle Persons you mention, denote rather want of Business than want of People : However, a full Employment of the Hands we have, is certainly the best way to get more ; for such as our Employment is for People, so many will our People be.

The far greatest Part of *England's* Droans, are neither so Young, nor yet so Old or Decrepit, but that they may either turn Wheels, spin Twine, braid or beet Nets, cut Corks, cast Leads, make Herring Spits, Norfels, Swills or Baskets, Gip, Spit, Salt, Hang or Pack Herrings, or at least tend Fires to smoak or dry them, pick Oakum, or the like ; and as a constant Employment of our Poor, will be a continual Ease and Comfort to them, by amusing and diverting them from thinking of their Poverty or other Misery ; so will it alleviate the Nations Burthen, and in some measure be a Re-peopling of us too, by adding so many lost Hands to the Service of the Publick.

In *England*, we have Numbers of *French* Protestants, who fled from *Diep* and the Coasts of *Normandy*, &c. (bred to the Business of the *Fishery* from their Cradles)

Cradles) that (if settled in our decayed Fishing Towns) would as certainly make them Flourish as the Walloon and Burgundean Refugees, planted by Queen *Elizabeth* (w) at *Normich*, *Canterbury* and *Colchester*, raised them (then so poor) Cities, to such great Trade, Riches and Plenty.

In *England*, we have no Sumptuary Laws: So that Mercers not foreknowing Fashions, dare not lay out their Stocks till the Spring; at which time their sudden great Demands render Journey Men scarce, and oblige Weavers to draw in Numbers of Apprentices, who in few Months supply the Trade of the Nation; when being turned off, many (like the Inhabitants of the *Bath*, *Epsom*, *Tunbridge*, &c. who live by exacting on Strangers in Summer,) are ready to Starve for want of Employment before the next Spring.

Were a National *Fishery* Established in *England*, our Gentry, by causing their Footmen and Servants to rise early, and employ their idle Hours in making Nets, might not *only* reap the *profit* of their *work*, but by accustoming them to Business in

(w) 1568.

their

their Youths, beget in them such industrious Dispositions, as would prevent (what now too frequently happens) their becoming Beggars, or worse in Old Age.

The time of Labouring and industrious People well Employ'd, is the best Commodity of any Country; and were a *Fishery* Establisht in *England*, how Advantageous would it be to the Publick: When all our disbanded Soldiers, poor Prisoners, Widows and Orphans, all poor Tradesmen, Artificers and Labourers, their Wives, Children and Servants, each vacant Interval may be getting a Penny by braiding and beeting of Nets, &c.

D. *But still you want Marriners; whereas Sailors in Holland, are as Common as Beggars in England.*

E. 'Tis own'd, our want of Marriners enough at once to Man our Navy, and Collery, cost *London*, and the Dependences upon the River of *Thames* (during the late War) above Seaven hundred thousand Pounds, only in the Price of Coals; by which may be guessed, how Detrimental it was to the Trade of our Nation in General.

But

But the more we want Mariners, the greater reason we have to establish a *Fisbery*, which (the *Preface* shows) is the best way to encrease their number.

The many Thousands, *English, Scotch, and Irish* Mariners, who now yearly fish for you, would hardly seek Work abroad, if a *Fisbery* afforded 'em full Employment at home, and 'tis odds, but a finer Country, cheaper and better Food and Raiment, wholesomer Air, easier Rents and Taxes, will tempt many of your Country Men to cross the Herring Pond.

Since the Peace is concluded, and our great Ships laid up, we have Mariners enough to begin a *Fisbery*; and as that goes forwards, it will proportionably encrease their numbers.

D. *Fishing is a Work for which the English are unfit, and requires such skilful, industrious and robust Seamen, as no Country breeds but Holland.*

E. Your learned *Keckerman* says, *Omnibus Hodie Gentibus, Navigandi, industria & peritia Superiores esse Anglos.*

'Tis certain, our Mariners do as cheerfully undergo hardships, and are as bold in danger as any; and for hard Labour,
the

the working of a Mine is incomparably harder than that of a Ship. No Country but Great Britain can boast, that after twelve hours hard Work, its Natives will (in the Evening) go to Foot-ball, Stool-ball, Cricket, Prison-base, Wrestling, Cudgel-playing, or some such vehement Exercise for their Recreations: And as for their Genius, it's remarkable, that such Lads and Country Fellows, as at *Yarmouth*, *Laystoffe*, &c. are once hired into the Fishing Trade, and come to feed on the Fish they catch, it improves them at such a rate, that of pitiful Weaklings at Land, they become healthful, stout and hardy Persons, and upon trial, find it so much to their liking, that not one in twenty, but take to the Sea for good and all.

