

The history of the glove trade, with the customs connected with the glove. To which are annexed some observations on the policy of the trade between England and France, and its operation on the agricultural and manufacturing interests / By William Hull, jun.

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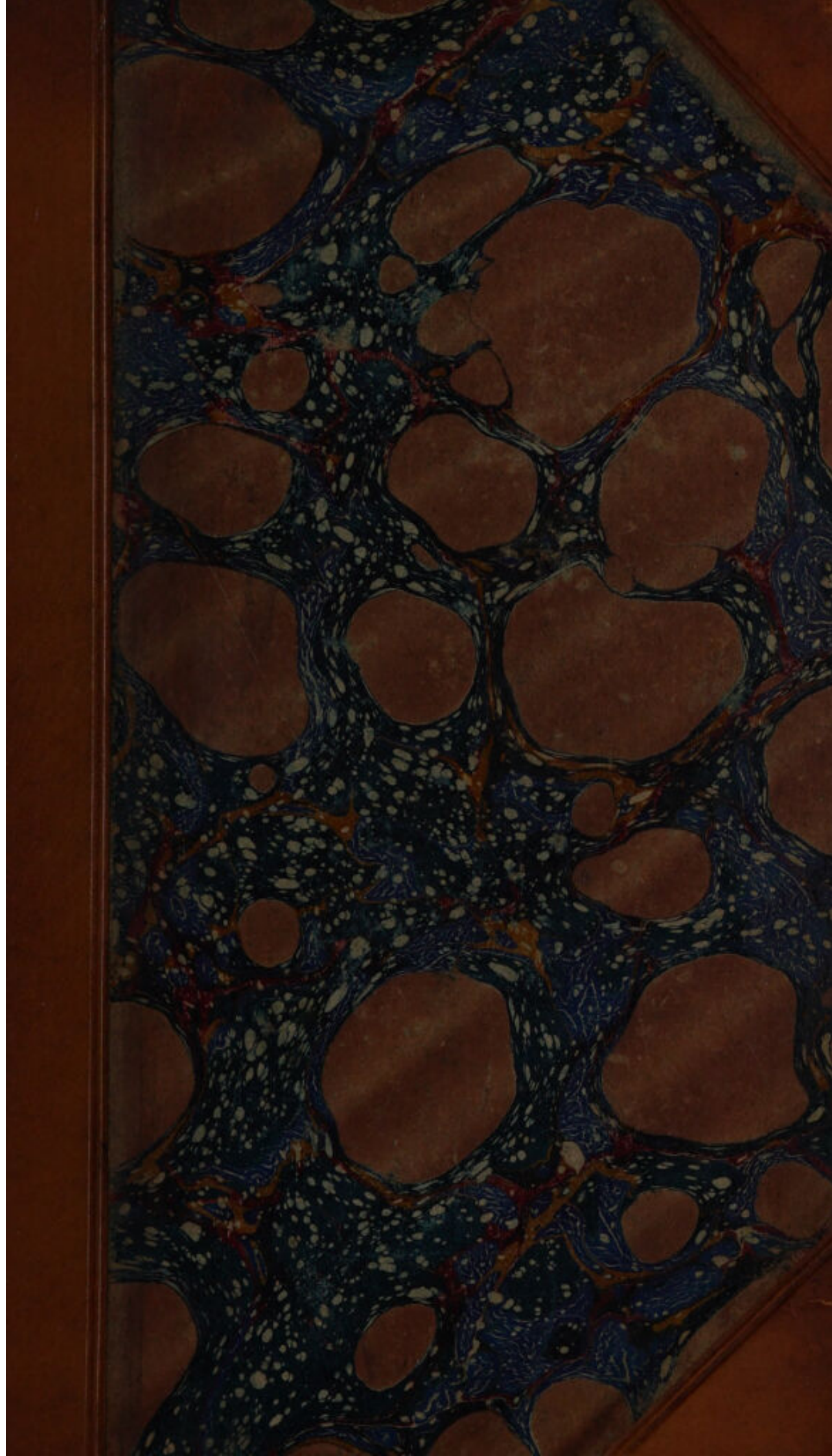
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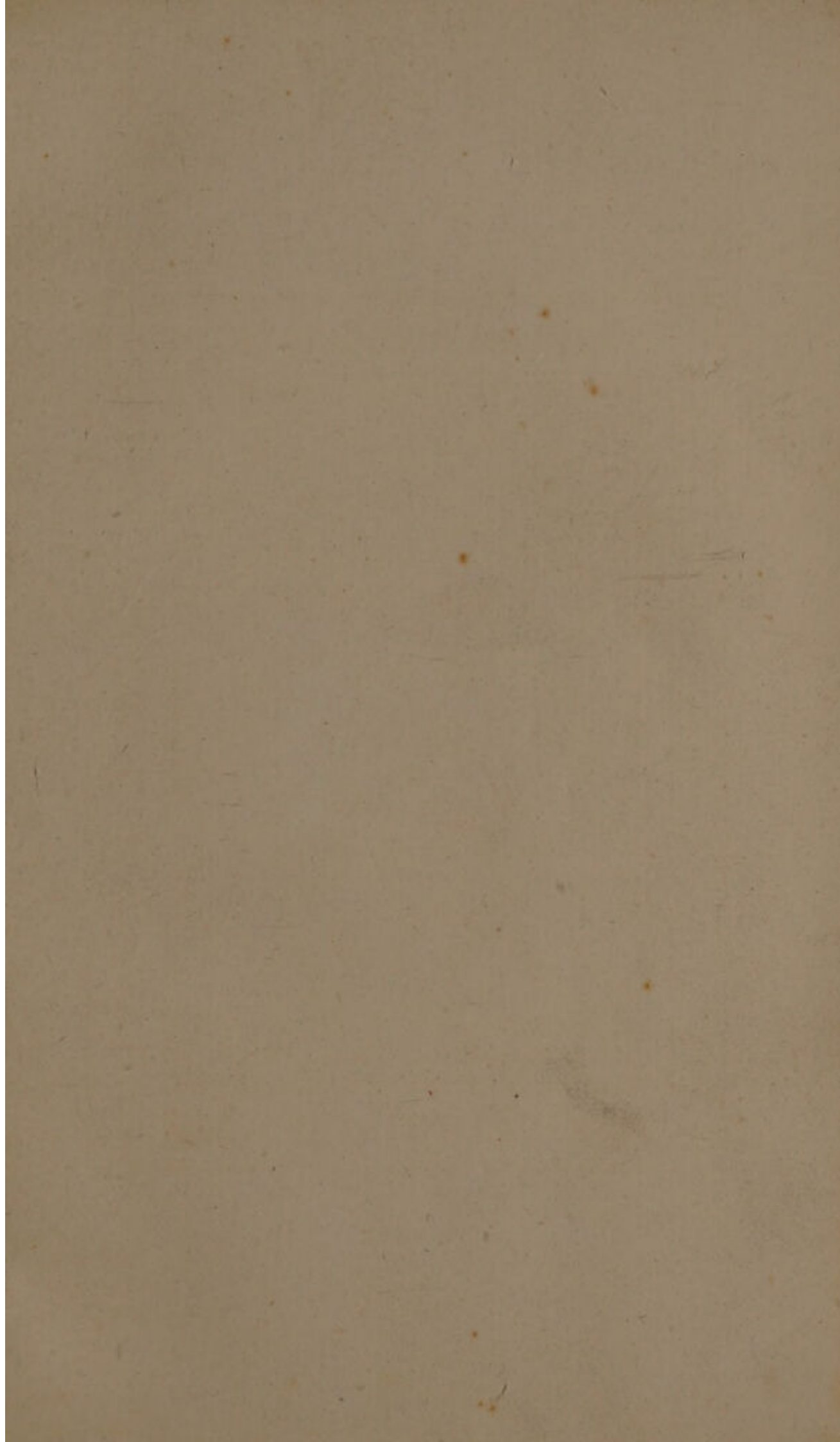
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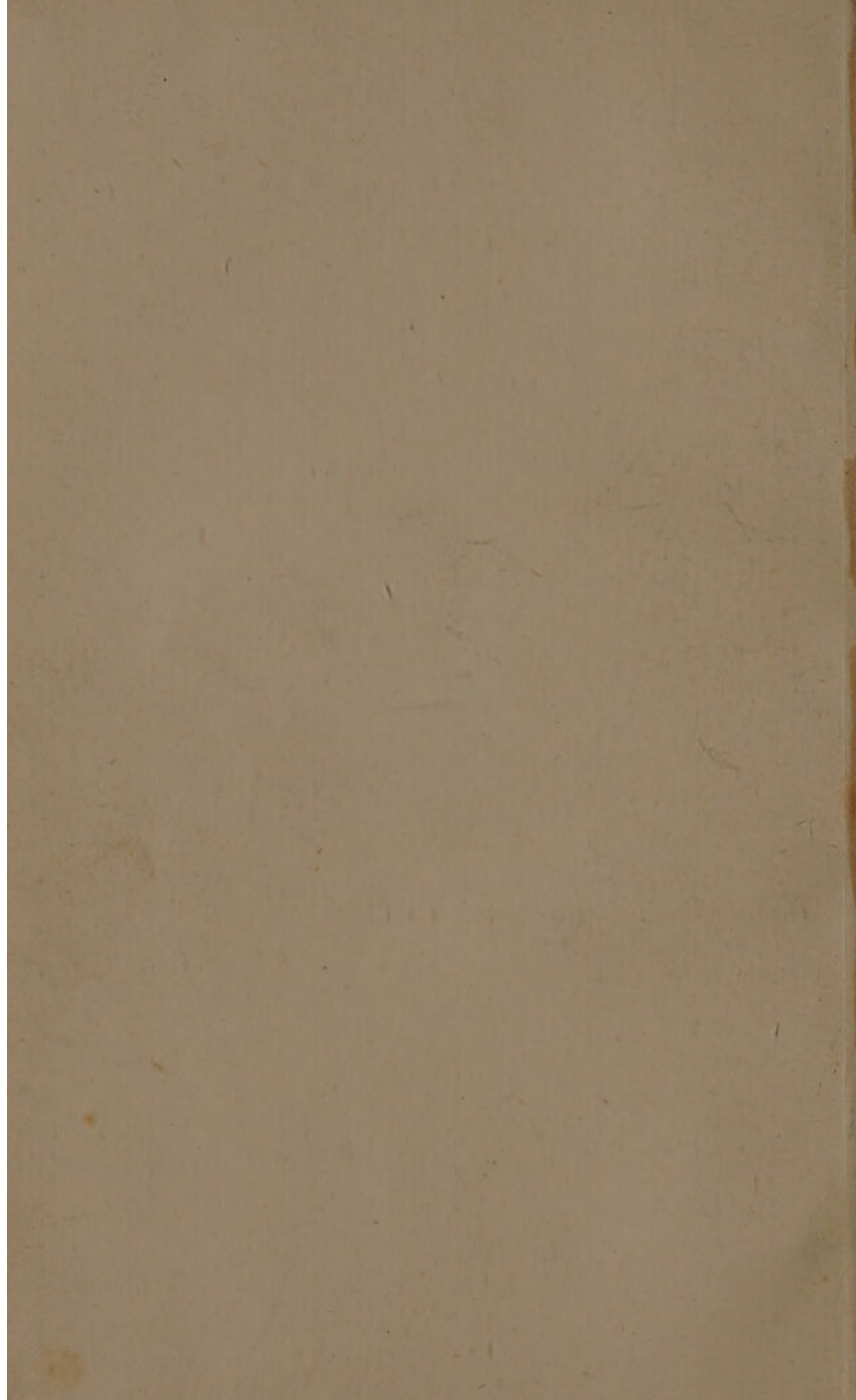
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THE
HISTORY
OF
THE GLOVE TRADE,

WITH THE
Customs connected with the Globe:

TO WHICH ARE ANNEXED
SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE POLICY OF THE TRADE
BETWEEN ENGLAND AND FRANCE,
AND ITS OPERATION ON THE AGRICULTURAL AND
MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

BY WILLIAM HULL, JUN.

"A Glove is the Emblem of Faith."—SIR W. SCOTT.

LONDON:
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1834.



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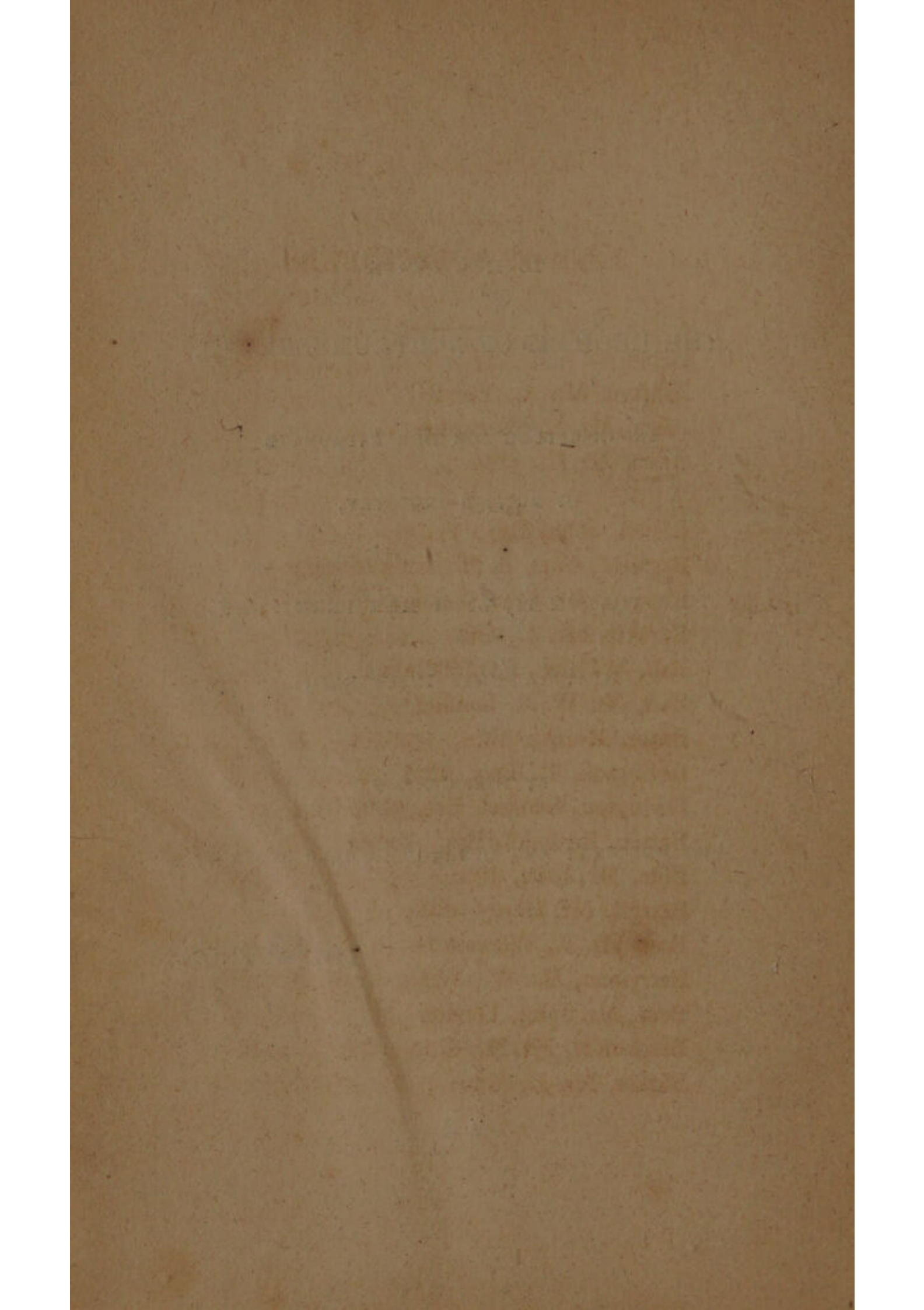
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OF BRITISH INDUSTRY,

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BY HER GRACE'S
MOST OBEDIENT AND DEVOTED HUMBLE SERVANT,

THE JTHOR.



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APOLOGY TO THE READER.

SOME persons, to whom the Author is known, may naturally exclaim, Why did he not occupy himself in making Gloves, instead of writing about them?

To such he respectfully replies—A bed of sickness, to which he was confined for many weeks, utterly incapable of attending to the ordinary affairs of life, gave him an opportunity of putting together some of the facts and observations he had from time to time collected and made, relative to a trade, the

origin and history of which is but little known, even to those engaged in it.

The main object of the Author has been, to draw the attention of the public to, and excite its support of, the *English Glove Trade*, in preference to the *Foreign*, by showing it to be an *ancient Staple Trade*, and intimately connected with the *Agricultural Interests*: and if, as an humble instrument, he should succeed in so doing, his happiness will be complete.

W. H.

ERRATA.

Page 11, line 5, *for is, read are.*

— 15, — 12, *for Pachymenem, read Pachymenera.*

— 77, — 4, *for Nicot, read Niort.*

A discrepancy appears between the Tables pp. 118—19, and the *Official Table* of Gloves imported in the years on which the calculations are founded. This arises from the ~~former~~ numbers being taken from the daily "Custom-house List"—the latter, from the latest Official Returns printed for the use of Parliament.

APPENDIX

Page 10 of 12
The following are the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various committees of the House of Representatives for the current session.

A list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various committees of the House of Representatives for the current session is given in the following table. The names are given in alphabetical order of the last name.

HISTORY

OF

THE GLOVE TRADE.

INTRODUCTION.

THE antiquity of the Glove Trade has by many been much doubted : it will, however, be less difficult to prove this than to ascertain its origin, which appears to be lost in ages.

Important as this trade is at the present time to England, it was not less so at a very remote period, since we find prohibitory laws enacted in its behalf near four hundred years since. Indeed, it may be asserted, that it was of much greater import-

ance; because, although there is a great increase in the quantity made, the gloves now in use are almost all made from foreign skins; whereas they were formerly made from native skins, to the great advantage of our agricultural institutions.

Of the justice or policy of the Laws affecting the Glove Trade, some remarks will be made in their proper place.

The Customs and Observances relative to the Glove, which are given in this volume, are intended to illustrate its history; and by them it will be seen that, at various periods, it has been the pledge of friendship, of love, and of safety; the symbol of hatred and defiance; of degradation and of honour; the token of loyalty; the tenure by which estates have been and are held; and, to this day, on occasions both of sorrow and of joy, it continues to be a customary offering.

ORIGIN AND ANTIQUITY OF THE GLOVE.

THE origin is unknown; but the first probable mention of the Glove occurs in the 4th chapter of Ruth, near three thousand years since:* the word נָעַל (*Nangal*), signifying *to shut, close, or enclose*: thus, when it is followed by רֶגֶל (*Regel*), *foot*, it must imply a shoe, or a sandal; but when it stands by itself, as in the passage quoted, it may be rendered *glove*. For this we have the

* “Now this was the manner, in former time, in Israel, concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things: a man plucked off his shoe (glove), and gave it to his neighbour: and this was a testimony in Israel.

