

The expediency of preventive wisdom. A sermon preached before ... The Lord-Mayor, the Aldermen, and Governors of the ... Hospitals of the City of London ... on Easter-Monday, 1750 ... With a dedication and appendix concerning spirituous liquors ... / [Isaac Maddox].

Contributors

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The Expediency of preventive Wisdom.

MADDOX
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A
S E R M O N

Preached before the RIGHT HONOURABLE the
L O R D - M A Y O R,
T H E A L D E R M E N,
A N D
G O V E R N O R S of the Several H O S P I T A L S
O F T H E
C I T Y of L O N D O N.

A T
St. BRIDGET'S Church,
On EASTER-MONDAY, 1750.

And Published at the DESIRE of
The LORD-MAYOR and Court of ALDERMEN.

With a DEDICATION and an APPENDIX concerning
S P I R I T U O U S L I Q U O R S.

By the RIGHT REVEREND
I S A A C, Lord Bishop of WORCESTER.

Bp Maddox

The SECOND EDITION, with ADDITIONS.

L O N D O N :

Printed by H. WOODFALL, in *Pater-noster-Row*; and
sold by H. WHITRIDGE, at the *Royal-Exchange*; and
G. WOODFALL, at *Charing-Cross*.

[Price One Shilling.]

Spirituous Liquors
1716

266
1815

MADDOX, I
C



To the Right Honourable the
L O R D - M A Y O R,

A N D

ALDERMEN, and *Common-Council,*

Of the **CITY of LONDON,**

A N D

GOVERNORS of the several HOSPITALS, &c.

M Y L O R D,

THE Sermon, which is now offered to Your Lordship, and the Magistrates of the Metropolis, was preached and printed at the Desire of one of the most respectable Communities, which this Kingdom knows; the Lord-Mayor and Aldermen of the City of *London*. And if the Subject is treated in any Degree as it deserves, Apologies will be less necessary for submitting, in this still more public manner, to some of the most able and competent Judges, Matters of so great Importance: Which is done, not without reasonable Hopes, that such an Approbation may create Attention

and give Weight to the Considerations that are offered in this plain Discourse.

HAPPY will it be for the renowned City over which you preside, for the Kingdom in general, and for succeeding Ages, if, like great and good Magistrates, you shall seasonably become, in any Measure, effectual Instruments in the Hand of Providence for stopping those many, pernicious, growing Evils, which I am much afraid, however heinous or dreadful, are here represented but too justly.

It is the Honour and Happiness, I might say the Duty, of those who are entrusted with Authority and Influence, and especially where Authority and extensive Influence are united, rather to *prevent* than punish Enormities. In this View, the regular and constant *Employment* of the *Poor*, and especially of *Children*, is earnestly recommended* ; since in no Instance is *Prevention* more remarkably preferable to Remedy, even *if* a Remedy *could* afterwards be had, than in an early Care to enure Youth to Labour and Regularity.

In like manner, *to prevent* the excessive Use of Spirituous Liquors, which are now grown so cheap and common, is much more wise and beneficial, and infinitely more practicable, than to aim at curing the Distempers, or punishing
and

and restraining the Disorders and Outrages, which this particular kind of Intemperance so plentifully produces ^b.

Any *repeated* Representations from me, besides what this Sermon contains, of the many fatal Consequences of Spirituous Liquors as they are now dispersed through the whole Kingdom, would be entirely superfluous ^c. The Appendix contains Evidence from such skilful, disinterested and upright Hands; the Proofs therein exhibited are so strong and numerous, so notorious and undeniable, as must produce Conviction; God grant they may also produce the desirable Effect!

And what, my Lord, is the real Fact, which is thus indisputably clear and certain? Is it not, that every Year, every Month, every Day, beholds vast Numbers of our Fellow-Creatures, our Countrymen and Fellow-Subjects, Men, Women, Children, debauched, ruined, destroyed; that Spirituous Liquors prove injurious and fatal to the Health, the Industry, the Morals, the Lives, the present Welfare and eternal Well-being of Multitudes; with the sure Ruin of their Families; and with prodigious Detriment in various Ways to the Nation in general, not

^b Sermon Page 15. ^c See a *Sermon* before the Societies for the Reformation of Manners; and a *Sermon* before the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts; and *Journal of the House of Lords*. Feb. 25. 1742.

not only in the Loss of Labour and proper Circulation of the Gains of sober Industry in purchasing the several Necessaries and Conveniencies of Life ; but by daily increasing the Number of Persons not meerly idle and useles, but actually hurtful to Society ; whose Necessities prompt them to undertake, and these inflaming Spirits embolden them to perpetrate every barbarous and daring Enterprize ; dis-peopling our Country of Thousands that might have proved useful Members, and preventing a Supply by greatly obstructing the Increase of the Species.