D. English Men are dainty chapt, and when a Fishing, cannot fare like ours.

E. It is certain, they need not for Meat and Drink in *Ireland*; and in many Parts of *England*, are above as cheap again as in *Holland*, which produceth no other Provisions (for Traffick) than Butter and Cheese; and even those are cheaper with us than with you: Besides, 'tis observed, that whatever Dutch Fishermen

men save by eating of Grout, they drink more than ours in Brandy.

D. *The Act of the 18 Car. 2. prohibits the Importation of Irish Cattle, to keep up Rents: Now catching much Fish (by hindering the Consumption of Flesh) will make Lands fall.*

E. Doubtless, plenty of Food is a great Blessing, and no good *English*-Man will desire to grow rich by a Famine.

'Tis generally the landed Men bear the Burthen of the Poor; without finding them Work, they must maintain them Idle: Where the Poor's Rates are High, Lands will fall, and Rents be ill paid.

The cheaper Provisions are, the less Taxes will serve in time of War; House-keeping will be less chargeable, and a less Rate maintain our Poor: But where Provisions are dear, Work and Wages will rise in proportion, to the great detriment of Husbandry, and stop to Improvements, which (*pro tanto*) will fall Rents; and raise all Manufactures, yet lessen their Consumption, both at home and abroad, and necessitate Masters, for want of Vent (by turning off their Journey

ney

ney Men) to make whole Families of Beggars at once.

Catching much Fish, will, morally speaking, render *England* less subject to a Famine; which generally exhausteth more of our Wealth in one Year, than War doth in two.

Catching much Fish, will give Work to many Thousands, of both Sexes, that now are cloathed in Rags, and (through Poverty) live only on Bread, Water-Pulse, Roots, and the like; who, when they come to have the Rewards of their Labours in their Hands, will incourage the Woollen Manufacture, by buying New Cloaths: And our Farmers by a greater Consumption of the Product of the Earth, by drinking Strong-beer, will advance the King's Excise, by increasing the number of Tenants, raise our Rents, ease our Poor's Rates and Taxes, by helping to pay them.

Catching much Fish, will occasion the expence of much Butter, and make our Farmers run much upon Daries: The Business whereof, though performed by the fair Sex, turns to as good Account, as the hardest Labour the Husbandman can imploy his Time in: Put case the
Mar-

Market should be over-stock'd at Home, *English Butter* is too good a Commodity in *Flanders, France, Spain, Portugal, &c.* ever to want Vent abroad.

The cheaper our Provisions are, the more Navigation will be encouraged; more Foreign Ships will victual with us; fewer of ours in *Ireland*; and the more Beef, Pork, &c. shall we Export to *Barbadoes, Jamaica*, and the rest of our Plantations: So, that supposing Meat should not always remain at a very excessive Rate, yet, where a greater Consumption causeth a quick Market, though at a midling Price; if the Proverb be true, *Light Gains will make a heavy Purse.*

It is cheap Provisions that enables the *Indians* to supplant the *Europeans* in their Manufactures: And should a *Fishery* make Provisions in *England*, but one Tenth part cheaper, Wages would fall in proportion, and our Artists grow never the poorer; yet our Merchants be enabled (by under-selling) to beat all the rest of *Europe* out of the Woollen Trade, and then our Farmers would gain far more by the rise of the *Fleece*, than they'd lose by the fall of the *Flesh*.

After

Besides, the Profit of our Lands ; doth not wholly arise from Breeding, abate in Grasing, and plow up more Pasture, and *Flesh* will hold its price.