“Therefore the kinsman said unto Boaz, Buy it for thee: so he drew off his shoe (glove).”—Ruth iv. verses 7, 8.

high authority of the *Targum*, or Chaldaic version, which renders it נִרְתֵּק יָד יְמִינָא (*Nartek yad*), *the case or covering of his right hand*. The same idiom occurs in the 108th Psalm: "Over Edom will I cast out my shoe;" which would be more correctly rendered as *glove*, intimating defiance and a threat of annihilation.*

The word *shoe* seldom, if ever, occurs in the Scriptures, or in any Eastern authors, except in connexion with acts of humility. The custom of taking off the shoes on entering the presence of princes and great men in the East, still exists.

Those persons who prefer retaining the English

* The author is indebted to M. Josephs, a Hebrew of great literary attainments, and author of several learned works, for this exposition.

Joel Levy, a celebrated German translator, renders the passages in the same way, viz. *hand-schuh*—i. e. *glove*, or *shoe*, for the hand.

The ancient and modern Rabbins all render the words in the original writings *glove*, and not *shoe*.

version of these passages will, of course, not conform to the hypothesis set up in favour of *glove*. Its correctness is, however, much confirmed by the fact, that the glove has been used as a pledge in almost every way, from the most remote ages. There is good reason to believe that the late Sir Walter Scott was of that opinion, and there are few authors more worthy of quotation on matters of antiquity.*

If the glove was known to the ancient Jews and coeval heathen nations, of which there is little or no doubt, as appears by Casaubon (*in Athen.* lib. xii. cap. 2), it was confined to the use of the men, formed principally a part of royal and military costume, and was used in particular forms and ceremonies.

The Hebrew women did not wear gloves ; for as they have ever formed an ornamental as well as useful portion of dress, they would have come

* " Right, Caxon, right as my glove ! By-the-bye, I fancy that phrase comes from the custom of pledging a glove as a sign of irrefragable faith."—*Antiquary*.

under the list of those ornaments of which the Jewish females were to be deprived in the day of destruction, as described by the prophet Isaiah, chap. iii., and which is here inserted for the information of the ladies, to whom it is hoped it will prove interesting, as showing how little they vary in their dresses from the ancient "daughters of Sion." The translation given is that of Bishop Lowth, which varies somewhat from the established version :—

" In that day the Lord will take away (from the daughters of Jerusalem) the ornaments of—

" The Feet Rings,
Net Works,
Crescents,
Pendants, or Neck Chains,
Bracelets,
Thin Veils,
Tires, or Bonnets,
Fetters, or Ankle Rings,
Zones, or Girdles,

“ The Perfume Boxes,
Amulets, or Ear-rings,
Rings for the Fingers,
Jewels of the Nostrils,
Embroidered Robes,
Tunics,
Cloaks,
Purses,
Transparent Garments,
Fine Linen Vests,
Turbans,
Mantles.

“ And instead of perfume, there shall be a stink ; instead of well-girt raiment, rags ; instead of high-dressed hair, baldness ; instead of a zone, a girdle of sackcloth ; and a sun-burnt skin, instead of beauty.”

Neither would there be any necessity for gloves among the Jewish, Persian, or Greek women ; as they wore (the two latter wear to the present day) the sleeve of the outer robe, or mantle, so cut as

to fall down when required over the back of the hand, and which was customary when out of doors, in order to prevent a "sun-burnt skin"—a thing considered most unbecoming to a well-bred woman in all countries.

That the glove was in use among the Persians and Greeks at a very early period, there can be no doubt, since both Xenophon and Homer speak of them. Varro also mentions them (a proof they were known to the Romans) in his treatise *De Re Rustica*, and says, that olives gathered by the naked hand are preferable to those pulled with the gloves on. Pliny the younger, speaking of his uncle (the elder Pliny), informs us his secretary wore gloves.*

The early fathers of the Christian church were

* "His amanuensis, who went with him, with a book and all the implements of writing, wore gloves upon his hands in winter, lest the severity of the weather should make him lose any time."—*Pliny to Macer*, book iii. Epist. 5.

very invective against the use of gloves, as an effeminate practice; and about the commencement of the ninth century, the church interposed its authority for the regulation of the use of gloves among the clergy, by prohibiting the monks from using any gloves but of sheep-skin.

It is recorded in Butler's *Legend of Saints*, that St. Gudula (who died A. D. 712) being at prayers barefooted, a monk compassionately put his gloves under her feet, which she threw away; and (so says the legend) they remained miraculously suspended in the air for an hour.

Gloves were at this time become an article of importance; but the use of them was confined, in a great measure, to the higher orders, particularly the clergy and military.

There are few, if any, grounds for supposing them to be generally used by females in this country until about the period of the Reformation.

The first legal enactment respecting the glove occurs in the records of France.

About the year 790, the Emperor Charlemagne granted an unlimited right of hunting to the abbot and monks of Sithin, for the purpose of procuring skins, for making gloves and girdles, as well as covers for their books, from the skins of the deer they killed.

The abbots and monks having generally adopted these gloves, the bishops interfered, claiming the exclusive privilege; and by the Council of Aix, in the reign of Louis le Débonnaire, about the year 820, the inferior clergy were ordered to refrain from deer-skin, and to wear only sheep-skin gloves.

No class of persons have been more unjustly handled than the monks of olden times, if there be any grounds for believing the other charges brought against them to be as ill-founded as that of idleness.

There is scarcely an art which we possess that may not be traced in some way or other to monastic origin: and in all countries the monastery may be said to have been the cradle of the arts and sciences.

The monks were also employed in useful manual

occupations, and the nuns in ornamental manufactures, as the latter still are in Spain, Italy, &c.

That the dressing of leather and making of gloves was an employment with the monks, is certain.

There is no precise data for the origin of the Glove Trade in England; but as the etymology of the name is so positively Saxon, it is highly probable the Saxons introduced it into this country, the word *glove* being a corruption of "*glofe*," and in the original language is thus written—*glofe*.

The importance attached to the quality of gloves may be understood by the quotation of a very old proverb, "For a glove to be good, three nations must contribute to it: Spain to dress the leather, France to cut it, and England to sew it."

Gloves are first mentioned in the records of Great Britain about the year 1462, when they were prohibited to be imported into this country; the Glove Trade being then a rising and highly respectable one, and considered worthy the protection of the legislature, as a trade giving much employ-

ment, and consuming a vast quantity of deer and sheep-skins, to the great profit of the farmer: in fact, it was considered a staple trade.

Edward IV. appears to have been a great patron of the Glovers, from his having granted them armorial bearings, A. D. 1464; and by protecting them and encouraging the use of the glove, as may be inferred from the quantity provided for his personal wear.

Gloves were forbidden to be imported into England in the 3rd and 4th years of King Edward IV., A. D. 1462-3, which is the only notice of the article in the ancient Rolls of Parliament. In the king's expenditure there appears for the year alluded to,

“Gloves viij dozen pairs

viij „ „

xviij pairs.”*

That gloves were not generally in use prior to the Reformation, is almost certain, as in the sump-

* Sir H. Nicolas's Wardrobe Expences of Edward IV. page 247.

tuary laws of Henry VIII. and former reigns they are not noticed; which they undoubtedly would have been, had embroidered or perfumed gloves been known—these laws for the regulation of the dress of the different orders of society being very severe and rigidly enforced.*

In a beautiful manuscript book of Household and Wardrobe Expences of Queen Elizabeth,† each page having her autograph, and in which the most trifling articles are enumerated, that of gloves does not appear; and this is the more singular, as Shakspeare

* The following items appear in the Privy Expences of Henry VIII. (by Nicolas):—

“*Item.* Paied the same daye to Jacson for certeyne gloves fetched by the sergeant apoticary, iijs. xd.

“*Item.* Paied Jacson, for a douzin and halfe of Spanysshe gloves, vijs. vjd.”

In the *Archæologia* appears—

“*Item.* For two payer of glovys, xs.”

† This manuscript is in the possession of Viscount Strangford, to whom it came through his ancestors, the Sydneys.

places the existence of women's gloves beyond a doubt at this period. Probably the queen received sufficient for her personal use in the shape of presents.

The ancient policy of protecting both the land and manufactures of our native country is now abandoned; new lights have broken in upon the legislators of the present day; and whilst they adopt what is termed a liberal policy in commerce, they appear to overlook or misunderstand that in which consists the real welfare of the agriculturists and manufacturers of this country.

CUSTOMS AND OBSERVANCES.

CORONATION CEREMONIES.

THE most distinguished position in which the glove may be noticed, is in its connexion with royalty and the coronation of our sovereigns, as well as in other affairs of chivalry.

As these observances are lost in antiquity, it is not unreasonable to conclude they have been handed down from such times and customs as are alluded to in the Book of Ruth and the 108th Psalm; more particularly as some of them are so analogous.

Royal Gloves.

Purple gloves, ornamented with pearls and precious stones, were anciently deemed ensigns of imperial dignity, as is recorded by Pachymenem (*Hist.* lib. vii. cap. 12), and by other authorities.

The championship of England has for several centuries been vested in the Dymocke family, as lords of the manor of Scrivelsby, inherited from the Marmions; and is thus conducted at the coronation of the king of England:—

His majesty, being seated in Westminster Hall, after leaving the Abbey, the champion enters, caparisoned as an ancient knight, and the herald-at-arms proclaims the challenge.

The champion then throws down his gauntlet (or glove), which having lain a short time, is taken up by the herald and returned to him.

The herald then makes a proclamation, and the gauntlet is again thrown down by the champion.

His majesty then drinks to his health, and presents him the cup; he then takes up his gauntlet and retires.

At the installation, in the Abbey, the duke of Norfolk, as lord of the manor of Worksop, presents the king with a right-hand glove, who, putting it on, receives from the archbishop of Canterbury the

sceptre with the dove: the duke continues to support his majesty's right arm for some time. In the *Rot. Patent.* 33 Hen. VIII., the custom of

Holding Lands by the Tenure of a Glove

is alluded to as an ancient practice, and the most remarkable instance is the one mentioned here. The site of the ancient monastery of Worksop was presented by Henry VIII., in the 33rd year of his reign, to the earl of Shrewsbury, to be held *in capite*, by the service of a tenth part of a knight's fee, and by the royal service of finding the king a right-hand glove at his coronation, and to support his right arm on that day, so long as he might hold the sceptre, paying moreover yearly the sum of £23. 8s. 6d.

At the coronation of the kings of France, previously to the Revolution, it was customary for the archbishop to bless a pair of gloves, and present them to the sovereign as an emblem of secure possession.

INVESTITURE.

This was generally performed by the delivery of a glove, as appears by a charter dated in 1088, and by other authorities; but more especially by a Register of the Parliament of Paris, A. D. 1294, which informs us that “the earl of Flanders, by the delivery of a glove into the king’s hands (Philip the Fair), gave him possession of the good towns of Flanders, viz. Bruges, Ghent, &c. &c.”

In favour of the inference that these customs are derived from the most remote period, it is worthy of notice, that the champion throws down a right-hand glove, and the lord of the manor of Scrivelsby presents a right-hand glove: “Over Edom will I cast my right-hand glove”—or, *literally*, “the case of my right hand.”

Favyn,* an excellent authority in affairs of

* Favyn’s *Annales de Chevalerie, et Histoire des Ordres Militaires*; Paris, 1620.

chivalry, says, "The custom of throwing the glove is derived from Eastern nations, who, in all sales, or delivery of lands, &c., gave a glove by way of livery or investiture." Among other authorities, he quotes the 4th chapter of Ruth in support of his argument.

GAUNTLETS

are spoken of, by ancient authors, synonymously with gloves; nor would it be necessary to digress into a definition of the difference between the gauntlet and the glove (which are used indiscriminately in all challenges), had not Johnson and other lexicographers vaguely described the former as an *iron glove*. This necessarily implies a glove composed entirely of iron, which would be a perfectly useless appendage.

The gauntlet was introduced into England by the Norman conquerors, and was, properly speaking, a *mailed glove*—that is, a stout deer or sheep-skin glove, having jointed plates of metal affixed to the

back and fingers, allowing the perfect use of the hand. Sometimes there was attached to the top of the glove a circular defensive plate, protecting the wrist, and meeting the armour which covered the arm. The metal of which these plates were composed varied according to the rank or fancy of the wearer: some were of gold and silver inlaid, others of brass, and some of steel; the latter were the most common.

On the decline of the use of armour, or when it was only partially worn, the *buff glove*, or gauntlet, was substituted, and was very generally worn by the army in the time of the protector Cromwell. This defensive glove consisted of a sheep-skin hand, with a stout handsome buffalo-hide top coming half way up the arm, contributing much to a military appearance, and acting as a protection from either a cut or thrust. Gauntlets of this description are now adopted by all the heavy dragoon regiments of England.

At the Trojan games, near one thousand years

before the Christian era, the gauntlet was used both as a symbol of defiance, and an offensive weapon. Dares, a Trojan, and Entellus, a Sicilian, engage in combat :*

“ Stand forth, who boast your force, (Æneas cries,)
And lift your arms and gauntlets to the skies.”

Entellus defies Dares to the combat;

“ Then threw two pond’rous gauntlets on the field,
Which mighty Eryx did in combat wield;
And which the hides of seven strong bulls compose,
Loaded with leaden knobs that iron hoops enclose.”

The combat advances ; they

“ Swing their steel-clinch’d fingers in the air,
— — — — —
And clashing gauntlets flake their fists with fire.”

Iron war-gloves are mentioned in the 2nd Statute of Robert I. king of Scotland (chap. xxvii.), A. D. 1306.

* Virgil’s *Æneid*, book v.

Bertrand Guesclin, in his *Chronicle*, speaks of gauntlets thus :—

“ Et riche bacinet li fist-on apporter,
Gans à broches de fer, qui sont au redouter.” *

Joinville also alludes to them :—

“ Des gantelez aussi te di
Que boin est ques soies marie,
Car se és mains blechies estoies
Du remanant mult peu feroies.” *

CHALLENGE BY THE GLOVE.

Gloves are mentioned by Matthew Paris, under the year 1245, as being used for “ gages of duel” at that period.

In Germany they continue to be so at the present day, it being customary, on receiving an affront, to send a glove.

Shakspeare gives an instance of the custom of

* The ancient Troubadour dialect of France.

challenge by glove. It is intended to represent an incident occurring the night previous to the Battle of Agincourt:—

K. Henry. “Give me any gage of thine, and I will wear it in my bonnet. Then, if ever thou darest acknowledge it thine, I will make it my quarrel.

Williams. “Here’s my glove; give me another of thine.

K. Henry. “There.

Williams. “This will I also wear in my cap: if ever thou come to me after to-morrow, and say this is my glove, by this hand I will take thee a box on the ear.

K. Henry. “If ever I live to see thee, I will challenge thee.”

King Henry V.

SWEARING BY THE GLOVE.

The custom of swearing by the glove in ordinary conversation is also very tritely alluded to by

Shakspeare;* as is also the fact that perfumed gloves were then become an article of trade, not only in shops, but by hawkers and pedlars.†

Perfumed gloves were originally imported from Spain and Venice. In Spain the trade has existed for centuries; and it was formerly celebrated for the most exquisite kid gloves, both perfumed and embroidered.

* *Falstaff*. "Pistol, did you pick Master Slender's purse?"

Slender. "Ay, *by these gloves*, did he — by these gloves.

Pistol. "Word of denial — froth and scum — thou liest.

Slender. "*By these gloves*, 'twas he."

Merry Wives of Windsor.

† *Servant*. "No milliner can so fit his customers with gloves.

Clown. "These pedlars have more in them than you would think, sister.

(*Enter Autolycus singing.*)

"Gloves as sweet as damask roses."

Winter's Tale.

Embroidered gloves were, however, made in the highest perfection in Venice, and were imported into England as articles of the greatest luxury about the year 1566.

“*Gloves knytt of sylke*” were also introduced about this time. In a list of “*such articles of trade as may be imported into England from the Low Countries*,” dated 1563, and preserved among the Cecil Papers at Hatfield House, there is the following item:—“*Gloves knytt of sylke*.” The various articles in this list are divided into “*necessarye*” and “*superfluouse* :” the gloves are classed under the latter head.*

The French still impart a fragrance to some of their gloves, which, however, quickly evaporates on exposure to the air. This fragrance is said to be obtained by a preparation from the leaves of the myrtle : its correctness, however, is not quite cer-

* *Cecil MSS.* vol. iii. p. 25.

tain ; it may be an experiment worth trying by the English glover.

The perfume originally imparted, particularly to the Spanish glove, was of a permanent kind.

Cervantes describes the perfumed glove very significantly and correctly.*

DEFIANCE BY THE GLOVE.

A few instances of the actual, solemn, and legal modes of defiance by the glove, under the authority of the crown and the church, will be given.†

* But this you will not deny, Sancho, that when you were so near her, your nostrils were regaled by a Sabæan odour—an aromatic fragrance—a delicious sensation for which there is no name: I mean a scent, *such as fills the shop of some curious glover.*—*Don Quixote.*

† “ *Tempore Hen. VI. year 1st.*—In a writ of right for the mannor of Copenhaw, in the county of Northumberland, battle was joined upon the meere right—and the champions appeared. And it was commanded by the court, that the champion of the tenant should

In the Life of the Rev. Bernard Gilpin, relative to the customs of the "Northern Borderers," A. D. 1560, it is recorded—"He observed a glove hanging up high in the church in which he was preaching; which was placed there in consequence of a 'deadly feud' prevailing in the district; and which the owner had hung in defiance, daring any one to mortal combat who took it down."

Sir Walter Scott has beautifully described the ceremony of defiance in a case of murder, under sanction of the church,* and also the form of

put five pennies into his glove—in every finger-stall a peny—and deliver it into court; and so the demandant should do the same: and the judges received the gloves, &c.

"The champions being on their knees, the counsel for the parties were asked by the lord chief justice why they should not allow the champions, and why they should not wage battle; who answered, they knew no cause," &c. &c.—Booth's *Nature and Practice of Real Actions*.

* "High mass having been performed, followed by

challenge by champion depute, where the Jewish maiden demands a champion.*

a solemn invocation to the Deity, that He would be pleased to protect the innocent and make known the guilty, the name of Bonthron sounded three times through the aisles of the church.

“The murderer’s brain was so much disturbed, that it was not until he was asked for the last time if he would submit to the ordeal, that he answered, ‘I will not; I offer the combat to any man who says I harmed that dead body.’

“And, according to the usual form, he threw his glove upon the floor of the church.”—*Chron. of the Canongate.*

* “‘Forgive the interruption,’ said Rebecca, meekly; ‘I am a maiden unskilled to dispute for my religion; but I can die for it, if it be God’s will. Let me pray your answer to my demand for a champion.’