Having mentioned the audacious and cruel Villainies which these mischievous Liquors inspire Men and *Women* to commit, I must beg Leave to appeal, and I do it in the most solemn manner, to Your Lordship, and the Aldermen of *London*, and I may add to his Majesty's Justices in the adjacent Counties, whether *by far* the greatest Part of all the atrocious Crimes that come in Judgment before you, either at the *Old-Baily*, or at the Sittings at *Guildhall*, or elsewhere, be not committed by Persons most apparently enraged by these inflammatory Spirits ; whether the *Criminals* themselves, and the *Crowds that sometimes attend them*, do not bear in their Countenance, and their whole Manner and Appearance the plainest and most shocking Proofs that their Blood is enflamed by the habitual Drinking of Gin.

And is all this extreamly certain? I beseech you then, my Lord, stop one Moment and look again upon the tremendous Collection of Misery and Mischief in one short View.—Intemperance! Poverty! Villainy! Murder! Desolation!—Good God! what an Assemblage is here! How dreadful and how real! Can it be read without Concern; or is it possible it should be seen every Day with Indifference!

Were Murders by any other Weapon half so frequent, and by none are they committed more effectually; or were half the Number of Families, who might otherwise prove greatly useful to the Community, as evidently plunged in Vice and Ruin by any other Means, is it possible that those, who are cloathed with Authority and appointed as *a Terror to evil Works*, should be unconcerned Spectators of such dreadful and enlarging Scenes of Wickedness and Misery? Or, would the Magistrates of this chief City, deservedly invested with great Power and Influence, quietly behold, in any other Shape, the Continuance and Increase of so much Wretchedness and Guilt among their Fellow-Subjects, for whose Welfare and Safety it is their Office and Duty to be constantly watchful? Common Humanity would prevent a single Murder, and restrain the uplifted Arm that would administer *one* deadly Potion, or that aimed a deadly Weapon

pon but at *one* innocent Breast: But what is a single Murder compared to the many Thousands that are annually sent out of the World by a slow but sure Poison; and among these how many unoffending Children and helpless Babes, fall pitiable Victims? In a Case so plain, Inferences are needless.

It does not, my Lord, admit the least Doubt, that Thousands and Ten-thousands, after a short Life of Intemperance and Ignominy, if not Violence and Outrage, have miserably perished, who might have been a Strength, a Support and Credit to our Country, in their own Persons, and in a Race of healthy well educated Children.

'Tis not for me to attempt any Estimate founded upon Calculations of political Arithmetic, nor fix any *Value* upon the *Lives* and Labour of these wretched Creatures so totally lost to the Nation. Your Lordship, and your worthy Brethren know much better, what immense Sums our Country has *already* lost by the untimely Death of such large Numbers of People, as have *already* perished; and, *if it do not exceed Calculation*, how much more must be lost, in no very long Tract of Time, to the *Nation*, and to the public *Revenue* too, in various Articles, by the Destruction of so many Inhabitants; who when engaged in sober Industry,

as civil Prudence directs, are beyond all Dispute in every View, the Riches and Strength, the Support and Glory of a Country. Each individual Person that dies an unnatural Death, whether by a quicker or a slower Poison, makes a Part of this aggregate Sum. The Advantages of every regular, industrious Subject, both as to his Labour and Expences, are much more considerable with respect to the National Safety, Wealth and Taxes, than from the little Attention paid to Considerations of this Nature seems generally to be apprehended : And Destruction of *People* is a Loss of that kind, which no *present* Sums of Money will supply or compensate.

If the growing Evil is still neglected, and Debauchery, Vice and Murder are still to increase ; if Death and Hell are to open their Jaws yet wider, what can be hoped for hereafter ?—Hereafter, when every Pretence, I cannot say Argument, for this Indulgence will have acquired new Force ; when, like other bad Practices and bad Habits, *this* also will spread and gain Strength by Time ; when private Profit will become more extensive, and of course its Efforts more powerful ; and when large Additions will be made to the Produce of *this* Tax. What is *then* to be expected, if no Redress, no Remedy is provided now ? The ruinous Scene, that must in this Case ere long
 b appear,

appear, is too plain to need Description, and too dreadful to be looked upon without the utmost Grief and Horror !