D. *Corn is so cheap in England, your Farmers are often Broke by it ; what then could you do with greater Quantities ?*

E. The Reason why our Farmers sometimes want Vent for their Grain, is, because we have not always Store, and therefore Merchants make no Provision for the Trade : But if we yearly sow such Quantities of Corn beyond the expence of the Nation, as Merchants may be no less certain of a constant supply here, than they are in the *Sound* (where the Country depends as much upon their Harvest, as *France* does on its Vintages) Plenty will soon create a Trade, and the Advantage of *England's* lying so much nearer than *Dantzic*, to the Places where Foreign Corn is Exported ; together with the allowance granted by the 25 *Car.* 2. upon the Exporting thereof, will sufficiently encourage Merchants to deal therein.

Most of our Ships are now sent light to *Bilboa* and *Lisbon* : (now what loads our Ships, helps our Navigation) And
our

our Exports to *Lisbon*, not answering our Imports from thence: The more we send them in Corn, the less their Wines will cost the Nation in ready Money, or Bills of Exchange, which is all one.

Gold and Silver Mines, *England* hath none, and in time of Peace no way to get Bullion, but by Foreign Traffick; to which, nothing can more conduce than cheap Fishing, and cheap Working and Manufacturing the Commodities, which compose the Exports of our Kingdom; and that is, not to be effected, except Labour be cheap, which it can never be, where Provisions are dear: But the cheaper our Provisions are, the cheaper our Exports may be afforded; consequently the more Vent we shall have for them, and much Vent will cause many Workmen; and when the Wheel is set a going, Trade begets Trade, as Fire begets Fire; and the more Trade encreaseth, the more will Industrious People, from all Parts flock to us, and tenant our Houses, enclose our Waits, improve our Lands, encrease our Manufactures, and enlarge our Products, far beyond the whole Expence of our Nation, and thereby, in proportion, add to its Wealth and Treasure:
for

for Merchants Exporting the Surplus, will in Returns bring back Gold, Silver, and other valuable Commodities, which (in *England* that hath Property) by Succession of Contracts, will diffuse among its Inhabitants; and thus as the number of Persons, made rich by their Labour and Industry, encrease, and the choice of Tenants and Chapmen are enlarged, a kind of Competition amongst them, must, and will make Rents and Lands advance in proportion: Witness *Holland*, and such Lands, as lye near great and populous Corporations. So true it is, that *Trade and Lands are Twins, that always wax and wain together.*

D. Notwithstanding, what hath been said, I advise all your Country Men, not to be concerned in a Fishery; for, in *Holland* we have Money at Three, whereas the Trade of *England* is burthened with Six per Cent. Interest; consequently you can never keep pace with us.

E. Why do you not (for the same reason) advise us to forbear Trading to *East-India, Turkey, Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, &c.* nay, to quit all Navigation, and abandon our selves to the next Comers? Was it not the Fishing Trade
gave

gave Rise to all your Wealth; and as Money grew plentiful in *Holland*, did not Lands rise gradually to near Forty Years purchase, and Interest fall by degrees from Eight to Three *per Cent*? Why then may not we expect, that a *Fisbery* will do the like in *England*; and be a means to regain our *Muscovy*, *Greenland*, *Norway*, and *East Country* Trades? For, still as Trade by encreasing of Wealth, causeth an abatement of Interest, abatement of Interest will yet cause a further encrease of Trade.

D. *The Dutch are already settled in the Fishing Trade.*

E. *Stately Genoa*, that once employed Forty thousand Hands in the Silken Manufacture, declines now as fast, as her formerly neglected Neighbour *Leghorn* riseth: And if the *French King* continues to court all the World with popular Immunities, *Leghorn* (in time) must give place to her Sister *Marseilles*.

The King of *Portugal* having discovered the Passage to the *East Indies* (x), by the *Cape of Good Hope*, and so diverted the Course of Trade driven by the *Vene-*

(x) Anno 1500.

tians

from *Alexandria*, and the *Red Sea*, to his Port of *Lisbon*; kept Factors at *Antwerp*, to Vend there his *Indian* Commodities; which drew several Merchants from divers Parts to reside there, and made that pleasant seated City the Pack-house of *Europe*: But when the *Dutch* (y) also found the way to the *Indies*, and began to rival *Portugal* in that Trade, Merchants resolving not to lose the advantage of their Skill in *Indian* Commodities, by removing to *Amsterdam*, improved their own Estates, but ruin'd *Antwerp*.