“‘Give me her glove,’ said Beaumanoir. ‘This is indeed,’ he continued, ‘a slight and frail gage for a purpose so deadly! Seest thou, Rebecca, as this slight glove of thine is to one of our heavy steel gauntlets, so is thy cause to that of the Temple, for it is our order which thou hast defied.’—*Ivanhoe.*

In the History of Gerard de Nevers we also find the latter practice existing in Spain, where a certain lady, perceiving the eagerness with which that knight undertook her defence, pulled off her glove from her hand, and presented it to him, saying, "Sir knight, my body, life, lands, and honour I commit to the protection of God and you, whom I pray he may grant grace to obtain the victory, and deliver us from the danger in which we are involved."

Spelman records a duel appointed to be fought in Tothill Fields, in the year 1571. The quarrel was respecting an estate in Kent. The parties appeared in the Court of King's Bench, and demanded "trial by battle." The plaintiff threw down his glove, which the defendant took up on the point of his sword, and carried off. The day for the duel was fixed by the court, but, by the interference of the queen (Elizabeth), it did not take place.

The last defiance by the glove was made as recently as the year 1818, in a wager of battle,

which will be given as in the records of the Court of King's Bench. The battle, however, did not take place; and the legislature took immediate measures for the repeal of this law, which had so long remained a disgrace to the Statute Book. And thus has for ever terminated the ancient trial by battle and ordeal, both of which had existed more than eight centuries in this country.*

* "In the King's Bench, Michaelmas Term, in the 58th year of the reign of George III.—Ashford *versus* Thornton.

"Abraham Thornton was attached to answer William Ashford, who was the eldest brother and heir of Mary Ashford deceased, of the death of the said Mary Ashford, &c. &c.; of which said choking, suffocating, and drowning, she, the said Mary Ashford, then and there instantly died, &c. &c. And the said William Ashford, who was eldest brother, and is heir of the said Mary Ashford deceased, is ready to prove the said murder and felony against him, the said Abraham Thornton, according as the court shall direct, and hath found pledges to prosecute his appeal.

"Mr. Reader, who was with Messrs. Reynolds and

GIFTS TO ROYALTY.

The sovereigns of Great Britain have not refused to accept gloves as a suitable gift.* James I., being at Woodstock, in 1616, received gloves as a present from the University of Oxford.†

Tindal, applied for time: the court granted by consent until Monday, November 16th."

"*November 16th.*—The appellee being brought into court, and the appellant being also in court, the count was again read over to him, and he was called upon to plead. He pleaded as follows:—'Not Guilty; and I am ready to defend the same by my body.' And there-upon taking off his glove, he threw it upon the floor of the court," &c. &c.

* "In the year 1564, Edward de Vere, earl of Oxford, the first person who brought embroidered gloves into England, presented Queen Elizabeth with a pair. The queen took such pleasure in them, that she was pictured with them in her hands."—Nichols's *Progresses of Queen Elizabeth*.

† "While the king (James I.) was at Woodstock this year, in the month of August, 1616, the vice-chancellor of Oxford, certain heads of houses, proctors, and others, went to do their obedience to him, &c. &c.:

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

The kings of England were accustomed in former times to accept new year's gifts from their faithful subjects; and the glove was considered the most elegant mode of conveying the duty and fidelity of the giver.*

UNIVERSITY GIFTS.

On certain particular occasions, the colleges presented gloves to distinguished persons.†

afterwards they presented to him, and certain of the nobles, very rich gloves."—Wood's *Annals of Oxford*, by Gutch, vol. ii. p. 322.

* Among the new year's gifts to the king (James I.), 1605-6, is—"By William Huggins, one payre of perfumed gloves, the cuffs laced with point bone, laces of Venice gold; and two payre of plaine perfumed gloves. Also, by the king's musicians, eche of them one payre of plaine perfumed gloves."—*Harl. MSS.*

"Three Italians came unto the queen (Elizabeth), and presented her, eache of them, a payre of sweete gloves."—Nichols's *Progresses of Queen Elizabeth*.

† "March 12th, 1622.—The University (of Cam-

FUNERAL CUSTOMS.

The practice of giving gloves at funerals is derived from high antiquity. Pope Leo I. granted permission to bishops and abbots to wear gloves at funerals, and on certain other solemn occasions.

It was customary to bury royal personages, and the higher orders of the clergy and military, with gloves on.

On opening the tombs of bishops and abbots,

bridge) bestowed upon our chancellor a payre of gloves that cost forty-four shillings; and another payre upon my Lord of Walden, of ten shillings price. Wee presented no more, in regard there were so many great ones of quality; but the next day the two bishops of London and Durham (Mountaine and Neile) staying in town all night, the vice-chancellor and some of the heads went unto them, and presented them with gloves, about twelve shillings or a mark a payre."—*Nichols's Progresses of King James I.* vol. iii. p. 1115.

gloves have been generally found on the hands, or in the coffins.

Ancient authors have described the kinds of gloves to be used by bishops, which, however, would be dry reading if quoted in this book.

Kings were also formerly buried with gloves on their hands; and it is mentioned as a remarkable circumstance, that *no gloves* were found on the corpse of King Edward I., who was buried in the year 1307.*

There is a monument of Philip I. of France still in existence, in which he is represented in a recumbent posture, holding a glove in his hand. This king died A. D. 1108.

In Canterbury cathedral, the gloves of Edward the Black Prince are suspended over his tomb.

In the old church at Glastonbury, within a few years, the gloves of Sir Giles Hungerford, who fell in the latter French wars, were hung up with his helmet and spurs.

* *Archæologia*, vol. iii. p. 395.

In the parish church of Trent, in Somerset, some years ago, the gloves and other military insignia of one of the knights of the Wyndham family were suspended.

At the present day it is customary to place the gloves (with the helmet, spurs, and sword) of horse-soldiers on the coffin, or hanging at the saddle-bow, when the corpse is carried to be interred.

This is one of the very few usages of chivalry still retained by us. Another may be mentioned here; which is, the retaining the practice of celibacy in the Royal Horse Guards (Blue). The privates (or private gentlemen, as they are termed) are very rarely allowed to marry; and an officer invariably quits the regiment the instant he enters the marriage state.

On the death of his late Majesty George IV. the officers of dragoons were provided with gauntlets of black chamois kid.

JUDGES' GLOVES.

By the *Speculum Saxon.* lib. iii., judges were prohibited from wearing gloves on the bench. This prohibition, no doubt, referred to leather gloves, since the same authority also alludes to a kind of glove made of linen, in contradistinction to leather ones.

A custom still prevails of presenting the judges with gloves at maiden assizes.

The origin of this custom it is difficult to ascertain: that it has long existed, and sometimes been abused, there is little doubt; and the Saxon prohibition must have had reference to such abuses.

There is one case illustrative of it. A certain suitor in Chancery, whose cause had been favourably decided by Sir Thomas More, presented him, on the first new-year's day afterwards, with a pair of gloves, containing forty pounds in gold, as a token of her gratitude. The virtuous judge accepted the gloves, but refused the gold. "I accept

the gloves," said he; "it would be against all good manners to refuse a lady's new-year's gift; but the lining you will be pleased to bestow elsewhere."

HAWKING GLOVES.

Gloves were, in former times, a necessary article in this sport, and were made of stout tanned leather, with ornaments.

There are paintings extant of princes and nobles carrying the hawk on a *gloved* hand.

In Nicolas's Privy Expences of Henry VIII. appears the following item:—"The same daye paied for iv. hawk gloves, at vjs. viij. le glove, xxs."

ARCHERS' GLOVES

were a kind of gauntlet similar to those worn by the dragoons at the present day, but made of tanned leather.

In Nicolas's Privy Purse Expences of Henry VIII. the following item occurs:—"The same daye paid to Scawseby, for bowys, arowys, shaft (brode hedd),

braser, and shoting glove, for my Ladye Anne, xxiijs. iiij*d*."

WEDDING GLOVES.

The custom of giving gloves at marriage festivals is of considerable antiquity, and is alluded to by writers shortly after the Reformation.

Ben Jonson, in his play of *The Silent Woman*, alludes to this practice. Lady Haughty says to Morose—

"Wee see no ensignes of a wedding here,
No character of a bridale:
Where be our skarves and *gloves*?"

In Shakspeare's play, the *Winter's Tale*, the Clown thus addresses the pedlar Autolycus:—
"If I were not in love with Mopsa, thou shouldst take no money of me; but being enthralled as I am, it will also be the bondage of certain gloves."

There is one (and one only) historical fact connected with the glove, which has placed a stain upon it; and that was on the occasion of the mar-

riage of the king of Navarre, when a pair of gloves, given as a pledge of safe-conduct, were employed in procuring the death of the queen dowager of Navarre—the prelude to the most bloody and atrocious act that ever disgraced the world, “the massacre of St. Bartholomew;” * the confidence of the royal victim being first secured by presenting her that pledge, which, as Sir W. Scott most truly observes, “is a sign of irrefragable faith.”

* “A. D. 1572.—In the reign of Charles IX. many of the principal Protestants were invited to Paris, with a solemn oath of safety, on the occasion of the marriage of the king of Navarre with the French king’s sister.

“The queen dowager of Navarre, a most zealous Protestant, was poisoned by a pair of gloves the day the marriage was solemnized: and on the 24th August, being St. Bartholomew’s day, at the toll of the bell of St. Germain’s church, about the break of day, the butchery began.”—*Chron. of France*.

The procuring of death by poisoned clothing has been a very ancient practice in the East, and is still followed.

HONOUR.

As honour attached itself to him who presented or received a glove* on certain occasions, so it was a mark of great

DEGRADATION

to be deprived of it.

“The earl of Carlisle, in the reign of Edward II., was impeached, and condemned to die as a traitor. Among other circumstances attending his degra-

* George Clifford, earl of Cumberland, was honoured by a glove being presented to him by Queen Elizabeth. The queen had dropped it, when the earl taking it up to return to her, the queen presented it to him as a mark of her high esteem. The earl adorned it with jewels, and wore it in his cap on days of tournament,” &c. &c.—*Walsingham*.

In the *Archæologia*, we hear of the conspirators in the first year of Henry IV.: one of them is described as bearing on his helm “the glovye of his dear-lynge.”

dation, his spurs were cut off with a hatchet, and his gloves were taken off."—*Walsingham*.

To be *struck with the glove* was the greatest possible insult, and usually a prelude to some more fatal violence.*

CONSENT.

The glove was formerly given by the Sovereign on the establishment of any Free-Mart, or market, and was the legal mode by which he gave his royal

* "At the battle of Tewksbury, A.D. 1471, when the young prince, son of Queen Margaret, was brought before his relative Edward IV. as a prisoner, the king asked him insultingly, 'how he dared invade his dominions.' The young prince, more mindful of his high birth than his present fortune, replied, 'that he came to claim his just inheritance.' The brutal Edward, insensible to pity, struck him on the face with his gauntlet. The Dukes of Clarence, Gloster, Lord Hastings, and others, taking the blow to be a signal for further violence, hurried the unhappy prince into the next apartment, and dispatched him with their daggers."—Ashburton's *History of England*.

consent and approbation of it. The old law says, "The king ought always to send his glove, in token of his consent and approval; without which, any laws or regulations made for the Free-Mart, or market, are void."

SECURITY.

The glove has upon various occasions been used, and exhibited, as an emblem of security to the person.

So great was the confidence reposed in this pledge, that we find the unfortunate dowager queen of Navarre going among her known enemies with a feeling of security which was most infamously violated.

Until the latter part of the last century, the gaol stood in the High Street at Portsmouth, and was called the "White House," from its colour. During the annual fair, called "Free Mart," a golden or gilt glove was hung out at the gaol door, as a pledge that the persons of all who attended the fair

were secure from arrest for debt during its continuance, which was about fourteen days.

GALLANTRY.

In Italy and Spain, the glove was formerly looked upon with the most romantic feeling. The respectful attention demanded from, and despotic rule exercised over, the "cavaliers" in olden times by the Spanish and Italian ladies was so great, that even to be allowed to touch a lady's glove was deemed a signal favour, and many a Romeo mentally exclaimed—

"Would that I were a glove upon that hand,
That I might touch that cheek!"

In this country, a century ago, the ladies did not hesitate to practise some arts of coquetry by means of the glove.*

* "W. W. killed by an unknown hand, that was playing with the glove, upon the side of the front

Charles IV. of Spain, in modern days, appears to have been of the *Ned Courtly* class; for he was so much under the influence of any lady who wore white kid gloves, that the use of them at court was strictly prohibited.*

A singular custom still prevails:—a gentleman falling asleep in the company of a lady, if honoured with a salute, forfeits a pair of gloves to his fair friend.

SECRET GLOVES.

In the year 1659, the Marquis of Worcester, among his *Century of Inventions*, proposed some improvement in gloves, for the purpose of making

boxes in Drury Lane.”——“Ned Courtly presenting Flavia with her glove (which she had dropped on purpose), she received it, and took away his life with a curtsy.”—*Spectator*.

* *Mémoires de la Duchesse d'Abrantes*, tome viii. p. 35.

them subservient to the practice of secret correspondence, &c.*

It is more than probable the Marquis borrowed his idea from the *Monasticon Anglicanum*, in which it is stated that the Gilbertine Nuns were prohibited from making any purses except of white leather, and from sending any purses varied with straws or devices of any kind, or colour, to the young monks or clerks.

GIFT GLOVES.

This term applies to the old practice of presenting servants and others with gloves, in which money was enclosed, as a token of thanks for attentions or services rendered to the giver.

* "Invention 34. A glove with knotted silk strings.

— 35. A glove with fringes and ditto.

— 37. A glove pinked with an alphabet.

"The knots shall signify any letter, with commas, full points, and interrogations, as legible as with pen and ink, and white paper."—*Harl. MSS.*

Perhaps the abuse of this custom gave rise to the prohibition of judges wearing gloves on the bench.

The Portuguese have a proverb on this head, expressive of a person's integrity—" *Náo traz lavas*" (he does not wear gloves).

The anecdotes which are given will, it is hoped, be not unacceptable to the reader, as intended to illustrate the various ways in which the glove has been used in by-gone days. These anecdotes might have been much increased, and, possibly, have become tedious.

PAST AND PRESENT STATE OF THE GLOVE TRADE.

IN proceeding to take the various places in which the Glove Trade has flourished, and at present exists, priority will be given to Scotland, where it is first mentioned as an “incorporated trade.”

Although women, as before observed, did not generally use gloves until after the Reformation, the manufacture of men's gloves had spread over various parts of the country long before that event; and was carried on—as well as in the monasteries—by the “*tawers*,”* or leather-dressers, who combined with it the making of gloves, leather doublets, breeches, girdles, waistcoats, gaiters (or buskins), purses, &c. &c.

* “*Tawers*,” from “*taw*,” to dress or tan hides or skins, from the Saxon “*tawian*,” or *tapian*.

The dressing of leather formed one of the earliest occupations of mankind in all countries ; and it is a singular fact, that Laplanders, Africans, and Canadian Indians dress skins in the highest perfection, although their means and processes are necessarily of the rudest kind. The Laplanders also make very tolerable gloves.

SCOTLAND.

The first incorporation of the Glovers was in Scotland, where they formed a Company, under the denomination of the "The Glovers of Perth," as far back as the reign of Robert III. king of Scotland, A. D. 1390 to 1406. This Company was principally employed in making buck and doe-skin gloves.

From thence the trade dispersed itself over Scotland, but has long since ceased to be of any importance.

A few gloves continue to be made, under the name of "Dundee gloves," which have nothing more than the term to recommend them above others: indeed, the greater part of these are made in Worcester, and are sewn with thread instead of silk.

A small number of gloves are also made in Montrose, the leather being sent from London.

LONDON.

In the City of London the Glove Trade has existed for many centuries, and was originally carried on in connexion with the making of leather doublets, breeches, &c.

Deer and sheep-skin were the kinds principally made; but, after the introduction of kid gloves into England, the Glovers began to make kid gloves, which passed under the name of "London town-made gloves." These gloves have unto this day maintained their superiority in every respect.

The quantity of gloves made at the present time in London may be estimated at about 50,000 dozens annually, which are manufactured exclusively from French kid leather.

The number of men and women in general employment may be calculated at from 1,500 to 1,700 persons.

The Glovers were incorporated in London in the

14th year of Charles I., who, on the 6th September, 1638, granted them a Charter, by the name and style of "THE MASTER, WARDENS, AND FELLOWSHIP OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF GLOVERS OF THE CITY OF LONDON."

The armorial bearings of this Company are—
"Per fesse sable and argent, a pale countercharged three rams salient of the second, two and one, armed and inguled or.—*Crest*: on a wreath, a ram's head argent, issuing from a basket of the last, between two wings expanded gules."

These arms were granted to the Glovers as early as the year 1464, although they were not incorporated until 1638.

At this latter time the trade in London was much more important than at present, not only as regards the number of persons employed, but from the manufacture being entirely from *native skins*.

Some abuses had crept into the trade, and it was to obviate them that the Charter was demanded and granted, by which very extensive powers were

given to the Company; one of which was—"to search for, and destroy, bad or defective skins, leather, or gloves."

The preamble of the Charter is in the following words:—

Charles, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith,

To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting.

Whereas, by an humble petition presented unto us by our loveing subjects living in and about our Cities of London and Westminster, useing the arte, trade, or mistery of Glovers,

Wee have been informed that their families are about four hundred in number, and upon them depending above three thousand of our subjects, who are much decayed and impoverished by reason of the great confluence of persons of the same arte, trade, or mistery into our said Cities of London and Westminster, from all partes of our

kingdome of England and dominion of Wales, that, for the most parte, have scarcely served any time thereunto, working of gloves in chambers and corners, and taking apprentices under them, many in number, as well women as men, that become burdensome to the parishes wherein they inhabit, and are a disordered multitude, living without proper government, and making *naughtie and deceitful gloves*: AND that our subjects aforesaid, that lawfully and honestly use the said arte, trade, or mistery, are, by these means, not only prejudiced at home, but the reputation the English glover had in foreign partes, where they were a great commodotie, and held in good esteem, is much impaired. AND, also, that by the engrossing of leather into few men's hands, our said subjects are forced to buye bad leather at excessive rates, to their further impoverishment," &c. &c.

The first Master of the Glovers' Company was
" Wm. Smart, of the parish of St. Giles, Cripple-

gate, Glover;" in which parish the trade appears to have been carried on to a great extent.

There is a singular entry in the Register of Burials in St. Giles's Church, which shows how tenacious the Quakers were then, as now, of their peculiar privileges:—

"*A. D. 1607, June.*—A person was buried this month accompanied with this note:—‘From Abbot's, the Glover—a Quaker will not let it be searched.’”

This *searching* refers to a practice still in existence in the City, of persons, appointed by the wards, visiting the bodies of the dead.