Whatever Reasons might prevail for making an Experiment of the present Method, the Consequences of this Trial are now well known and too sensibly felt ; or whatever Necessities might intervene in the Progress of an expensive War ; these Considerations subsist no longer : And the Reduction of Interest upon the National Debt is become a Circumstance of great Weight.

The *Interest* of the Debt for which this Duty was mortgaged, is *now* reduced *One-eighth*, and in a few Years will be reduced *One-fourth*. A *less* Produce therefore from this Duty upon Spirits will be fully sufficient to satisfy the Interest of the Debt. And if we should be so happy as to see the Consumption of these now very low-priced Spirits considerably lessened ; a *greater* Duty upon a *less* Quantity will produce the same Revenue. But if there should still be *some* Deficiency ; is *that* a Consideration of weight enough in the Views of Policy, Humanity and Religion, to balance all the grievous Evils which the wicked Practice of drinking these cheap Spirits so extensively produces ? But besides the signal Blessings, which every Christian, that engages in so pious, humane, and compassionate a

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Work,

Work, may expect from HIM, *who came not to destroy Mens Lives but to save them*; there is great Reason to apprehend, that an ample Compensation for *some* Loss in this one Duty, would certainly arise in many Particulars, from the increased Labour and Consumptions of a growing, instead of the present declining Number of sober, orderly, industrious Labourers, Manufacturers and Artificers; even supposing that the *increased* Duties upon *Malt, Hops, &c.* should make no Amends; nor any *other* proper Equivalent could *possibly* be devised. For, permit me to observe, my Lord, that the View is by much too narrow and contracted, if no other Object is looked at, but the growing Produce of *one* single Duty; or, *possibly* the Sale of some damaged Corn.

How many thousand Consumers of the general Product and Manufactures of the Kingdom are annually *killed*; and of course all the Benefit that would have arisen from that whole Number and from their Offspring, certainly lost to the *Nation*, and to the *Revenue* too for ever!

And how many Commodities, and how many Utensils does this pernicious Gin supplant or supply the Place of, to *those* Wretches addicted to it, who *as yet* crawl about, a public Nuisance? How much less Bread-corn, Malt, Hops; how much less Meat of all kinds; how much less
 b 2 Cloaths,

Cloaths, both Linnen, Woollen and Leather, &c. &c. &c. do these befotted, miserable Creatures consume than an equal Number of sober and laborious Subjects of the same Rank? Look in upon the *Dwelling* of a regular industrious Workman of the like Occupation with the Slaves to Gin: How many Trades have been employed to provide Cloaths and furnish a homely, but decent and cleanly Habitation for himself, his Wife and healthy Children, while the noisome and filthy Abode of Gin-drinkers, if they have any settled Abode at all, shall be void of every thing decent or even necessary; and no Wonder, for this intoxicating Liquor which consumes the *little* that they earn, (and very little they do earn) does literally become their Victuals, Drink, and Cloaths; as Variety of Tradesmen daily find by sad Experience.

Many other Reflections must naturally arise upon this important Subject.—Bloodshed and Slaughter, in *Europe* at least, are indeed at present ceased, and open War is at an End. But are Disputes and Contentions of another kind entirely extinguished? Is there no Skill and Application employed to restore and strengthen the *Sinews of War*, where they have been lately strained and weakened? Are there no lively Contests for Trade, for Riches, for naval Strength, for the Increase of People, Power and

Revenue, by domestic Regulations as well as foreign Acquisitions, enlarged Dominion and Extent of Country? Or are there no Endeavours used to acquire and secure *first* a civil and commercial, and *then* perhaps more easily a military and maritime Superiority?

Can any Period of Time, then, ever furnish more persuasive Instruction IMMEDIATELY to *cultivate the Arts of Peace*; to promote Sobriety, Virtue, Industry; to encrease as much as possible the Number of laborious, regular, useful Subjects; *at least*, to bestow the utmost Application and Care to prevent the *daily Waste* and Diminution of that great Support to every Country, and to restrain and suppress the Increase of ungovernable and furious Invaders of Life and Property.