Trade, like the Sea, its Element often ebbs and flows from one place to another: Not many Years since, we Imported Silk Stockings from the *Levant*; but now the Tide is turn'd, and we send them thither.

D. *It's too great an Undertaking.*

E. The *Flemings* were long settled in the Manufacturing of our Wooll; yet (in *Edward* the III. time) when the *English* set about it themselves, in good earnest, they effectually fixed that Rich Staple in *England*. The *Dutch* likewise for many

(y) Anno 1602.

years

Years after, had the Dressing and Dying of our Woollen Manufactories; but when we undertook the Work, they were soon deprived of that Advantage, which so great Benefits our Country would have yet wanted, had all Men thought them too big to be accomplished.

D. *Projects in England, have of late proved very unsuccessful.*

E. What! though some Men have run upon wild Notions, and catching at Shadows lost their Substance, that's no Objection against our *Fishery*, which is a certainty; for the Sea yields her Fish, as well as the Earth her Fruit in due season: And *Neptune* hath been far more bountiful to you than *Ceres*.

D. *Have you drawn up a Method for employing the Poor of England in a National Fishery?*

E. I have attempted it, but find the well-contriving the Business, requires far better Heads than mine.

D. *However let's see your ESSAY.*

E. Here it is, Sir.

T H E

T H E P R O P O S A L.

1. **T**HAT towards raising a Joint-stock for Employing the Poor in a *National Fishery*, a Million be Subscribed.

2. That the Money Subscribed be called Stock, and be Assignable.

3. That every Subscriber, at the time of such their Subscriptions, pay to One full fourth Part of his, her, or their respective Subscriptions; and in Default of such Payment, every Subscription to be utterly Void and Null.

4. That the residue of the said Subscriptions, be paid by such Proportions, and at such Days and Times, as by a General Court of the said Subscribers, shall from time to time be appointed: And in Default of such Payment, that then the fourth Part first paid, as aforesaid, be forfeited to the Use of the Corporation, herein after mentioned, their Successors and Assigns.

C

5. That

5. That the Subscribers be Incorporated by *Act of Parliament* (by the Name of the Corporation, for employing the Poor of *England* in a *National Fishery*) with perpetual Succession.

6. That at a General Court to be held for the said Corporation, Thirty be chosen out of the said Subscribers, by plurality of Votes, and presented to the Parliament.

7. That out of the said Thirty, Ten be nominated Fathers of the Poor, and Directors of the National Fishery by both Houses of Parliament, approved by His Majesty, and accountable to them for their Trust.

8. That in case of Vacancy (by the Death, or Misdemeanor) of any one of the said Fathers of the Poor (during Sessions of Parliament,) the said Corporation to present Three, out of which His Majesty and Parliament to nominate One, as before, and so *toties quoties*. But in case the Parliament shall not then be sitting, that such Vacancies be filled up by the Majority of the Surviving Fathers until next Sessions of Parliament; and then the Corporation to present, and the *King* and *Parliament* to approve as before.

9. That

9. That such Fathers be Impowered to Constitute under the Seal of the said Corporation, a sufficient Number of Deputies in each County in *England*; and that such Deputies be, and be called Stewards of the Poor.

10. That the said Fathers and such Stewards of the Poor, be exempted from all Parish Offices.

11. That the said Fathers, and such their Stewards be vested with all Authority now in Justices of the Peace; and that all Parish Officers be subordinate and accountable to the said (Fathers, and such their Stewards,) in all things (only) relating to Employing the Poor.

12. That the said Fathers and Stewards have Freedom to set the Poor on Work, about such of the said Trades relating to the *Fishery* as they shall think fit, with a *non obstante* to all Patents that have been, or shall be granted.

13. That to prevent People from being oppressed, and ground to Poverty by Pawn-broakers, that screw out of them 40 or 50 *per Cent*; the said Fathers may be allowed to erect Lumber-Offices in every City and Town in *England* exclusive of all o-

thers, upon Condition they take not above *per Cent. per Annum.*

14. That in all Churches (as in *Holland*) at every Solemn Assembly, the Church-Wardens with a long Staff and Bag, during the Sermon, receive the Charitable Benevolence of the whole Congregation, and pay the same to the said Fathers, who shall cause a true Account to be kept thereof, and apply it to the Erecting Hospitals in *London* and other Great Cities, wherein Poor Women near the time of their Travel, may be received and carefully Delivered, and remain till they are in a condition to return Home, and follow their Work: And if at the Years end, any *Overplus* of such Collections remain, that the same be Yearly applyed for *Marrying* poor *Maids*.