The London trade has a two-fold pressure to contend against,—the importation of French gloves, and the imitations of the country manufacturers.

Many of the London manufacturers, from want of remuneration in the trade, have become importers of and dealers in French gloves. The low price of French gloves, and the manner in which

the duty is evaded, are difficulties with which this branch of the trade has to encounter.

With respect to quality and appearance, "London-made kid gloves" are now fully equal to Paris-made gloves; and if a patriotic feeling were more generally evinced by the aristocracy and gentry, much of the evil arising from unwise laws and regulations would be averted.

If the purchasers of French gloves would reflect that they were depriving the English artizan of the wages of making such gloves, and calculate what must be the loss on the consumption of French gloves last year* passed through the Custom-house—and which may be considered not much more than one-half the quantity brought into the country—they would hesitate before they gave to the foreigner that bread which they might, with so much consistency and justice, supply to their own ill-employed, and therefore naturally discontented, fellow-countrymen.

* In 1832, the legal importation was 1,516,663 pairs!! *Query*—How many illegally imported?

Example has been held forth not only from the throne, but by the most elevated and most virtuous of the nobility, in the preference given to the productions of their fellow-countrymen. That it is not more generally followed, is a lamentable proof of the decay of those feelings and principles which formerly distinguished the English character; and to which decay may be partly attributed the evils which exist, and are impending over this country.

WORCESTER.

In this city the Glove Trade is known to have existed in the year 1571 ; and in 1661 the Glovers were incorporated, under the name of "The Glovers' Company."

Here the trade has been carried on in all its various branches. Among other kinds, the "Venetian glove" was made, in imitation of those originally imported from Venice.

When beaver gloves began to go out of fashion (from the intercourse with France), the manufacturers turned their attention to the making of alum leather gloves, in greater quantities than they had done before ; and no complaints were made here until the prohibition of French gloves was removed. From that period the trade has been going to decay, notwithstanding every effort being made by the masters and work-people to meet their difficulties.

How the trade of Worcester is affected by the

introduction of foreign gloves, will be seen by the following extract from a statement given by the "Committee of Operative Glovers of Worcester," in 1832 :—

"There are in Worcester 120 master manufacturers, who have been in the habit of making, upon an average, 100 dozens of gloves each per week, which would be 12,000 per week for the whole ; but they are now making something under one-third of that number.

"By this means about £3,000 per week is taken out of circulation in wages alone ; which money used immediately to find its way into the hands of the retail trader, in the purchase of articles of consumption," &c. &c.

In the year 1825, immediately previous to the introduction of French gloves, there were few, if any, work-people unemployed, and the trade was in a state of prosperity.

In the year 1832 (January 10th), out of 1,000 men, the state of employment was as follows :—

In full employ	113
Partial employ, of which class a large portion do not average more than 2s. 6d. per week	} 465
Unemployed	
	1,000

The number of children totally dependant on these 1,000 men for support is 1,748.

In January 1825, the number of poor cases relieved out of the poor-house, in one week, was 170 ; the amount paid them, £13. 19s.

In January 1832, for the same period, the number was 445 ; the amount paid, £40. 11s.

The statement of the poor-rates in Woodstock and Worcester is too palpable to be overcome by the sophistry of " political economists," and is a proof of the fallacy of a system persevered in against reason and feeling.

The trade of Worcester continues to decline, and

it is much to be feared will eventually become, as in some other places, nearly obsolete.

The total number of men, women, and children employed in the Glove Trade of Worcester is about 30,000.

WOODSTOCK.

In this place, the Glovers were never incorporated; but the manufacture has been carried on from a very remote period,* in connexion with the manufacture of leather breeches, waistcoats, purses, &c.

The object of the makers here, was ever to make a most beautiful kind of glove; and the perfection at which they had arrived may be estimated by the recorded fact, that the University of Oxford, in 1616, presented the king (James I.) "with very rich gloves" in Woodstock. We also find the University of Cambridge bestowing gloves which cost forty-four shillings per pair; a fact almost to be doubted, if not on authentic record.

The intercourse with France since the year

* Queen Elizabeth received gloves from the Woodstock Glovers, in one of her "progresses."

1815, and particularly since the introduction of French gloves, has done much injury to the trade of Woodstock, where only *English deer, and sheep and lamb-skins*, were used in the manufacture of the "Woodstock glove."

The subjoined note will prove the decay of the trade.*

* Woodstock poor-rates for the year 1825	}	£.	s.	d.
amounted for the whole year to.....		684	8	1
For the year 1831		1200	0	0
Parish of Bladon, 1825		241	17	0
Ditto, 1832		599	8	1
Parish of Wooton, 1825		739	0	0
Ditto, 1832		1310	0	0

HEXHAM.

At Hexham a peculiar glove has been made from time immemorial, under the denomination of "Hexham tan gloves": they were formerly much worn, but of late years have almost gone into disuse. It is an excellent glove, and is made from *native sheep-skins*, tanned.

The gauntlets attached to ancient suits of armour are almost all made of this description of glove; and it was, at a very remote period, an important trade in this place.

YORK.

Here the Glove Trade formerly existed to a considerable extent, and a beautiful glove was made called "York tans." The glove called "Limerick" (introduced from Ireland) was also made here in its highest perfection.

No glove ever exceeded in beauty the "Limerick"; it also had the property of rendering the hand of the wearer very smooth and delicate, and was once in general use.

Both kinds were made of *native sheep and lamb-skins*, and the consumption was very great.

In the City of York a few gloves continue to be made, but almost entirely of French leather.

HEREFORD.

The trade was here a highly flourishing one for many years, and gave occupation to nearly 3,000 persons. It was confined almost exclusively to the manufacture of beaver gloves, made from *native skins*.

The trade of this place has gradually fallen away, and for the last six or seven years very few gloves have been made. The principal manufacturer, abandoning the glove trade, has commenced a parchment and glue manufactory; and the others are following his example.

LUDLOW.

In the town of Ludlow as many as 70,000 dozens of gloves have been made annually. This gave occupation to more than 1,000 persons, out of a population of 5,000, and a circulation of more than £200 weekly in wages.

Such has been the decay of the trade here, that, incredible as it may appear, not six men were employed in it in the year 1832.

In this place all the gloves were made from *Scotch and English skins*.

KINGTON.

About 8,000 dozens of gloves were annually made in this place until within a few years ; now, scarcely any.

The manufacturers, on the decay of the beaver trade, turned their attention to the making of alum leather gloves. This, however, has not answered their purpose ; on the contrary, very heavy losses have been sustained, and the trade is likely to be abandoned altogether.

In the Kington manufactories, *English and Scotch leather* was exclusively used.

LEOMINSTER.

The town of Leominster for many years carried on a profitable trade in beaver gloves, and had advanced to its highest prosperity in 1825, immediately preceding the introduction of that system which, "Upas like," has blasted all the hopes and prospects of the makers of beaver gloves.

In 1825, there were 32,110 dozens of gloves made in this town, and 900 persons employed in making them.

In 1831, the quantity made was 7,550 dozens only, and the persons employed reduced to 163 !!

In 1825, there were in Leominster twelve master-manufacturers; in 1832, only six; and the trade will in a short time be annihilated, if the existing system is continued.

The gloves made here are all from *English sheep and lamb-skins*.

In this place the trade has existed from time immemorial.

YEOVIL.

The town of Yeovil, formerly much celebrated for its manufactures of dowlas, ticks, &c., has for nearly three centuries* been so for the manufacture of gloves of the finer kinds, as well as military gloves. The latter is now in a state of decay, partly owing to improvident alterations in the military supply. These gloves are made from *native skins*.

Imitation "Limerick" and "York tan gloves" were formerly made in Yeovil, but of late years very few.

At present the manufacturers are employed in

* A deed is in existence (in the possession of Mr. Henry Watts, of Yeovil), dated 1565, one of the parties to which was "John Boone, Glover, Yeavill," and who appears to have been a person of importance, from the nature of the trust reposed in him. No doubt the trade existed many years prior to this date.

making men's and women's fine gloves, which pass in the retail shops under the denomination of kid gloves, but are, in reality, made from lamb-skins, imported from Italy, Spain, and Germany. These skins are mostly dressed into leather in Yeovil, in which place the manufacturers are leather-dressers, and large dealers in wool, as well as Glovers.

The great importation of French gloves annually, is a complete check to the prosperity of the trade of this place; because, the moment that the Glovers, by reducing the quantity produced, endeavour to gain a remunerating price, the wholesale dealers in London give increased orders to the French manufacturer, and thus neutralise the efforts of the native manufacturer.

The making of gloves from foreign skins has, for several years (owing to the *unnatural* competition with France), been so unprofitable as to occasion repeated applications to Parliament for protection,—hitherto without success.

The increasing value of wool has, for some time

past, bettered the condition of the Yeovil trade. This, however, is only a temporary advantage, and *in no way affects the question of the policy or impolicy of allowing foreign gloves to be imported.*

The non-remuneration of the Lamb Glove Trade in Yeovil has occasioned many of the manufacturers there, to become makers of kid gloves, in imitation of London-made gloves.

The quantity of gloves made in Yeovil, of all sorts, may be estimated at 300,000 dozens annually; and the number of men, women and children employed in the place, and the adjoining districts (spreading over twenty miles), amounts, perhaps, to 20,000.

The operation of the "free-trade system" on the town of Yeovil will be well illustrated by the necessity of maintaining one or two troops of dragoons* continually in the town and neighbour-

* The dragoons have been lately withdrawn:—the demand for gloves has increased, but no remunerating

hood, where, a few years ago, a horse-soldier would have been looked upon as a sort of Centaur by the lower orders of the people.

The subjoined statement of poor-rates for the year prior to the introduction of the "free-trade," and the fifth year subsequent to that period, will speak for itself.*

prices offered; the value of the wool continues to support the makers.

* Occasional relief granted to the poor of	£.	s.	d.
Yeovil, from Lady-day, 1825, to Lady-day, 1826.....	593	7	8
Ditto, from Lady-day, 1830, to Lady-day, 1831	996	9	9

STOKE-SUB-HAMDEN, AND MARTOCK.

These places are included in the Yeovil district, and the trade has existed for fifty years.

Up to the year 1826, there were not less than 500 dozens of beaver gloves made per week. In 1831, there were not 50 dozens.

These gloves were all made from *English skins*. At the introduction of French gloves, the manufacturers declined making gloves from English skins, and commenced the same branch as at Yeovil; thus increasing the pressure on that place and Worcester.

In Stoke, the machine was first used, for which a patent was obtained by the inventor, Mr. J. Winter, senior. The French have adopted the use of it latterly. It is but little used in England at the present time.

MILBORNE PORT.

In this place, which is also included in the Yeovil district, gloves have been made for about twenty years.

The trade emigrated from Yeovil and Stoke, and the manufacture is of the same kind.

About 25,000 dozens are annually produced; and great efforts have been made by several intelligent and persevering manufacturers to equal the French; in which they may be said to have succeeded, in certain descriptions of gloves.

GLASTONBURY, WELLS, AND SHEP-
TON-MALLET.

In these places, military gloves have been made to a considerable extent, as well as at Yeovil; but the trade is also on the decline, in consequence of the regiments of the line not using leather gloves, and the dragoons being no longer required to wear the superior gloves formerly supplied, and which were regularly inspected by the Clothing Board.

A few gloves from *English skins* continue to be made in these places.

TORRINGTON.

The Glove Trade has been established here only about thirty years, and is already in a state of decay.

The beaver glove is here made of *English skins* alone.

For several years the manufacturers have been principally occupied in sewing kid gloves for the Yeovil, and other makers, and in the manufacture of cotton gloves, which are sold under the name of "Berlins."

FRANCE.

Glove Manufactories are to be found in all the principal towns of France; but the greater part of the gloves are made at Grenoble, Montpellier, and Nicot. The last-named place is celebrated for strong leather gloves.

The better and more expensive kinds are made in Paris, and bear the same relative comparison with others, as London-made gloves do with country gloves in England.

The chamois skins are collected all over the country, by a class of persons similar to our "higglers," and ultimately pass into the hands of the *chamoiseur* at Annonay.

The processes of the *chamoiseur* are similar to those of the English dresser; but the leather has the advantage of being for some time deposited in bins, immersed in a mixture of fine meal and yolk of eggs, which contributes to its nourishment.

The following account of the manner in which the “glove-cutter” proceeds, has been obtained with some difficulty:—

The *gantier* makes gloves from the skins of deer, elks, dogs, goats, sheep, and many other animals; but principally from the skins of the *chamois* (kid or goat).

The *gantier* does not prepare the skins he employs in making gloves, but purchases them from the *chamoiseur*.*

The *gantier* requires but few tools:—two pairs of *ciseaux*† of different sizes, a *farce*, the knife *à doler*,‡ the *plaques de bois*|| and of marble (to *doler* or press,) the *palisson*, the *renformoir* or *tourne-gant*,§ and one or two *demoiselles*, are all that he uses.

Having sorted his skins, the workman damps them, viz. with a horse-hair brush, 3 or 4 inches

* Leather-dresser. † Shears. ‡ Shaving-knife.
 || Cutting-board. § Glove-stick.

wide and 6 or 7 inches long, the hairs of which must be from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches long. He then takes clean water, into which he dips his brush, and passes it lightly over the skin, piling the skins on each other, and leaving them to damp equally all over for an hour.

The workman then "hurries" the skin, viz. he opens it, by stretching it in every direction on the edges of a round table. This process is called *déborder*. He then parts the skin into trunks, which are called *étarillons*.

The next operation of the workman is the *dolage*, which is to plane, or shave, the skin. This is done by laying the skin on a slab of marble, 7 inches by 10. The marble has under it an edge which joins the end of the table, and serves to keep in a fixed position the end of the skin, or trunk, he is planing.

The *doloir* is a flat knife, about 5 inches wide and 6 or 7 long; the form is a *trapézoïde*, the angles of which are rather rounded: it has a wooden handle. The cutting, or planing, is done

from the top of the instrument: the workman takes off all the surplus *charnage** from the skin, and makes it equally thin all over.

The process of setting the *étavillon*, or trunk, is the same as practised in England, as is also the slitting and rounding. This latter process is called *raffiler*.

The *fourchettes*† and *carreaux*‡ being provided, the pieces which are to form the glove are given out to the sewer. When they are returned, they are given to the “dresser,” or layer-out, who, having damped them, re-opens them. This is done with the *renformoir* or *tourne-gant*, by passing the two sticks by turns into each finger. He then places successively these two sticks on the *demoiselle*, to open the arm of the hand.

The *demoiselle* is a tool of wood, made round, conical; the base is even and cylindrical; it is about 6 inches diameter and 3 inches long. From

* Flesh.

† Fargets.

‡ Quirks.

the base, heaped on each other, are six flat balls, which gradually decline in diameter unto the top, where the last ball is 2 inches across. The instrument is altogether about 15 inches long.

This cone is pierced with a hole in its axis, to receive the end of one of the two *tourne-gants*. This stick being held tight by the *demoiselle*, the workman has the use of both hands to stretch the glove down to the utmost of its length.

The gloves are, after this, hung on strings for a time, and are then taken down to *remanier*, viz. to be submitted again to the operation described; when the defective ones are returned to the sewer, and the others carefully put up in a state fit to be delivered to the trade and consumer.

IRELAND.

Limerick, Dublin, and Cork were formerly celebrated for the manufacture of gloves, which passed under the names of "Irish" and "Limericks." Those made at Limerick were of the most exquisite texture, and were manufactured principally from "morts" and "slinks," the skin of the abortive or very young calf, lamb, or kid. Some of these gloves were so beautifully fine, that they have been enclosed in a walnut-shell.

This trade, which gave extensive employment to many thousands of people in Ireland, is now so utterly decayed, that a pair of real Limerick gloves is almost as rare as a black swan.

It is a digression, but a pardonable one, to state, that when a great rectifier of the wrongs of Ireland was lately spoken to on the former prosperity of this trade, he evinced the greatest ignorance on the subject, and, what was infinitely more to his shame,

the greatest apathy. The latter, however, was not so surprising as the former.

The Glove Trade in Ireland not only occupied many thousands of individuals directly in the trade, but it gave occupation to an immense number of persons who went all over Ireland collecting the skins for the gloves; and, on an average, one million skins per annum were collected and consumed.

The collectors of the skins, on the decay of the trade in Ireland, found a ready sale for them in England, where they were used, both at Worcester and Yeovil.

Since 1825, these skins have not been worth the trouble of collecting, to the great injury of the small farmers in Ireland, and the consequent increase of the misery and demoralization of the Irish peasantry.

THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF LONDON

FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE CITY
TO THE PRESENT TIME
BY
JOHN STOW
1597

The City of London is one of the most ancient and famous cities in the world. It was founded by the Romans, who called it Londinium. It was the seat of the British Empire for many years, and was the most powerful city in the world at that time. It was the seat of the British Empire for many years, and was the most powerful city in the world at that time.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE TRADE BETWEEN ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

As early as the reign of Edward IV., A. D. 1462, we find the Glove Trade protected by prohibitory laws.

In latter years these prohibitory laws must have become obsolete, as they do not appear to have been ever repealed; and foreign gloves were imported soon after the Reformation.

At length the nation roused itself to shake off those difficulties which the free introduction of foreign manufactured silks, cambrics, lace, gloves, &c. &c., had brought on the manufacturing interests. Accordingly, we find the Legislature, in the year 1675, yielding to the popular demand for inquiry into the "*Commercial Relations between France*

and England." The proceedings which took place will be given as extracted from the Parliamentary Journals.

A. D. 1675, Ashburton, in his History of England (alluding to the depression of the manufacturing interests of the country), says—"The next thing the Commons went upon was the examination of the Trade between France and England; by which they found the French imported into England commodities to the amount of one million more than they exported; upon which a Bill was prepared," &c. &c.

Barnard, in his History of England, says—"In the year 1675, the House of Commons took into consideration the disadvantages the nation lay under with regard to the *Trade with France*; and it appeared that—

" The Imports from France	} £1,100,000
were annually about	
" The Exports to France	175,000
<hr/>	
" Against England.....	£925,000

“ Besides toys and point lace ; an incredible sum, not included in this estimate.”

Sydney, in his History of England, says—“ The general balance of trade, at this time, was greatly against England ; the exports being less than the imports, by no less a sum than £2,132,864. 18s. This amazing loss was chiefly owing to our having an *unlimited intercourse with France*; a trade which was afterwards prohibited.”

The following is from the Journals of Parliament, A. D. 1675, October 27th :—

“ Sir George Downing reports from the Committee appointed to consider “ *the State of Trade between England and France*”—

“ *Resolved*, That a paper, intituled a Scheme of the Trade between England and France, be reported to the House.

“ *Resolved*, That it be further reported to the House, that effectual means be taken that English merchants may have the same privileges in Paris that French merchants have in London.