In every salutary Attempt for Reformation, we have the great Blessing of being secure of the chearful Concurrence of a *most gracious* PRINCE, ever watchful for, ever happy in the Happiness of his People. And in Truth without any great Degree of Foresight, 'tis easy to predict, that *his Majesty's* most paternal and seasonable Recommendation from the Throne, “ to enforce the Execution of the
 “ Laws, and suppress those Outrages and Vio-
 “ lences which are inconsistent with all good
 “ Order and Government, and endanger the
 “ Lives

“Lives and Properties of his Subjects,” will never be carried into Execution, or have any tolerable Effect, if the lower People are still allowed to disqualify themselves for honest Labour, by enfeebling their Bodies and intoxicating their Minds, and with a Fury too that is peculiar to those fiery Spirits, by which they are made drunk; if a necessitous Wretch, eager for the enchanting Poison, and without much Money to procure it, can extinguish, for less than *two* Pence all Sense of Duty, Shame or FEAR, and is sure to find Company ready to suggest or join in the greatest Acts of Villainy and Outrage; no *subsequent* Punishment however severe, or how many Subjects soever are put to Death, will cure these heinous Evils. Emboldened Wretches, prompted by Want, and inspired by Gin, will enter upon the most daring and audacious Acts of Wickedness; despising Law and Punishment.

PREVENTIVE Wisdom therefore, is the most natural, the most humane, not indeed the *most*, but the *only* EFFECTUAL Means to deliver us from the formidable Enormities that are daily encreasing.

GIN *may* be kept out of the Reach of a *poor* Creature; but if once you suffer him to be enraged with that pestiferous Liquor, 'tis speaking to the Waves in a Storm, when you attempt by *subsequent* Penalties to restrain him from any Theft or Murder, or any other atrocious Wickedness,

edness, which a drunken Companion recommends, as the surest Means to enable him to quench with fresh Supplies of Spirits, that burning Thirst and Longing, which these Spirits constantly create.

Whether the Gentlemen of the Army experienced any Difficulties in raising the necessary Recruits during the last War, national Prudence would not perhaps publicly enquire: It can however give no Offence to assert, that it certainly is of the utmost Consequence, that there should always be a sufficient Number of *able-bodied* Men to bear Arms in Defence of their injured Country; and that Sobriety, Regularity, and strict Discipline, should be constantly preserved; to which good Purpose the drinking inflammatory and intoxicating Spirits is by no means likely to contribute.

I am sensible the Calculation will be thought, and really is, very much too low, if, besides those who are *enfeebled* and *disqualified* for Service, which is *no small Number*, we suppose only *fifty thousand* Persons, who might have carried Arms when the public Safety required, to perish by these destructive Liquors, in the Course of ten Years. And who can say that in less than half that Space of Time, the Religion, the Liberty, the very Being of this free and Protestant Kingdom may not depend upon, may not be lost for the want of half that Number of
able

able Men in a Day of Battle ! Will the Advance of *one* Tax, even though in no wise balanced by numerous Losses upon other Articles ; will this *Price of Blood* make any Recompence for the Loss of so many Lives, or supply that most important of all DEFICIENCIES, the Want of Men to fight for their injured or invaded Country ?

How oddly extravagant and monstrous would the Proposal appear, if any Power with whom we were actually engaged in War, as the surest Method of preserving their own Forces and destroying the Enemy, should offer twice the Produce of the Duties upon Gin, for the avowed Liberty of poisoning half the Number of *British* Subjects able to bear Arms, which this liquid Fire, beyond all Denial, annually burns up and consumes : And yet, the Loss and Injury to the Nation is the very same, by whatever Hand the People are destroyed ; or whether the poisonous Potion is prepared in an *English* or a foreign Alembic ; with this only Difference, that in the present Method of Slaughter, our Enemy would save the Expence, and yet derive the same Advantage from diminishing the Number of our fighting Men.

Unhappy *Britain* and undone for ever ! If the boasted Wisdom of the present enlightened Age, even in a Time of public Peace and Tranquillity, can only raise Supplies for national Service,

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by murdering its Inhabitants and lessening Trade in numberless Branches ! 'Tis indeed very true, that there is no positive Law, no formal Injunction, to commit these numerous Murders. But yet it is as true, that whatever Indulgence is allowed in Cases less atrocious, in the Death of a Subject the Law considers every Person concerned as *Principal*, and does not even admit of *Accessaries* in Murder : Nor is it less certain, that *Connivance* in Cases of this Nature is *Encouragement*, according to the allowed Maxim, *qui non prohibet, jubet* : The Sword of Authority is not borne in vain ; and it is the great End and Design of Government to preserve *Life*, as well as Property ; and with this View, to punish, restrain, and, if possible, extinguish Wickedness of every kind : And the more enormous and extensive any Vice becomes, Theft, for Example, in the public Streets, or private Houses, or Forgery, or *Murder* ; the *more* serious and earnest Endeavours are in all such Cases justly called for to discourage and suppress the growing Evil.