15. That until the Business of the *Fishery* be sufficient alone to give Employment to all our Poor, (or at least during Ten Years next after the Establishing a *National Fishery*,) the said Fathers and Stewards of the Poor, may be Impowered to Imploy such of them as they shall think fit, in erecting Free-Schools, Hospitals, Work-houses, and Ware-houses; for the Corporation, in making Enclosures,

tures, in repairing Sea Banks, draining Fens, cleansing and deepning Rivers and Havens, in building and repairing Churches, Bridges and Causeways, in mending Roads, in planting Oaks near Navigable Rivers, and Fruit Trees in Inland Countries, also in cleansing of Streets, Common-shores, and the like.

16. That the said Fathers of the Poor, be Impowered to send such Refractory Poor as they shall think fit, to serve in His Majesties Plantations, taking Security for their comfortable Maintenance during years Service, and for their Freedom afterwards.

17. That all the Poor's Rates in *England* be Collected, as formerly by the Church-Wardens of each Parish, and by them quarterly paid into the Treasury of the said Corporation, as a Recompence for their providing for the Poor, and freeing the Nation from Beggars.

18. That the Million Subscribed, be always kept intire, as a Security to Indemnify the Nation against the Charge of the Poor, and the Income and Profits be only divided amongst the Subscribers.

19. That the Treasure of the said Corporation be accounted as Sacred, and that

it be Felony to imbezel, lend, convert, or apply the same to any other Use, than maintaining the Poor, or carrying on the Business of the *Fishery*.

20. That His Majesty be Addressed, to grant Leases to such *National Fishery*, of the Waits and Direlict Lands, to be by them used in Building Ware-houses, Curing Fish, Beeting, Corking, Leading and Drying Nets, Spining Twine, and the like.

21. That the said Fathers may buy up, when Cheap, a certain Quantity of Corn, Coals, &c. yearly, and lodge the same in *Granaries & Wharfs*, for the Use of their Poor, but not make Merchandize of them, or sell them again in *England*.

22. That the Stock in the said *Fishery* be not chargeable with any Rates, Duties, or Impositions whatsoever.

23. That Debts due to the *Fishery*, for Goods by them, *bona fide* sold and delivered, take Preference of all others, except those due to the *King*.

24. That all Persons may Fish as formerly, and sell what they catch in *England*, but none Export any Fish but the *National Fishery* without paying them per Cent.

25. That

25. That the said Fathers and Stewards, be Impowered to bind such single Persons to the Company, as the Church-Wardens and Overseers of the Poor by the Statutes of 43 *Eliz.* 2. 1 *Jac.* 25. 21 *Jac.* 28. and the 3 *Car.* 4. are Impowered to put out Apprentices, the Boys to Serve till Twenty four, and the Girls till Twenty one Years of Age ; at one of the two and thirty Trades more immediately relating to the *Fishery*.

The Companies Interest will oblige them to Provide the best and soberest Masters.

How to prevent their Desertion can be shown beyond Objection.

Now such Apprentices being in the Fishing Season employ'd at *Sea*, and at other Times in that Trade relating to the *Fishery* to which they were Bound, when their Time is out, will be able to get their Livelihoods either at Sea or Land ; and if to render them more capable of serving their Country, the said Fathers or Stewards (at Four a Clock each *Saturday* in the Afternoon) should cause them when (on shore) to Muster and Exercise (although only with Staves,) and for Diversion to play at Cudgels or, Fence,
and

and reward the Conquerer with liberty of wearing a small Ribbon, whose distinguishing Colour of *Red, Blem, &c.* should Entitle them to be called *Captains, Lieutenants, &c.* by the rest of their Fellows, till next Weeks trial of Skill: How soon would Emulation beget Address? And what a Treasure and Strength to *England* would such a *Militia* be, always ready for Service both by *Sea* and *Land*, and yet no Charge to the Nation till actually in it.