“ *Resolved*, That leave be given by the House for the bringing in a Bill to the effect following:—

“ That if a Treaty of Commerce, between his Majesty and the French King, be not concluded and published before the 1st of May next, by which the impositions on all English manufactured goods shall be reduced, at least, to the same proportion and rate they were at his Majesty's restoration; then, from that time, all French commodities were, by the said Bill, to be prohibited to be imported into this kingdom, until the making and publication of such treaty.”

On the 18th of November, 1675, a message came down from the Lords, by Sir L. W. Child and Sir M. Cooke, who reported—

“ ‘ Mr. Speaker—We are commanded by the House of Lords to let you know that they have passed a Bill, intituled An Act concerning Manufacturers, to which they desire the concurrence of the House.’

“ A debate arising on the third reading of the

Bill from the Lords, it was resolved—‘ That an Address be presented to his Majesty, humbly to desire his Majesty to encourage the wearing of British manufactures, not only by his own example, but by discountenancing the wearing of foreign manufactures by others.’” Which Address was agreed to, and presented, and the Act passed.

At this period of English history, there was a most singular clashing of interests, and a strong coincidence with the present condition of this country, on which it will be, perhaps, better not to enlarge. In one respect, however, the coincidence will not hold good. At the former period, a weak and dissolute monarch, surrounded by French parasites, whose aim was to trammel him in every possible manner, and to raise the interests of their own country, by crippling our manufactures, and drawing this nation into an unjust alliance against our old and faithful allies—was not likely to understand or care for the interests of his own subjects; and this is to be seen in the necessity the Houses

of Parliament felt, of addressing him as recorded. A very different conduct is maintained by their Majesties at the present day, who, in every way, evince their predilection for English manufactures.

The next legislative enactment against the importation of French manufactures was in the year 1744, when Sir Stephen Jansen, Bart., Chamberlain of the City of London, procured, by great sacrifices of time and money, an Act for the prohibition of French manufactured articles. At this period, the distress of the weavers of silks, cambrics, and fancy wares was very great, and imputed to the importation of French goods, for which we paid more than £1,000,000 sterling per annum.

Malachi Poselthwayte (no mean authority), in his *Commercial Dictionary* (a standard work), strongly deprecates the Commercial Treaty with France, of which Sir S. Jansen procured the repeal; and argues, that *every million of money* paid out of the kingdom, in the purchase of goods we

can ourselves manufacture, is a loss of two millions; as so much sent away, and so much lost to our own work-people.

A new era has arrived in commercial policy; "the wisdom of our ancestors" is abandoned as foolishness; new lights have broken in upon our legislators, and it remains for time shortly to prove which is the true policy of England.

The doctrine of "free trade," abstractedly considered, *is, no doubt, a correct one*; but it cannot be brought into operation practically, with any degree of justice, as a matter of national or commercial policy, where two countries are so unequally taxed as France and England—the cost of all the articles of life so very different—and whilst the former maintains its system of prohibition, or excessive duties on all British manufactures, without due caution being taken to protect the interests and existence of particular branches of manufacture and trade—of which, in this country, the Glove Trade is one, important as a staple trade, and an ancient

and highly respectable occupation, and, as far back as the year 1462, worthy the protection, and receiving the same, of the Legislature;—a trade consuming vast quantities of *native skins*, and giving wealth and employment to an immense number of persons. Indeed, as late as the year 1783, when the exigencies of the nation were pressing, a tax having been laid upon gloves, strong debates ensued in the Houses of Parliament on the injustice and impolicy of it; and the tax was repealed.

Blackstone remarks very justly, that different nations, in time of peace, ought to do each other all the good they can. But, by the law of nations, no state is bound to admit the superiority of another.* And, as no state can compel another to a treaty to which it may be adverse, or to adopt principles proposed by the other; so it necessarily becomes a matter of most serious consideration with the Legislature, how they *revoke or violate*

* Blackstone's *Commentaries*, book iv. chap. v.

any of the fundamental laws of the state, either of a *commercial* or of any other nature.

It will not be necessary to enlarge on authorities, or Grotius, Puffendorf, and others might be quoted.

Vattel has been, and is quoted, as a sufficient authority on all matters of national law. He distinctly states, that all nations are in duty bound to cultivate, before all others, *a home trade*;* as, by so doing, they fulfil the first law of nature, and contribute to the happiness and well-doing of the people; it being the *primary duty of a state, to look to and protect its own native manufactures and productions.*

No country has more pertinaciously followed

* “The home trade of a nation is of great use; it furnishes all the citizens with the means of procuring whatever they want, as either necessary, useful, or agreeable. It causes a circulation of money; creates industry; animates labour; and, by affording subsistence to a great number of subjects, contributes to render a country more populous and flourishing.”—*Vattel*, book i. chap. viii.

this policy than England, and no nation has ever risen to such a degree of commercial prosperity. “As the duties of a nation to itself are superior to those it owes to another, if one nation finds itself in such circumstances that it judges trading with foreigners *dangerous to the state*, it may *give it up and prohibit it*.” Upon this principle the Legislature acted in the years 1675 and 1744; the condition of the trade between England and France being exactly in the same state it now is.

Nor has a nation any right to complain of a treaty of commerce being withdrawn or revoked by another state, with whom it will not trade on something like equal advantages. That the advantages are any thing but equal in the trade between France and England, will be attempted to be shown by proper documents.

The “free trade” advocates say the exportation of the precious metals is no loss or disadvantage to a state; but what says Vattel?* They also say that

* “Gold and silver being the common standard of

particular trades must give way, or be sacrificed to the general national good. This is, however, "a new light," and is in direct contradiction to older and far better authorities, as well as to the admission of the very legislators under whom this system of "free trade" originated.

An ex-president of the Board of Trade, of great experience and talent, has admitted that the system was adopted as a friendly intimation to France, of the sincerity of our desire to maintain peace with her; and that, had the persons with whom it

the value of all articles of commerce, the trade which brings into the state a greater quantity of these metals than it carries out, is of advantage; and, on the contrary, that is ruinous which causes more gold and silver to be sent abroad than it brings home. This is what is called the balance of trade. The ability of those who have the direction of it, consists in making that balance turn in favour of the nation."—*Vattel*, book i. chap. viii.

For the state of the Balance of Trade between England and France, see the "Comparative Table."

originated continued to retain power, a reciprocal treaty would have been obtained from France, or, agreeably to the laws of states, the liberty of importing French goods into this country would have been revoked, upon the precedent of 1675.

The doctrine of making the destruction of one trade subservient to the prosperity of another, is, by the same authority, denounced as cruel, unjust, and impolitic.

Yet these are the principles advanced and acted upon by the projectors of the present day; and, after seven years' probation of their fallacious system, they endeavour to divert and quiet the public mind from time to time, by causing paragraphs to be inserted in the newspapers, to the effect that France is about to ratify a most liberal commercial treaty with this country.*

* Since this work has been in the press, a direct contradiction has been given by the *French Minister of Commerce* to these assertions. No later than the first week in December, the Councils General of Manu-

The last of these statements referred to the permission about to be granted by France for the admission of thrown silks from England, at a low duty. Even if this be true, what does it prove? That the French have not yet embraced "new lights" in commerce, amidst all their change in government; nor have seen the justice or humanity of introducing the "Factory system" into their country, and of making the infantile rising generation the mere "*feeders of steam-engines,*" to the

factures, Commerce, and Agriculture, commenced their sittings, when the Minister declared that no conclusion whatever had been come to with England, with regard to a treaty of commerce; that the journies of Dr. Bowring and others to France, and his own (the Minister's) to England, had produced *no results*; and, in conclusion, assured the Chambers that nothing would be done without first consulting the interests of the French nation. When the Chamber of Deputies meet, the sentiments of Louis-Philippe will probably confirm the Minister's declarations.

utter destruction of their health, limbs, lives, and—what is infinitely worse, of the few who live to thirty years of age—to *their total demoralization*.

The French Government, not having yet advanced sufficiently far into the philosophy of *sacrificing their youth to “Mammon,”* are willing to take from England thrown silks, yarns, twists,* or any article the “Factory” produces; because they know it can be produced and obtained at a much lower rate than by their own mode of manufacture; because, by not adopting such means, they secure to France a healthy rising generation—the very soul of a state,—and, by encouraging the system in England, they leave her to *her own blind and*

* “It is quite clear that it is the interest of foreigners to take our twist in the first instance, as it is a production giving little or no labour, and so to introduce it until they are able to spin for themselves.”—*Evidence of K. Finlay, Esq. before the Committee of Manufactures, Shipping, and Commerce*, p. 40.

mercenary policy, the effects of which will be fatally discovered when too late to be remedied.*

The same false policy which operates so injuriously on the Glove Trade, affects many other trades in a similar manner; but the object here is to keep to the former as an example.

One distinguished and noble member of the Board of Trade was candid enough to admit, that "*he felt for the Glovers*,† but could hold out no hopes of a return to prohibition, as it would tend to disturb the friendly relations between France

* Such is the degraded and excited state of the infants in the "Factories," that almost every farthing they obtain is spent in the purchase of ardent spirits; and their precocity in every sensuality is most dreadful!!

† The feelings of the Board of Trade must be rather lukewarm—as no evidence has been called for, or the slightest notice taken of the Glove Trade, by the Committee of Manufactures, &c., who have recently concluded their labours, and of which the Right Hon. C. P. Thomson was Chairman.

and England, and induce her to declare a commercial warfare against us."

That France is, and long has been, engaged in a commercial warfare against England, is notorious to every mercantile man; and to *a proper and natural commercial rivalry*, no reasonable person can object. But, by the pusillanimity of one class of legislators, and the delusive schemes of another, is this great nation sacrificed; and, by the acceptance of foreign articles which can be manufactured at home, without any thing being taken in return by the foreigner, there occurs a consequent deprivation of labour to the operative classes; and want, misery, discontent, hatred of the higher classes, and every bad principle, are naturally engendered and fostered; the circulating medium becomes curtailed, the means of meeting taxation are taken away, and burthens which would be otherwise light, become insupportable.

And is it to be endured, that England is so far reduced, that the fear of France can have the effect

of preventing her claiming the admitted rights of nations, to revoke a policy entered into in the proper, but certainly fallacious, hope and expectation that France would meet her in a corresponding spirit?—*Ubi lapsus?*

A *beneficial foreign trade* is one in which the commercial transactions between the states so trading are somewhat on a par, or present equal advantages:—for example, such as the trade between this country and the North and South American States, and the North of Europe, as also that with Portugal; which latter most valuable and ancient trade has lately been tampered with—and of which it is not possible to predict the consequences—by a reduction of the duties on French wines, in the vain hope of drawing France into a commercial treaty with England.

France knows too well her own interests, to allow the importation of British manufactures into her ports. She cannot manufacture against “the Factory system;” and if she could, the French

people would not accept British manufactures—first, from motives of natural justice to their own manufacturers, and, secondly, because they do not require any English productions.*

France has ever acted on the principle of protecting her own landed and commercial interests; and no ruler ever more strictly maintained this principle than Napoleon Bonaparte; nor have the Governments which have succeeded him, with all their political changes, ever for a moment given a hope of adopting a different policy, except for the purpose of blinding the “new lights” of this country.

As far back as 1823, the author was viewing the stocking manufactories at Caen in Normandy, the Nottingham of France. Conversing on the com-

* It has, perhaps, never occurred to the “free trade” advocates, that, excepting in Paris and one or two other cities of France, the *habits* and *costume* of the different departments are the same as in the days of William the Conqueror, and are likely so to continue.

parative resources and skill of England and France, the most eminent manufacturer there used these observations :—" We have not your long wools, nor can we keep up the breed of your sheep, which we have tried to do ; but we shall succeed, in some way or other, in obtaining your wool ; and then you will find that it is not want of skill or enterprise that will prevent our making as good worsted hose as you do. It is true you beat us at Waterloo ; but we shall beat you in commerce, and *obtain by policy what we could not by force.*"

These are the principles and feelings of the French manufacturers, and of the Government ; and whilst the *Doctrinaires* of England allow a free vent for French manufactured goods in England, they will not hesitate at promises to keep up a " treaty," in which all the advantage is on their own side—a treaty, by which the introduction of all British manufactures is carefully excluded from France. They may long continue to blink the *Doctrinaires*, but not much longer the struggling

manufacturers, of this country. No censure or reflection is intended to be cast on the French Government: on the contrary, how happy would it be for England, if her rulers were actuated by a similar regard for the manufacturing interests!

By the *liberal* policy of England, the French now have our wools; by the *kind* policy of England, they have our machinery;—two things our ancestors carefully guarded against.

The Nottingham and Leicester manufacturers will do well to look about them, or they will soon find the American market closed. “Evil comes not in a day.”

In the Lower Town of Calais, where the lace-trade is carried on by English operatives with English machinery, a manufacturer, with more zeal than discretion, informed the author, that “when they had trained their own young people to the trade, and perfectly mastered our machinery, the English operatives might go home.”

The Manchester manufacturers will also do well

not to be carried away by their "*new light*," but look to Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, and France, as formidable rivals, with growing strength, and already monopolising much of the cotton trade, particularly on the Eastern and Western sides of South America—and where it is now useless to send any articles of manufacture in which France enters into competition with us.

The same advice applies to the clothier,* because the demand from France enhances the price of wool, whilst the English manufacturer finds himself unable to obtain any adequate advance on his cloth;—the Frenchman being able to manufacture the wool at a lower rate, and to compete with

* "What is your opinion of the probable progress of woollen manufactures in France and Belgium?—I view the manufactures of those countries with greater dread than any others in Europe, because they have labour cheaper, and wonderful means of manufacture."—*Evidence of Mr. H. Hughes before the Committee of Manufactures, Shipping, and Commerce*, p. 69.

the English clothier, not only in the foreign, but in the home market.

The Scotch shawl manufacturers will also discover, in due season, the effect produced on their interests by the importation of French shawls.

So far from France desiring a real reciprocity of trade with England, although England could supply her with *hardware, ironmongery, cottons, hosiery, hats, beaver gloves, &c. &c.* of much better fabric, and at infinitely lower prices, than she can manufacture these articles—yet she (France) has increased the means of preventing their being introduced into her territory under any circumstances.

Within a few years the French Government has raised the duties on the importation of sugar, linen, iron,* cotton, &c. &c.; and this was one of

* On iron the duties will *probably be lowered*, to enable themselves to build machines, and improve their cutlery.

the very few projects in which the French Government found itself most cordially supported by the Chambers, who never fail, in commercial matters, to represent the people. When will England return to her old policy—"Use France, but trust her not"? At present the proverb is most sadly reversed.

The same policy with respect to corn is adopted by France. No corn is allowed to be exported, except when the price is at a certain average; and importation is prohibited, unless the price has arrived at a certain maximum.

Notwithstanding the very "anti-social" policy of France, she pursues it to her great advantage, and foreigners find their way to her markets in greater numbers than ever.*

* "The late great fair at Beaucaire, in Languedoc, has been more numerously attended, more merchandize has been exposed, and more business done, than for the last twenty years. There were more than 80,000 strangers, of all nations, present; and sales were made of the manufactures of France to the amount of 160,000,000 francs."—*Morning Herald*, Aug. 9, 1833.

Convinced of the correctness of that ancient protective policy by which England maintained her supremacy as a trading nation, the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia, after a convocation of the most eminent practical men, have adopted the prohibition of French, and all other manufactured goods, that their own subjects can produce; the consequence of which is, that the Austrian and Prussian people are at this moment in a state of *great commercial prosperity*: and the German States are adopting the same policy.

Such also are the opinions of a great man,—to whom England is greatly indebted, and to whom posterity will do justice,—filling a high office in the state at the introduction of the “free trade with France.” He considered it the province of the Board of Trade to ascertain the consistency of its own proceedings; and, relying on the talent of that Board, as well as desirous of cementing the friendly relations between this country and France, consented to the measure as one of experiment. A probation of six years, and greater experience in

the internal interests of his country, induced this exalted individual to express himself in very decisive terms on a late occasion, in the House of Lords,* when the state of the Glove Trade was brought before it by Viscount Strangford, with a view of obtaining inquiry into the operation of the trade with France in that branch of our manufacture; and which—notwithstanding the luminous manner in which its condition was laid before the

* “He would be the last person to change existing systems, or alter the established policy of the country. Nothing was more absurd than to suppose there was a ‘free trade’ system established in this country. There was nothing like it, nor could there ever be. This country had always proceeded on the policy of encouraging our own manufactures, and fostering the produce of our own soil, in preference to that of foreign countries. Whatever might have been the theories of others, that of ‘free trade’ was never his, and he would never assent to any other system than such an one as he had alluded to.”—*Duke of Wellington, in the House of Lords, March 9th, 1832.*

House, and its connexion with the agricultural interests of the empire explained—was rejected by a Government professing to be guided, in all its actions and multiplied changes, only by a love of and desire to serve the people over whose interests they preside !

In defence of the system of “ free trade,” the theorists say—“ Only let us have a free importation of corn, and then see what we shall be able to do !” They totally forget, that, by the free introduction of foreign grain, the agricultural interests, already too much depressed, must be utterly destroyed, and the home demand for manufactures be decreased in proportion. They do not calculate that much land would go out of cultivation—the request for labourers be still less than at present—and wages so much reduced in proportion ; thus increasing the misery and discontent already too prevalent in England.* They do not reflect, that, by placing

* In years of great agricultural depression and

our dependence on foreign states for corn, and throwing our lands out of cultivation, in the event of war with such states, or a failure of the seasons, we should lose our supply, and incur a famine, or—what is as bad, to the great mass of the people—famine prices. Nor do they take into account, that all the mortgaged estates would pass into the hands of the money-lenders, from the great depreciation which would occur in the value of land.

The “free trade” advocates do not for a moment admit, that such is the nature of the manufacturing system generally, particularly in the factory-mills, that if, by the importation of foreign corn, the loaf could be obtained at *2d.* or *3d.*

scarcity, and during the incendiarism of 1830-1, the agricultural labourers of Somersetshire and Worcester-shire were comparatively happy and tranquil, in consequence of the women and children in the villages being employed in the Glove Trade, and mainly supporting the men.

lower than at present, the manufacturer would instantly lower the wages of the operative in proportion, and thus deprive him of any advantages; and perhaps, at the same time, by reducing the price of the articles produced, give all the advantages of cheap production to the foreigner.

Of the superior importance of a home trade to a foreign, they never dream; nor that the home trade is principally supported by the agriculturists. It is a fact, that *a very small proportion* of our manufactures, independent of those to our Colonies and Indian possessions, are exported. How infinitely more important, then, is our home trade, which can only be supported by the well-doing of the farmer and the landowner, as they in return receive the benefit of a flourishing and well-protected condition of the manufacturers! Of the possibility of the present friendly relations of the various countries of the world being disturbed and broken up, the "free traders" appear unconscious; and that such an event would instantly throw out of employ an im-

mense population, entirely dependant on a foreign demand.

