

CHAP. VI.

That the Power and Wealth of England hath increased this last forty years.

Many Territories have been added to England within about forty years, and many improvements made.

IT is not much to be doubted, but that the Territories under the Kings Dominions have increased; Forasmuch as *New-England, Virginia, Barbadoes, and Jamaica, Tangier, and Bumbay,* have since that time, been either added to his Majesties Territories, or improved from a *Desart condition*, to abound with People, Buildings, Shipping, and the Production of many useful Commodities. And as for the Land of *England, Scotland, and Ireland*, as it is not less in quantity, than it was forty years since; so it is manifest that by reason of the Dreyning of *Fens*, watering of dry Grounds, improving of *Forests*, and *Commons*, making of *Healthy and Barren Grounds*, to bear *Saintfoyne*, and *Clovergrass*; meliorating, and multiplying several sorts of Fruits, and

and *Garden-Stuffe*, making some Rivers Navigable, &c. I say it is manifest, that the Land in its present Condition, is able to bear more Provision, and Commodities, than it was forty years ago.

Secondly, Although the People in *England, Scotland, and Ireland*, which have extraordinarily perished by the Plague, and Sword, within this last forty years, do amount to about three hundred thousand, above what have dyed in the ordinary way; yet the ordinary increase by Generation of ten Millions, which doubles in two hundred years, as hath been shewn by the Observators upon the Bills of Mortality, may in forty years (which is a fifth part of the same time) have increased $\frac{2}{5}$ part of the whole number, or two Millions. Where note by the way, that the accession of *Negroes* to the *American Plantations* (being all Men of great Labour and little Expence) is not inconsiderable; besides it is hoped that *New-England*, where few or no Women are Barren, and most have many Children, and where People live long, and healthfully, hath produced an increase

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of as many People, as were destroyed in the late Tumults in *Ireland*.

The Housing of London doubled in value.

As for *Housing*, the Streets of *London* it self speaks it, I conceive it is double in value in that City, to what it was forty years since; and for *Housing* in the Country, they have increased, at *Newcastle, Yarmouth, Norwich, Exeter, Portsmouth, Cowes, Dublin, King'sale, Londonderry, and Coleraine* in *Ireland*, far beyond the proportion of what I can learn have been dilapidated in other places. For in *Ireland* where the ruin was greatest, the *Housing* (taking all together) is now more valuable than forty years ago, nor is this to be doubted, since *Housing* is now more splendid, than in those days, and the number of Dwellers is increased, by near $\frac{1}{2}$ part; as in the last Paragraph is set forth.

The Shipping very much increased with the Reasons thereof.

As for Shipping, his Majesties Navy is now triple, or quadruple, to what it was forty years since, and before the *Sovereign* was Built; the Shipping Trading to *Newcastle*, which are now about eighty thousand Tuns, could not be then above a quarter of that quantity. First, Because the City of *London*,
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is doubled: 2. Because the use of Coals is also at least doubled, because they were heretofore seldom used in Chambers, as now they are, nor were there so many Bricks burned with them as of late, nor did the Country on both sides the *Thames*, make use of them as now. Besides there are employed in the *Guinny* and *American Trade*, above forty thousand Tun of Shipping *per annum*; which Trade in those days was inconsiderable. The quantity of Wines Imported was not near so much as now; and to be short, the Customs upon Imported, and Exported Commodities, did not then yield a third part of the present value; which shews that not only *Shipping*, but *Trade* it self hath increased, somewhat near that proportion.

As to Money, the Interest thereof was within this fifty years, at 10 *l. per Cent.* Interest of Money abated near half.
forty years ago, at 8 *l.* and now at 6 *l.* no thanks to any Laws which have been made to that purpose, forasmuch as those who can give good security, may now have it at less: But the natural fall of Interest, is the effect of the increase of Money.

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Morcover if *rented Lands*, and *Houses*, have increased; and if *Trade* hath increased also, it is certain that mony which payeth those *Rents*, and driveth on *Trade*, must have increased also.

Lastly, I leave it to the consideration of all Observers, whether the number, and splendor of *Coaches*, *Equipage*, and *Household Fueniture*, hath not increased, since that time; to say nothing of the *Postage* of Letters, which have increased from one to twenty, which argues the increase of *Business*, and *Negotiation*. I might add that his Majesties Revenue is near tripled, and therefore the means to pay, and bear the same, have increased also.

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CHAP. VII.

That one tenth part of the whole Expence, of the King of England's Subjects, is sufficient to maintain ten thousand Foot, forty thousand Horse, and forty thousand Men at Sea; and defray all other Charges of the Government, both Ordinary and Extraordinary, if the same were regularly Taxed, and Raised.

TO clear this Point, we are to find out, what is the middle *expence* of each Head in the Kings Dominions, between the highest and the lowest; to which I say it is not probably less, than the expence of a Labourer, who earneth about 8 *d.* a day; for the Wages of such a Man is 4 *s.* per week without Victuals, or 2 *s.* with it; wherefore the value of his Victuals is 2 *s.* per week, or 5 *l.* 4 *s.* per annum: Now the value of Clothes cannot be less than the Wages given to the poorest Maid-

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