Nor will such Lads be less profitable to the Corporation, for suppose (as usual) the charge of *Fishing* to consist $\frac{1}{3}$ in the *Dogger & Rigging*, $\frac{1}{3}$ in *Victuals, Nets, &c.* and $\frac{1}{3}$ in *Seamens-Wages*; and the whole to amount to Nine hundred Pounds.

Admitting our *Craft, Rigging* and *Vic-tualing*, as Chargeable as the *Dutch*, and that they amount together to 600 *l.* Then 300 *l.* remains for *Wages*.

Should the Corporation the first Year, have but $\frac{1}{3}$ of a *Dogger's-Crew* their own Servants, (bating what is paid more to *Officers* till their own *Apprentices* are fit to Command,) it will save them one of the said 300 *l.* and if the next Year the Corporation have the $\frac{1}{2}$ of their *Dog-gers-Crew*

gers-Crew their Apprentices, it will then have them 150 *l.* of the said 300 *l.* and thus their Fish would stand them the first Year in about Ten, and the next in near Fifteen *per Cent.* less than the *Dutch*, and so Proportionable to the Numbers of their Servants, their Profits will encrease; till at length, paying little or no *Wages*, they may afford to sell Fish to the *Hollanders* cheaper than they can catch them.

D. *Money is scarce in England.*

E. The greater the Dearth, the more Care should be had to Seed the Ground, least the Famine encrease: The more our Wealth is Exhausted, the greater Cause have we to lay hold on the *Fishery*, which (as hath been shewn) so much Enrich'd *Holland*, and by parity of Reason will abundantly add to our Treasure.

D. *Upon the whole, I confess, its possible for England to out Fish us, but then you must have nothing to do with Companies, only make it every particular Man's Interest, and they'll soon make it their Business.*

E. It's Dangerous taking a Rivals Advice, and well known why *Fish* was so Cheap this Year in *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Italy*, and other *English* Markets; yet sold so well in the *East* Countries.

Glutting

Glutting Markets may Ruine particular Men, but its far more Difficult to put such Tricks upon Companies.

D. *After all, where can you find a Set of Honest Men, to carry on a National Fishery in England?*

E. In *Amsterdam*, you have your Church-wardens, Directors of *Bethlem*, of your Rasp-house, of your Spin-house, &c. Commissioners for your small Differences, and those of your *Levant* Trade, your Sea Affairs, &c. also your *Vroedschap* your Schepens, and your Burge-masters which are Places of far more Trouble than Profit, yet (being the usual steps to Preferment) are generally (*like that of Common-Council-Men in London*) officiated without Reproach. Not for that the *Dutch* are honefter Men than their Neighbours: But because such as are found tardy in those Employments, are barred all future hopes of Advancement. And should our *Parliament* Address his Majesty to prefer in the Custom-house, Excise &c. such as behaved themselves well in the *Fishery*, and make breach of Trust therein, to incapacitate Men from serving the Government in any Employment Military, or Civil for Year
(how

(how small Wages soever the Corporation allowed,) the Company would never want honest Servants, who, Voluntier like, would vie with each other, who should best serve their Country by most promoting its *Fishery*.

D. An Honest Man is a Citizen of the World, Gain equaliseth all Placces to me. And when you settle a Fishery upon better Terms than our's (as my Grandfather left Antwerp when its Trade began to decay, and removed to Amsterdam) I'll bid adieu to t' Vaderlandt, and Remove to London. In the Interim, Farewel.

CONCLUSION.

Seeing in the Peeamble of an *ACT* passed in the 14. Car 2. 'Tis declared, That the Publick Honour, Wealth and Safety of this Realm, as well in the Maintenance and Support of Navigation, as in many other Respects, doth in an high Degree depend upon the Improvement and Encouragement of the *FISHERY*.

And

And seeing the way to all this *Honour, Wealth and Safety* is so Plain and Easie, that by only a *Frugal and Industrious* management of Affairs (*without quarrelling with our Neighbours,*) we may quickly become *sole Masters of the Fishing Trade.*

For *Shame* let not *English-men* longer say, with *Solomon's* sloathful

Prov. 6. 13. *There is a LYON in the Way.*

CONCLUSION

FINIS.

1.6 2 6
9.5.0
4.6