But, to the Glove Trade, not only is the formerly extensive trade to the North of Europe and America nearly lost altogether, but, by an excess of kindness to France, gloves of French manufacture are allowed to be imported, and warehoused here, *free of duty*, and shipped to our East Indian* and West Indian possessions, at an *ad valorem* duty, which amounts to a mere fraction; so that the trade for English manufactured gloves—a few military gloves excepted—to those countries, is also lost to us.

The advocates of the *trade with France* have, in the House of Commons, adverted to the increase

* “ You stated, as one of the causes of the distressed state of the India trade, the liberal system of allowing the French to trade to India. When did that liberal system begin?—It began with Mr. Huskisson’s Bills: I was then in the House of Commons, and opposed it as much as I could.”—*Evidence of J. Innis, Esq. before the Committee of Manufactures, Shipping, and Commerce*, p. 193.

of the quantity of skins imported into this country for the purpose of making gloves; and the most fallacious statements have been advanced against the prayers of a respectable body of manufacturers, who asked only for an "inquiry into the operation of the free trade with France on their interests," and who were willing to stand or fall on the merits of their case.

As these fallacies and gross mis-statements have been replied to,* it will not be necessary to go into them again, further than to observe, that if all the skins imported were made into gloves (which is far from being the case), they would not amount to the quantity of native skins thrown out of use; the number of which formerly collected, of all kinds, amounted to near 3,000,000 annually, to the great profit of the farmer, and the benefit of the revenue; a duty being paid on the dressing of leather, and

* See reply to the Right Honourable P. Thomson, Vice President of the Board of Trade, on his speech on the Glove Trade.

vast quantities of exciseable articles being used in the various processes of preparing it; viz. oil, ashes, alum, salt, meal, dyewoods, &c.; to which may be added, the circulation of wages formerly paid in the oil leather-dressing mills and factories, now decayed.

The following Statement* will show, by the Custom-house returns from the 1st of January, 1828, to the 1st of January, 1829, which is taking a fair average of the gloves imported into this country, per year, since their introduction in the year 1826, the loss sustained to the country annually, since the commencement of the measure. Taking no notice of those smuggled, (which pay no duty, consequently the amount cannot be ascertained, but there is little doubt that they are equal in number to those that do,) it appears there were 96,000 dozens imported. Presuming that the above number would employ 14 manufacturers, at the rate of 130 dozens per week, which would keep 288 men and

* This Statement was circulated in 1832, among the Members of the two Houses of Parliament.

boys, and 1,700 women and girls, in constant work; the men, at an average (making an allowance for the boys), at 15s. per week, and the women and girls sewing a dozen per week; and also that 96,000 dozens of gloves would consume 576,000 skins of leather:—

	£.	s.	d.
Dressers' Wages, at $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. per dozen of			
Gloves	1,800	0	0
Parers, rather more than $4\frac{3}{4}$ d.	1,920	0	0
Cutters, at 10d.	4,000	0	0
Sewers, at 4s.	19,200	0	0
Finishing, with incidental expenses, at 6d.	2,400	0	0
Carriage of Skins from London, at 5s.			
per cwt., and 6 cwt. for 900 skins.....	960	0	0
Carriage of Gloves to London, at 5s. per			
100 dozen	240	0	0
Paper, for packing and tying, half-sheet			
to 4 dozen tying, and 8 sheets per 100			
dozen packing.....	52	10	0
Twine, at about 21s. 6d. per year	15	0	0
Loss by Silk, at 2 drams per dozen	1,031	5	0
Postage, Stamps, Stationery, &c., at			
about £14. 3s. 8d. each.....	200	0	0
Carried over.....	£31,818	15	0

	£.	s.	d.
Brought over	31,818	15	0
Eggs, 30 to 120 skins.....	350	0	0
Dye Stuffs, &c., £20 each.....	280	0	0
Alum, 4 lb. to 120 skins	143	0	0
Salt, 6 lb. to 120 ditto	37	0	0
Lime	30	0	0
Bran.....	70	0	0
Scrolls and Shreds, at £10 each	140	0	0
Candles for 288 Men and Boys, at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per week each.....	31	4	0
Candles for 1,700 Women and Girls, at 1d. per week each	368	6	8
Needles, at 2d. per week each Sewer	736	13	4
Work Baskets for Sewers, 100 at 6d. each	2	10	0
Thimbles for ditto, at 1d. per year	7	1	8
Working Tools	10	0	0
Loss of Rental on 14 Manufactories, at from £50 to £60 a-year each	800	0	0

WEAR AND TEAR.

Carpenter's Work, at £10 per year each	140	0	0
Cooper's ditto, at £5	70	0	0
Mason's and Bricklayer's, at £10	140	0	0
Ironmonger's Bills, at £10	140	0	0
Smith's ditto, at £5	70	0	0
Carried over	£35,384	10	8

	£.	s.	d.
Brought over	35,384	10	8
Baskets for Dressing Yards, &c., at £1...	14	0	0
Plumber and Glazier's Work, at £5.....	70	0	0
Coal used by 14 Manufactories, at £10 each.....	140	0	0
<hr/>			
This is an absolute loss.....	£35,608	10	8
<hr/>			

WORK-PEOPLE REDUCED TO PAUPERISM.

288 Men and Boys, at the present scale,			
Men at 2s. 8d. per head, Boys 1s. 6d..	1,456	0	0
1,700 Women and Girls, at 1s. 9d. on the average	7,735	0	0
<hr/>			
Burthen on the Country.....	£9,191	0	0
Amount of Specie paid to France for 96,000 dozen of Gloves, at 15s. per dozen	70,500	0	0

There are three important items on which we cannot form a judgment:—First, the loss to the country by the payment of so much specie to France; secondly, capital sunk by 14 manufacturers; and thirdly, the loss of maintenance for their families.

The annexed Table* will show the operation of the trade with France, in gloves, in a fiscal re-

* Table, showing the Loss to the Revenue for 1830, as compared with 1825, cast out at the Rated Duties of the respective years.

	DUTY OF 1825.			DUTY OF 1830.		
	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.
Sheep Skins, raw	103,000..	2 3	103,000..	965 12 6..	1d	35 15 3
Lamb Skins "	2,765,000..	14 0	2,765,000..	19,355 0 0..	4d	460 16 8
Kid Skins.. "	485,000..	1 7	485,000..	384 15 0..	4d	81 0 0
Lamb & Kid, dressed	747,000..	40 0	747,000..	14,940 0 0..	10s	3,735 0 0
			<u>35,645 7 6</u>			<u>4,312 11 11</u>
Add 88,000 dozen Gloves, imported in 1830 ..					Duty 4s 6d..	19,800 0 0
						<u>24,112 11 11</u>
In 1825 the Excise Duty, which is now abo- lished, was			30,000 0 0			
Total.....			<u>65,645 7 6</u>			
Leaving a loss of Revenue this year, of.....						41,532 15 7
Total.....						<u>65,645 7 6</u>

[Indebted to Messrs. BEVINGTON for this Table.]

lation; and taking £41,000 as an average annual loss for the last seven years, shows a total loss to the nation of £287,000.

This Statement has been laid before the Board of Trade, but without producing the slightest influence on its operations.

The difficulties under which the Glove Trade labours, with respect to competition with France, are insurmountable, as regards manufacturing, to meet the French gloves in price; which will be attempted to be shown by the Comparative Table annexed.

FRANCE AND ITALY

Produce the skins and leather from whence kid gloves are now made.

The French Glover either *dresses his own skins*, or buys his leather from the French dresser, and has the *choice of the market*, free from

ENGLAND.

The English Glover is *dependant* on France and Italy for his skins and leather.

The English Glover has no advantage *of choice*, and has to submit to merchants' profits, (frequently two hands,) carriage and freights

merchants' profits, carriage, freights, and other charges, to the Port of London.

to London, *duties*, and afterwards carriage to Yeovil or Worcester — amounting altogether to a considerable per centage.

The beauty of climate, and cheapness of *meal, oil*, and *eggs, used in dressing*, enable the dresser to do justice to the skins, in bringing them into leather.

Vice versa.

The serenity of climate, and cheapness of *food* and clothing, enable the artisan to subsist on a low rate of wages.

Vice versa.

The Glovers are experiencing a new difficulty, by the circumstance of the French (from the increased demand for their gloves all over the world) going into the Italian market for skins, the value of which is proportionally advanced by this new demand—France having formerly enough for her home use and exportation.

The protection the Legislature is bound to give

to the Glove Trade, is either a return to prohibition, or the adoption of severer laws relative to smuggling. Under whatever difficulties the Glovers occasionally laboured prior to 1826, they knew the mode to obviate them; and had, by great exertions and sacrifices, so completely crushed the smuggling of French gloves, that it was very rarely a pair was seen. The same means of prevention would be resorted to, if the article were prohibited, and (without troubling the Board of Trade), with the same effect.

As *smuggling* is now carried on by capitalists, and not, as formerly, by desperate men without a name or domicile, the laws ought to be altered, and their severity increased.

The most effective mode, next to prohibition, to protect the English Glover, would be, to have all gloves stamped by an officer, who should also be competent to distinguish men's gloves from habits, and also compelled to count every dozen of gloves. Superior gloves should also pay a duty *ad valorem*.

The punishment for smuggling should be, in the first instance, confiscation and fine—the whole of the goods to go to the officer, the fine to the Crown. The second offence should be visited with the same penalties, and the addition of seven years' transportation.

This plan would encourage the officers to keep a sharp look-out, for their own advantage; and capitalists, dreading the chance of transportation, would hesitate at smuggling, which, at the present moment, is carried on to a greater extent than ever, and in the most novel and systematic manner.

Professor M'Culloch, in his *Commercial Dictionary*, under the head "Gloves," has shown an ignorance of the subject on which he treats, which no one, knowing how easily he could have obtained correct information, would have expected from a man of great talent and indefatigable habits, and who, from his remarks on the subject of the wages of the operatives, in his *Political Economy*, is, no

doubt, a well-meaning man. It is to be hoped the learned Professor has been more happy in his remarks on other subjects, or his work will lose much of its present credit. Not the slightest intention of personal offence is intended in the remarks which will be made on his observations relative to the Glove Trade.

The "Professor" boldly describes the Glove Trade as having *advanced in prosperity*, and improved in manufacture, since the prohibition was taken off; notwithstanding the ruin of the trade was predicted, and the measure, *at first*, vehemently opposed. He forgets to remark, that it was not until 1832, that the great struggle was made by the Glovers (and "the measure vehemently opposed"), six years after the manufacturers had found their trade going to decay, as a remunerating one; and that, in the face of his prosperity statement,* more Glove-makers have failed,

* "There has been more improvement in the Glove

or resigned business, during the last six years, than during that period, or interregnum of darkness, which Mr. M'Culloch alludes to.

When the Glovers are aware of the close connexion between Mr. M'Culloch and a certain "Board," they will know how to estimate the probability of the annexed note being an intimation of its future intentions towards the Glove Trade.

Many years before 1826, the most exquisite gloves were made at Worcester, Yeovil, and Stoke; and premiums were offered by the Society of Arts for the encouragement of the trade.* Every thing

Trade during the last six years, than during the previous half-century; and, *we* have no doubt, if the impulse given to the trade be kept up by a *reduction of the duty on foreign gloves*, we shall be as superior in this, as in other branches of manufacturing industry."—M'Culloch's *Dictionary of Commerce*.

* "To the person who shall make known to the Society a process equal or superior to that of the French, for preparing, dyeing, and finishing the skins—verified by actual experiments, and the communication accom-

that art or industry could suggest was attempted. Messrs. Bevington, of Neckinger Mills, *succeeded* in dressing leather equal to French; but there were difficulties of climate, water, and other advantages possessed by France, which rendered it impossible to follow up with advantage a process which was too expensive to remunerate the dresser. Several manufacturers at Yeovil brought the manufacture of kid gloves to the highest perfection, in the year 1813; but the great expense prevented the following it up on an extended scale.

The remarks of the Professor are, therefore, unjust and uncalled-for, as to the charge of *apathy* in the trade prior to 1826. His observations relative to the reduction of the existing duties on French gloves, betray an ignorance of the subject on which he treats, which is highly discreditable to him. The Professor is a theorist, and not a practical man;

panied by, at least, a dozen pairs of the gloves made from the skins so prepared—The Gold Medal, or Forty Guineas.”—*Premium 156, Society of Arts.*

and it is much to be lamented that the *remarks of such persons* are allowed to go forth to the world as matters of fact, or remain uncontradicted.

Mr. M'Culloch also says, that "gloves are made by machinery;" leaving the public to infer, that it is extensively employed. It, however, happens, that the machine has long been exploded, as regards cutting; and that for sewing is very little used. The cutting-machine saved but little labour, and was an "imperfect operative;" the sewing-machine does not save any thing in labour, and is destructive to the eye-sight. It is a happy circumstance for the operative Glovers, that machinery cannot be brought into operation against them.

M'Culloch takes the years 1828, 1829, 1830, to show what he calls "the improved state of the Glove Trade, in a decreased importation of foreign gloves." It will be observed, he does not take the whole of the years from 1826—the introduction of the system—although he might have done so, and have brought the table down to 1832; but he

just selects, after the usual practice of his school, those periods which tend to uphold his fallacious "prosperity" statement.

He also notices the increased importation of foreign skins, to make good his assumption that this proves a flourishing state of the Glove Trade. He goes back in this Table to 1820, and comes down to 1828; assuming that all these skins are made into gloves, at the rate of 18 dozen pairs from every 120 skins.

The Table of Skins imported, is a garbled one; and the number of gloves produced, a complete fallacy—even if all the skins were consumed for gloves, which is not the fact; some being re-exported, and a vast quantity used for shoes, carriage-linings, garters, braces, purses, covers for books, &c. &c., and a considerable number dressed with the wool on, for various purposes.

*Mr. M'Culloch's TABLE of GLOVES imported in 1828,
1829, and 1830.*

Years.	Habits Gloves.	Men's Gloves.	Women's Gloves.	Total of all sorts.
	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.
1828	69,564	27,668	3,025	100,259
1829	45,679	23,635	2,781	72,096
1830	62,925	25,013	3,187	91,126

OFFICIAL TABLE of GLOVES imported from 1827 to 1833.

Years.	Habits Gloves.	Men's Gloves.	Women's Gloves.	Total of all sorts.	Re-exported all sorts.
	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.
1827	49,883	20,171	1,962	72,016	7,276
1828	69,564	27,668	3,025	100,257	15,986
1829	45,697	23,635	2,948	72,280	24,928
1830	62,925	25,013	3,187	91,125	20,783
1831	62,826	34,208	3,217	100,251	20,134
1832	126,386	21,564
1833	{ From Jan. 1 to July 1, } { six months only * }			61,578	

* 1833 is not in the Official List. This Table is most fatal to Mr. M'Culloch's statement.

It will be noticed, that Mr. M'Culloch's Table of Importation of Gloves is taken for three certain years only, to make good his argument ; nor does the Professor give any return of the quantities re-exported. Instead of a decrease in the importation of French gloves, it will be seen that there is a considerable increase ; and, at the same time, it must be borne in mind that the *legal* importation only is here alluded to : the quantity "run" into the country cannot possibly be ascertained, but is known to be *very great*.

The Professor's Table of Imports of Skins is given with the Official Return in comparison. A singular item in the Official Return will show the correctness of the assertion, that the oil or *beaver leather glove* trade is the *proper staple trade* of *this country*, and ought to be, by every possible means on the part of the government and the public, attempted to be revived. From 1821 to 1832, only 448 skins dressed in oil were imported into England!!! It must also be remarked, that the

average quantity of *foreign skins* annually imported is not equal to the number of native skins formerly used, and now displaced.

If it were necessary to expose Mr. M'Culloch's ignorance of the nature of the Glove Trade further, it might be noticed, that he mentions Stourbridge as a place of manufacture *scarcely known by the trade*, whilst he entirely omits *Yeovil*, in which town and neighbourhood 314,000 dozens of gloves were made in 1831!!! Mr. M'Culloch also gravely assures his readers, that gloves were formerly made at Limerick, under the name of "*chicken's gloves!*" *

* This is something like Dr. Ure, in his *Chemical Dictionary*, under the head "Albumen," asserting that the *whites of eggs* are used by the Glovers at Yeovil, to soften the leather;—or, like the great Incubus of the Glove Trade, asking the difference between skins and leather. Such are the philosophers who are exercising their baneful influence over the manufacturers of England!

The state of the commercial relations between France and England will be given in the Tables annexed. The one relative to the Navigation is partly taken from M'Culloch's *Dictionary*; the other, from Official Returns.

It is singular that M'Culloch, whilst he advocates high wages in one place, advises in another a course which not only tends to destroy high wages, but even the necessity for labour, in the Glove Trade; and, whilst he expatiates on the advantages of free trade with France, publishes a table which gives a complete contradiction to all his theories and assertions.

But Mr. M'Culloch belongs to that school which is bringing so much misery on this country; to that class of men who are demoralizing the female population of this country, in particular, by giving that employment to foreigners which they would otherwise necessarily have. The number of females thrown out of employ, or in partial work, at reduced wages—starved out of their reputations, and

reduced to shifts, over which a veil must be thrown, from the general introduction of French manufactures of all kinds—may be fairly estimated at half a million; and it is from such a debased stock our future population is to spring!

Lord Bacon says, tumults and seditions, for the most part, arise from the ill condition of the people, which is brought about by want of employ, or inadequate wages; and it is the first duty of a government to remove the causes. Whether the present Government adopts these maxims, is evident.

*Mr. M'CULLOCH'S TABLE of Imports of SKINS entered
for Home Consumption.*

Years.	No. of Lamb Skins.	No. of Kid Skins.	Total Lamb and Kid.	Gloves pro- duced.
1820	93,817	286,433	1,219,260	" A com- plete falla- cy."
1821	1,202,029	242,996	1,445,025	
1822	1,908,651	408,523	2,317,174	
1823	1,974,143	479,444	2,471,587	
1824	2,201,295	631,995	2,833,290	
1825	2,098,553	771,522	2,870,075	
1826	1,743,778	575,533	2,319,311	
1827	2,749,397	640,863	3,390,260	
1828	2,917,476	904,639	3,822,115	

*OFFICIAL TABLE of SKINS and LEATHER imported into
England from 1820 to 1833.**

Years.	Kid in the Hair.	Kid Dressed.	Lamb in Wool.	Lamb Tawed.	Total Lamb and Kid.	Lamb and Sheep dressed in Oil from 1820 to 1832, only 448 Skins.
1820	234,932	334,527	888,663	6,616	1,464,738	
1821	359,464	275,324	1,162,758	3,303	1,800,849	
1822	447,076	441,366	1,830,408	18,213	2,737,063	
1823	510,052	517,844	2,420,135	42,883	3,490,864	
1824	243,931	650,283	1,679,399	112,989	2,686,402	
1825	375,094	796,206	1,866,223	207,318	3,244,841	
1826	247,369	603,277	1,678,865	46,233	2,575,744	
1827	477,989	648,480	2,599,379	156,234	3,882,082	
1828	339,020	566,889	2,770,112	143,562	3,819,583	
1829	106,319	591,094	1,888,191	42,503	2,628,107	
1830	223,951	862,538	1,804,714	56,465	2,947,668	
1831	595,573	621,780	2,820,092	73,228	4,110,673	
1832	80,402	664,025	1,811,886	24,976	2,581,289	
1833	143,754	627,389	2,167,846	47,796	2,986,785	

* 1833 was obtained whilst the work was in the press, and does not appear in the Official Table.