Is the Loss of a single Subject by Murder, or is a single Robbery made capital and actually punished with Death ? And is it of no Consequence ? Is it below all Attention and Regard, if Thousands of Lives are every Year destroyed ; and the Public defrauded of the manifold Advan-

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vantages,

vantages, all the Riches and Strength, that would arise from the Multitudes of its lost Subjects? The antient Precaution *Ne quid detrimenti capiat Respublica* is a primary Consideration in every well ordered State: And if any Species of Liquor, tho' perhaps somewhat slower in the Operation, does yet prove as pernicious and fatal as infected Meat or infected Goods, is there not the same Reason in true Policy, and the same Justice to the Community, to lay Restraints upon *liquid*, as upon *solid* Poisons?

To say,—“What can be done? Alas! the People *will* have this liquid Poison,” is one of the most *dreadful* and most *fatal* Declarations that can possibly be made, not only as it is contrary to the fundamental Principles upon which Communities subsist, and destroys Government itself, by transferring to the inconsiderate *Will* and Pleasure of the Multitude, that Power and Authority, which belong *only* to *Law* and the civil Magistrate; but also as such desponding Lamentations, whether sincere or not, entirely discourage that *strict* Attention, that *active* Vigilance which should be *constantly* employed to restrain and abolish any Vice, that is so extremely pernicious in all Respects. Suppose the Populace *enflamed* against the present Distribution of *Property*, and discovering by outrageous Overt-Acts, the strongest *Inclination* to bring it nearer

to an Equality, and *encouraged* herein by *foreign Assistance*; would it be thought a tolerable Excuse for suffering their *Will* to prevail, meerly because they are *eager* for this Change, and may find some *present Gratification* from a new Allotment; when Reason and public Utility so loudly declare against any such Indulgence?

If there be any considerable Power in *Europe*, that looks from the Continent with an Eye of Envy upon this great Island, which perhaps our Industry and Virtue might easily excite; what Grief and Indignation would arise in every *English* Breast, ever to see that Envy changed for Pity and Contempt, exulting with too reasonable a Satisfaction, and a sort of triumphant Complacency, very naturally derived from the Continuance of this sore Destruction among us, that with a speedy Ravage is accomplishing *their* Wishes, by daily wasting *our* Strength and diminishing *our* Numbers!

But this, my Lord, I trust can never be our unhappy Lot: The Wisdom, the Policy, the Virtue, the Resolution of this Country can never sink so low, as to be unable or unwilling to contrive, or dare to execute a Scheme of Deliverance from Destruction so certain and so apparent.

In order to accomplish this most desirable Deliverance, it may not perhaps be requisite,

that the whole Art of distilling Spirits should be entirely abolished ; or the Door opened wider than at present for the pernicious Introduction of foreign Spirits that pay no Duty. It must be acknowledged, that Reasons of some Weight are offered against totally destroying the Distillery ; but yet, unless the Distilling Trade come under some *effectual* Regulations, and the vending in so many Places, at such extreme low Prices, such prodigious Quantities of those spirituous Liquors, which in poisonous Streams now overflow the Land, be *really* restrained ; whatever becomes of the *British* Distillery, whether *that* be, or be not destroyed—the *British* Nation certainly is destroyed.

Far from *Encouraging*, it is one essential Part of this necessary Reformation *to restrain*, and if possible, suppress the infamous and daring Practice of SMUGGLING, big with so many Evils in Times of *War*, as well as Times of *Peace*. 'Tis impossible (for *me* at least) to reflect upon this Subject, and not lament with deep Concern, the *late Death* of a NOBLEMAN, not more distinguished by his high Rank, than by his many excellent and amiable Qualities : The Bravery, Benevolence, and Love to his Country, which always adorned his Mind, excited this noble Person, totally regardless of the Danger or Fatigue, to bring to public Justice some of the most enor-

mous Offenders in the Smuggling Way ; who, hardened in that bold and outrageous Practice, and defying Law and Government, had advanced to the utmost Lengths of savage Brutality, and shocking Murder.

'Tis needless to be more particular, or say how great a Loss His Family, His Friends, His Country have sustained, in this affectionate, beneficent, brave, and truly great Man ; who had most justly acquired a Regard and Esteem, as unconfined and universal, as was the Benevolence and Compassion of the open and generous Heart of the DUKE OF RICHMOND!