TABLE of the COMPARATIVE TRADE *between England and France.*

Years.	Imports.	Exports.	Difference in favour of France.	Total Balance paid to France in six years, £10,094,920.
£.	£.	£.	£.	
1826	1,247,426	1,082,944	164,482	
1827	2,625,747	550,229	2,075,518	
1828	3,178,325	644,442	2,534,383	
1829	2,086,993	847,817	1,239,176	
1830	2,328,483	667,349	1,661,134	
1831	not	obtained.		
1832	3,056,154	635,927	2,420,227	

The greater part of the imports from France consist of goods, which *our artizans, particularly females*, are deprived the benefit of making. Any remark on the policy or humanity of this kind of “reciprocity” is needless.

The increase of imports, and decrease of exports, will speak to all candid minds.

It is also proper to remark, that of the exports

to France, a considerable portion consists of Foreign and Colonial produce, and not of British manufactures ; the remainder of coal, iron, and yarn !

TABLE of COMPARATIVE NAVIGATION *between France and England for the year 1827.*

French Ships entered England.	English Ships entered France.	Tonnage entered England.	Tonnage entered France.	Crews of French Ships.	Crews of English Ships.
3,026	1,145	116,554	78,640	17,065	7,504

Can any thing more completely expose the fallacy and ruinous effects of the trade with France ? The year 1827 is a fair average of the annual navigation between England and France, from 1825 to 1830.

The delusive schemes and principles which, unhappily, have so long been agitating, not only the commercial, but every other policy of this nation, yet prevail. The remarks of the author of an able

pamphlet, lately published,* may be inserted here with good effect:—

“ French philosophy, more powerful than all the armaments of Napoleon, is silently undermining the foundations of British power. Superficial notions of liberty, in commerce, in religion, and government, joined to self-flattering exaggeration of the march of mind, have shaken the confidence of Englishmen in their ancient laws. British liberty is said to exist in theory alone, or only dependant on the pleasure of a despotic aristocracy. The union of church and state is denounced as bigotry and persecution; and liberality has paved the way to heart-blighting irreligion. While the protective system is declared destructive of the trade it seeks to foster, foreigners, thinking differently, are fast recovering by its adoption; and opposite parties, in the country, uniting for its

* *An Enquiry into the Navigation Laws, and the Effect of their Alteration.*

demolition, effectually provide for the continuance and aggravation of existing evils."

Here we have a mighty nation presenting a most paradoxical and lamentable state of things—a *rapidly increasing population and a steadily decreasing revenue*. What reflecting being can look on this picture without horror, and see any thing in the prospect but one immense poor-house for the people !

Much of the distress among the poor may be attributed to the use of French manufactured articles, by the nobility and wealthy ; and to the consequent deprivation of the poor may be attributed the decay in the excise.

The falling off in the Post-Office and Stamps may be fairly attributed to the decreased transactions in those home-manufactures which are superseded by French ; and all unite in the decay of the manufacturing and agricultural interests.

TABLE of Revenue derived from BILLS OF EXCHANGE and
PROMISSORY NOTES, from 1826 to 1832.

1826.	1827.	1828.	1829.	1830.	1831.	1832.
661,235	665,405	690,005	682,906	659,080	666,707	510,499

The duties derived from bills of exchange are £150,736 less in 1832 than in 1826. A considerable portion of this loss may be attributed to the introduction of French manufactured goods, supposing such goods to displace an equal quantity of English articles, which, under the old system of commerce, would be drawn for in bills of exchange.

TABLE of Net Revenue of the POST OFFICE from 1826
to 1832.

1826.	1827.	1828.	1829.	1830.	1831.	1832.
,624,256	1,501,056	1,544,223	1,509,347	1,517,952	1,569,038	1,457,132

With a greatly increased population, more extensive intercourse with the world, and a boasted

advancement in knowledge, the Post-Office revenue of 1832 is £167,124 less than that of 1826, when the "liberal system" began. The trade with France destroys an immense income, which would otherwise be derived from the communications, letters, orders, remittances, &c., between the metropolis and the manufacturing towns.

The decrease in the revenue generally is not confined to articles of excise used by the great mass of the people, but extends to articles of luxury. For instance, the consumption of wine is much decreased: in the year 1825, the revenue derived from wine was £1,955,709; in 1831, £1,535,484.

ORDINARY REVENUE *for Five Years, ending 1832.*

1828.	1829.	1830.	1831.	1832.
51,665,077	50,428,275	49,889,944	46,293,646	42,830,000

It has been justly remarked, that "whilst the protective system is declared destructive of the

trade it seeks to foster, foreigners, thinking differently, are fast recovering by its adoption."

At this moment, the fallacious and delusive system of "free trade" is rejected by almost every state in the world, England excepted.

Russia,* in close alliance with America, has, by adopting a very high rate of duties, nearly prohibited British manufactures from her territory.

Holland, aggravated by the conduct of England towards her on the "Belgic question," has formed a Commercial Treaty with the United States of America, and is giving every encouragement to the manufactures she hitherto received from us.

Turkey, on the just grounds of having been

* Are you aware that in the North of Europe the woollen manufactures have very much increased within the last few years?—In Prussia, in Saxony, and in Russia, they have. In Russia and Prussia the trade is protected by high protecting duties."—*Evidence of Mr. H. Hughes before the Committee of Manufactures, Shipping, and Commerce*, p. 69.

denied that assistance she, by ancient treaties, claimed against her rebel Pacha, will probably follow Holland in her policy.

Austria maintains the strictest prohibitory system.

Prussia has long done the same; and the German States are adopting the course of the greater Powers.

France has never ceased to act on the prohibitory system, and never will, despite all the vain hopes of the "free trade theorists."

What, then, is the proper course to be adopted by the Legislature of this country?—To return to those principles of commerce under which England prospered; under which her population was employed, contented, and happy.

Let the Government of England endeavour to give an impetus to Agriculture!* Let them, by

* By an equitable adjustment of the Tithe Question (fully satisfying vested rights)—a revision of the Poor

proper measures, enable the farmer to give an increase of wages to the labourer. Three shillings per week advance on the pay of agricultural labourers, would give to the country an increased circulation of several millions per annum, which would find its way into the hands of the trader. The demand for articles of consumption would be raised, and the excise would show a very different result to what it does at present. The burthen of taxation would be less felt; the people would look with confidence to their rulers; the nation would become less dependant on foreign demand; and every home interest would be increased and secured.

Whatever censure may be incurred by the author of these remarks—or if he has occasionally digressed from the point in controversy—he is supported by the consciousness of having at least at-

Laws—and the adoption of allotments to the deserving poor.

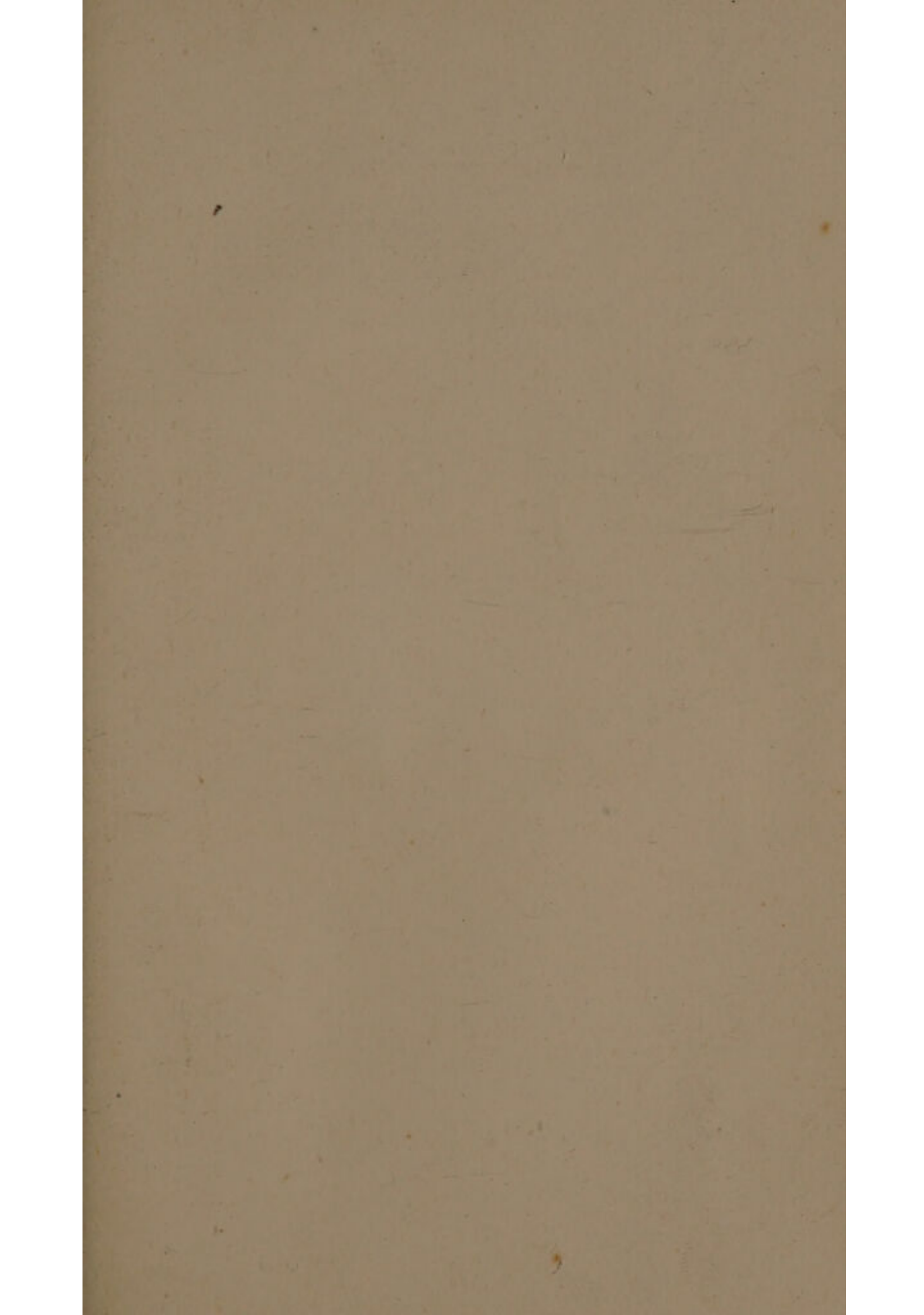
tempted the good of his fellow-citizens ; and, in so doing, has followed authorities, with whom to class the “ political economists ” of the present day, would be to compare Ossa to a wart, a giant to a pigmy.

THE END.

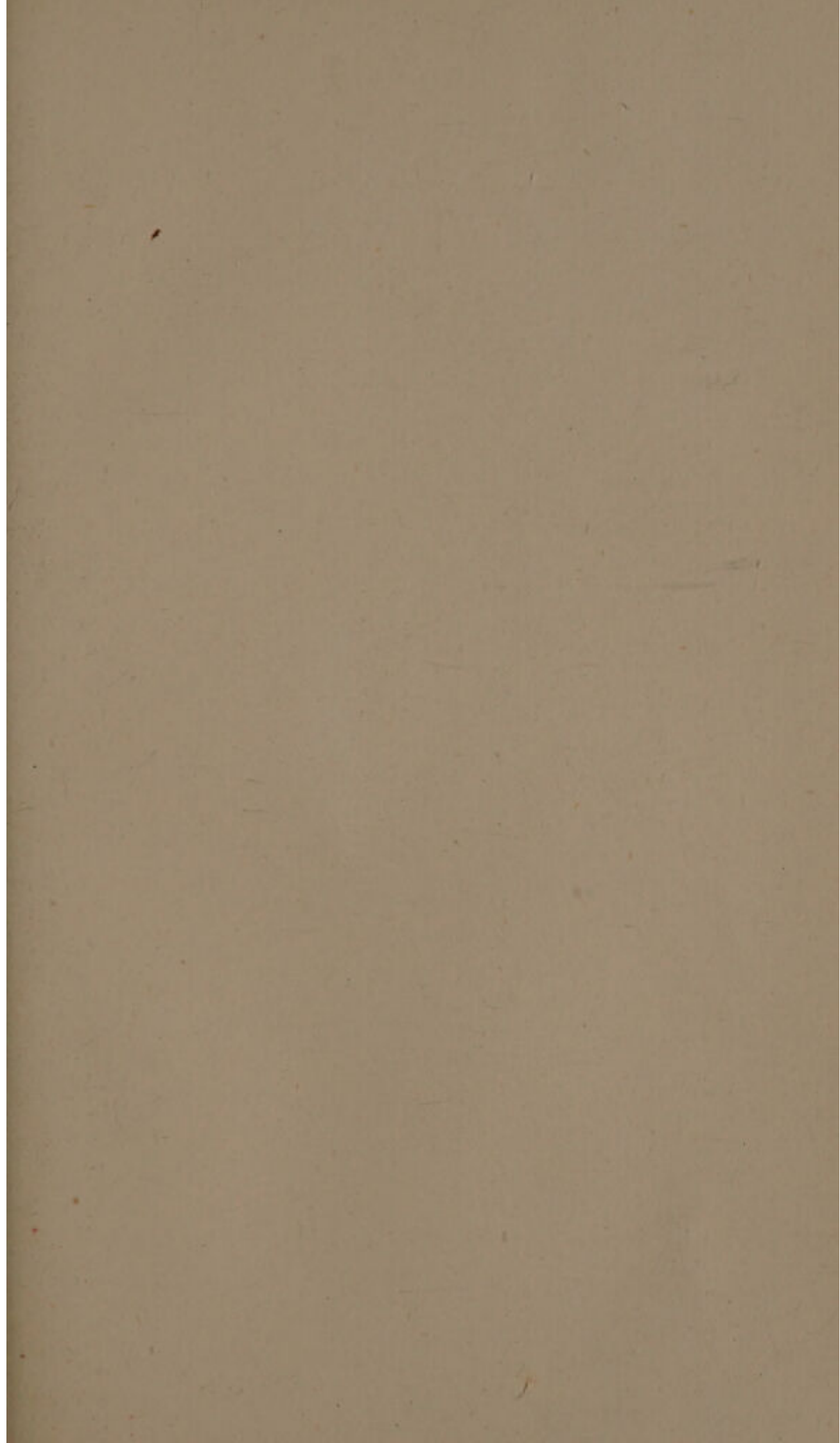
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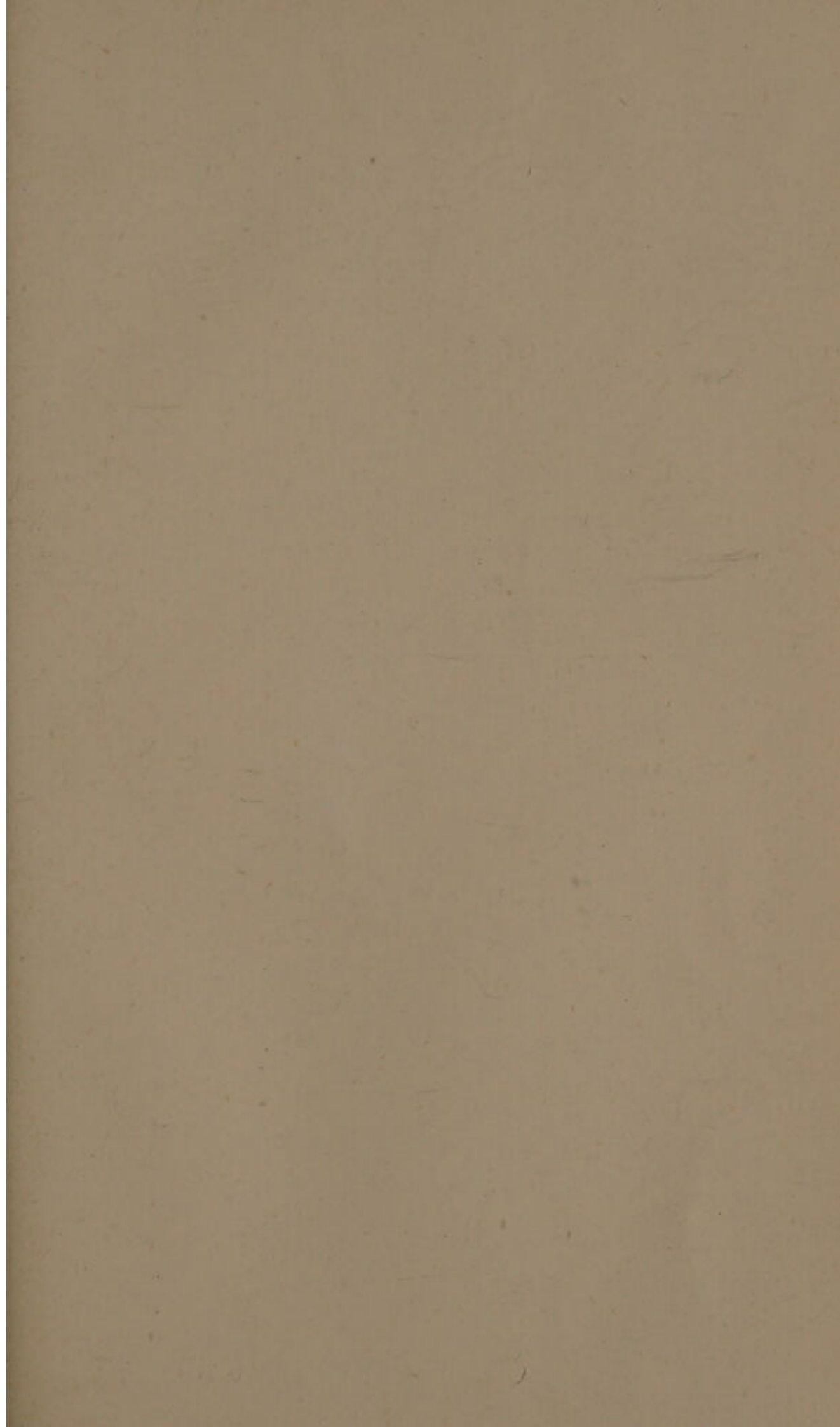
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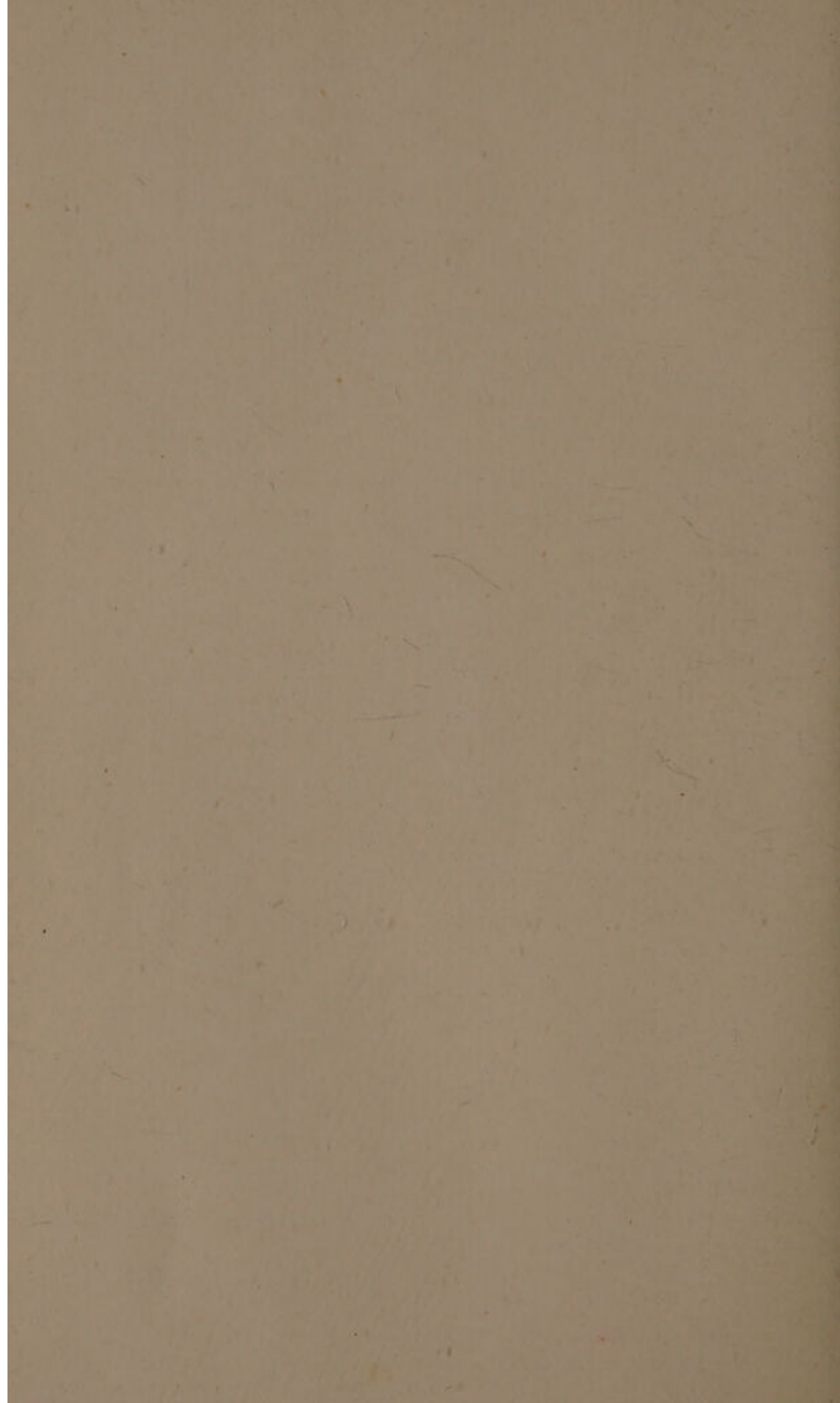


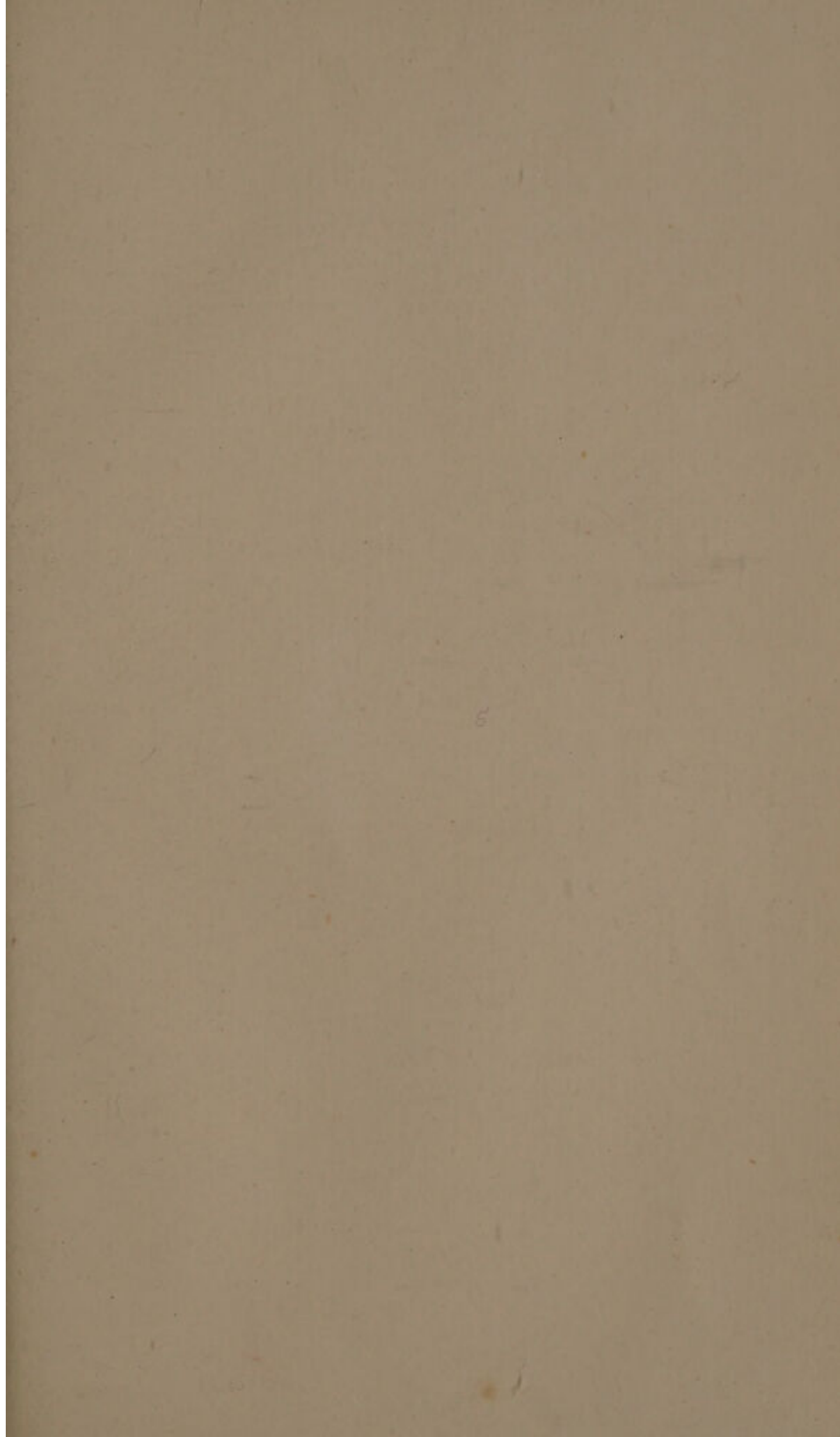




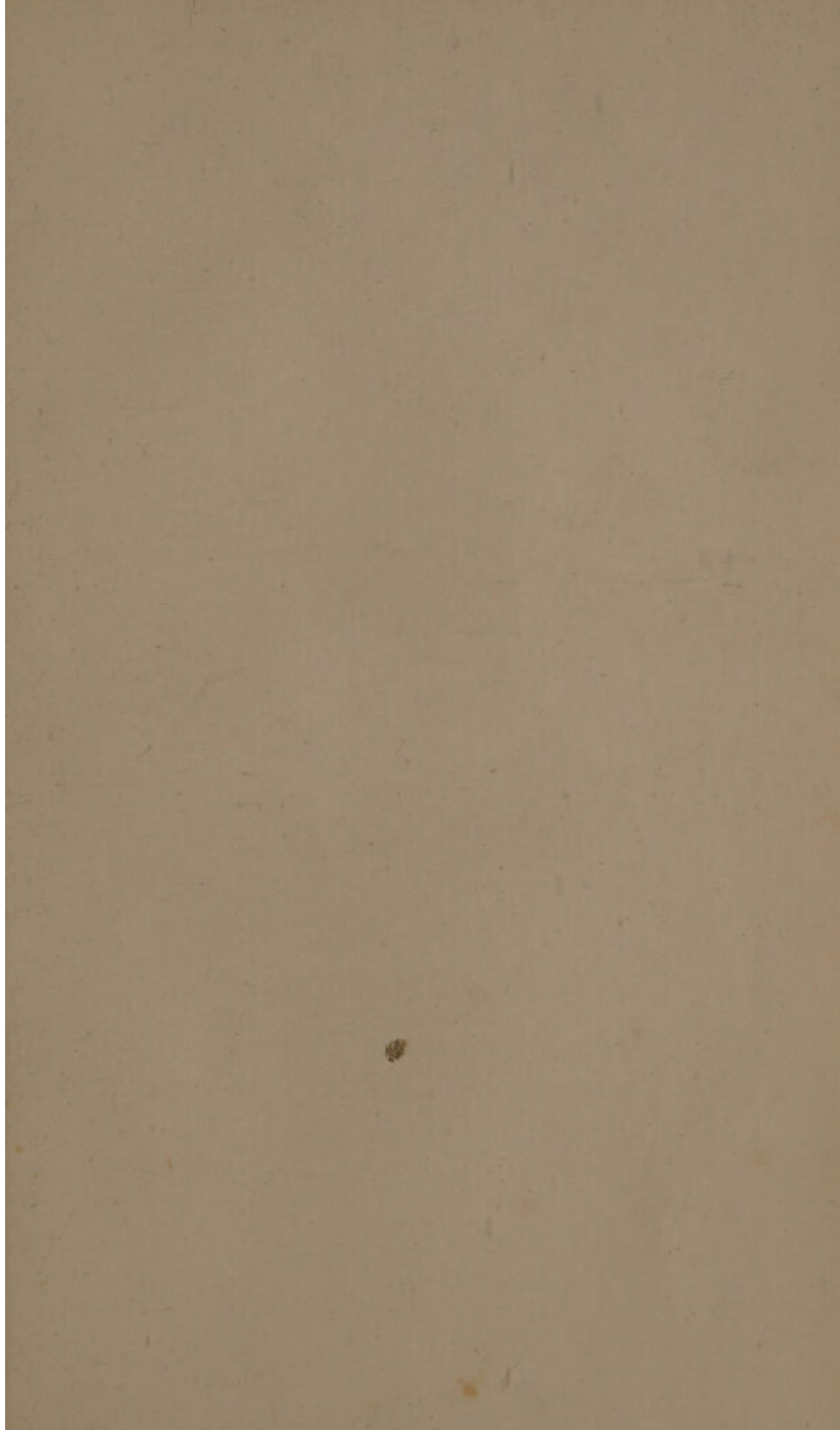




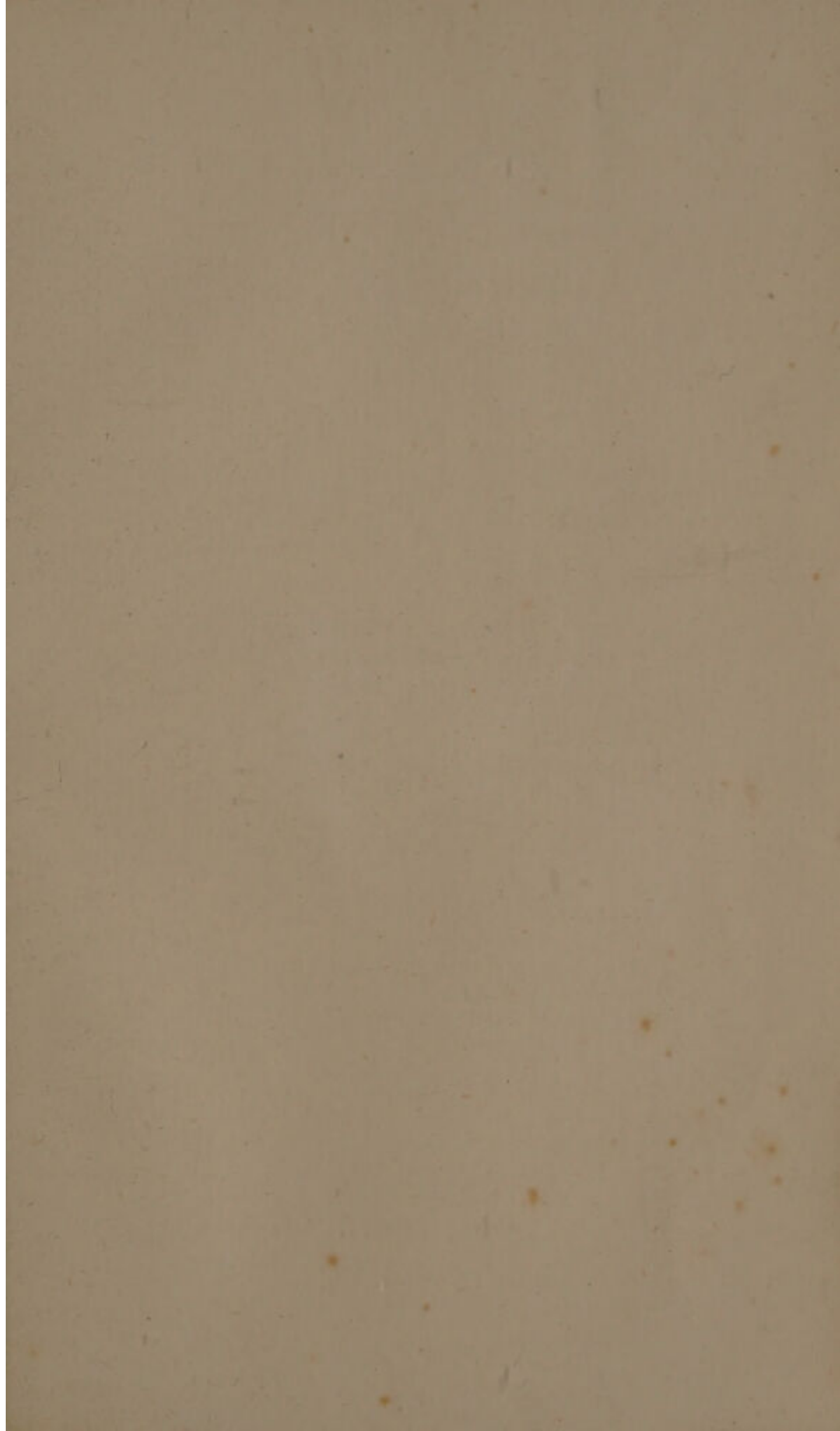


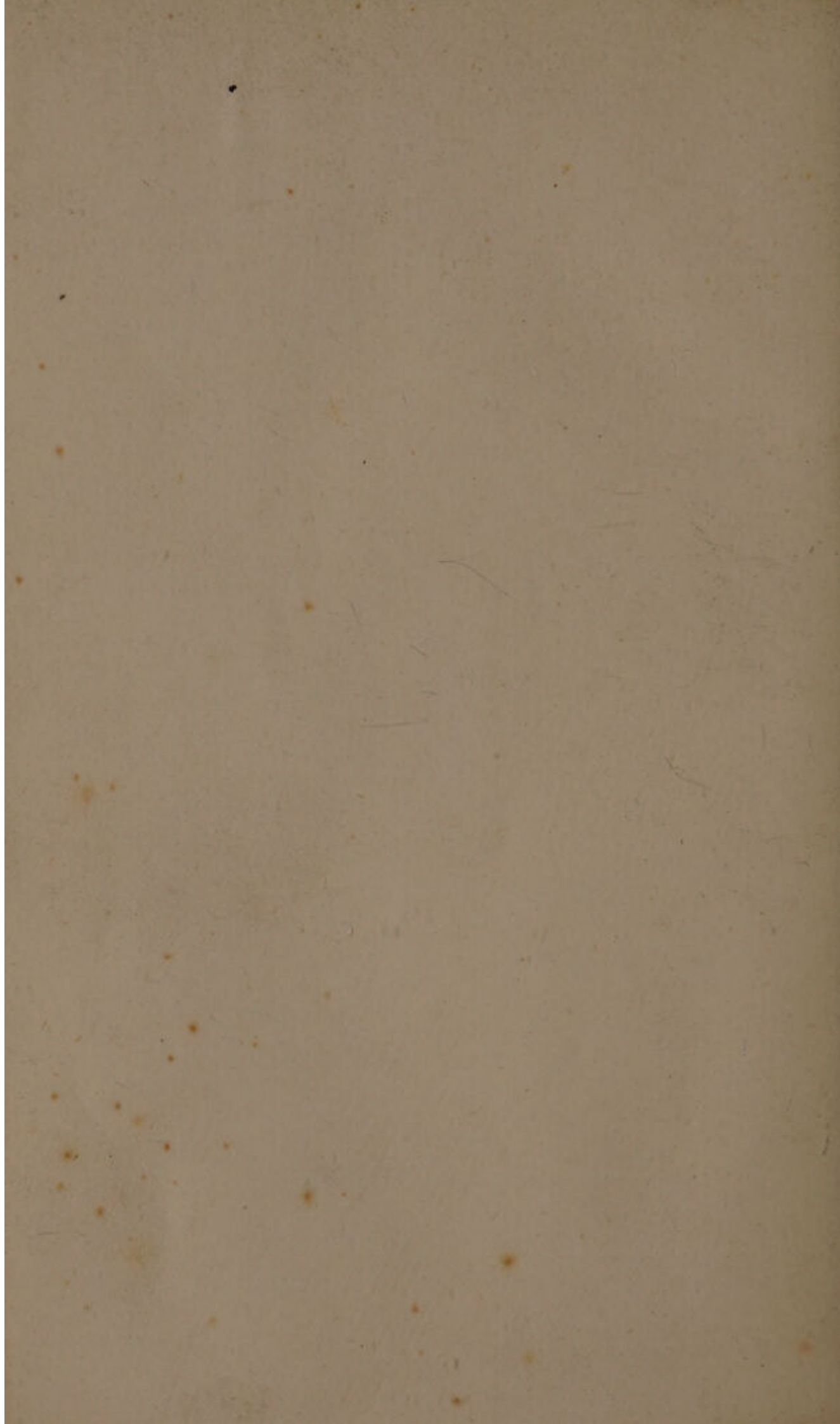












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