But I must proceed ; unless these bold and flagrant Insults upon Law, Justice and Government, be effectually prevented, any other Remedy must prove imperfect ; for though some Difference may arise in the interior Parts of the Kingdom, yet the present Mischief will certainly continue near the Shore, if all the Coasts of *Britain* can be supplied with cheap Spirits from Abroad that pay no Duty.

The present Methods for stopping these Enormities, it is much to be feared, are by no means sufficient and effectual : Nor will Decency or Abilities permit me to prescribe such as may promise better Success. Very eminent and able Judges of these Matters have been of Opinion, that much might be done towards removing

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ing this great Evil, if besides punishing with Death, poor, inferior Instruments; the impartial Hand of Justice were regularly and constantly to extend itself to the *wealthy* Promoters and Support of this fraudulent and mischievous Traffick; and a Punishment, in some Degree, proportioned to the manifold Damage the Nation suffers, were invariably inflicted upon those Persons, whose Substance not only builds the Vessels, and purchases the Cargo, but likewise *seduces*, maintains and encourages the Under-Agents in this Scheme of Fraud and Outrage. An Instance we have at the very last Execution, Dec. 30, 1750, in the Account of *John Watling*, aged but 25, who then suffered Death for aiding and assisting, with divers other Persons, in landing and running Goods, liable to pay Duty, &c. which is as follows—“ That he
 “ was bred up to Husbandry by his Parents and
 “ lived with them, and went out to *Day-Labour*
 “ *bour* in the Neighbourhood, for *many* Years,
 “ and was looked upon as a *quiet, sober* Fellow;
 “ but as the Itch of being concerned in the
 “ Smugglers Trade is very catching in that
 “ Neighbourhood [*Budsdal* in *Suffolk*,] he at
 “ length became one, and was employed as a
 “ Rider, in fetching, and carrying run Goods.
 “ He was an active, handy, *young* Fellow, and
 “ so

“ so never wanted for Employ ; and as it was
 “ a Business that brought in *greater Gains*, and
 “ easier than what he was first bred to, he grew
 “ fond of it, and was ready upon all Occasi-
 “ ons.” ’Tis extreamly natural to enquire *who*
 seduced this poor young Fellow by this *greater*
Gain, and what *they* have suffered ?

Another Expedient has been also thought of ;
 the encreasing still further the Number of small
 Vessels to cruise upon our Coasts, as Occasion
 shall require ; and of a Size and Make best fitted
 to pursue the smuggling Boats and Cutters into
 the Creeks and Shoals which they resort to ;
 and employing in this Service, a proper Number
 of a most brave and useful Order of Men, the
 British Sailors, under *that* Direction which shall
 be most conducive to secure the great End of
 the Appointment.

Whether these or several other Schemes will
 prove absolutely effectual, it would be highly
 improper to pass any Judgment.

The Opinion however seems very general,
 that in order to prevent the many terrible and
 increasing Mischiefs arising from the excessive
 Use of spirituous Liquors, *two* Expedients are
 absolutely necessary ; the *one* is raising the Price
 of home-made Spirits, which are now purchased
 at an incredibly small Expence ; the *other* pre-
 venting, in a great Measure at least, the illegal
 Importation

Importation of foreign Spirits, by *encreasing* in every Way, at *Sea* and on *Shoar*, the Difficulty and Hazards of carrying on that most detestable and pernicious Practice, contrary to the Principles of true Policy and true Religion, which requires every Man to render *Custom* to whom *Custom* is due, and *Tribute* to whom *Tribute*.

In a Case of such immense Importance to the Preservation of numberless Lives of *British* Subjects, and to the Welfare and Safety of the Nation itself; where the present and future Happiness of Millions is concerned, in this and succeeding Generations; where an Evil already so very extensive is daily enlarging its baneful Progress; and with a Poison peculiarly venomous, gnawing the very *Vitals* of a trading Nation, by spreading largely its sad Infection in Towns and Villages engaged in *Manufactures*, where *Industry* and *Temperance* are so peculiarly essential, if any Product of *British* Labour is to appear at foreign Markets: In a Case where such Variety of Mischiefs, personal and public is so very conspicuous; where undoubtedly the Well-being, most probably the very Being of our Country and Constitution are at Stake, in Circumstances so justly alarming, where the Danger is so great and so manifest; *Neglect* or *Despondency* can only hasten and compleat our Ruin.

Try every Method of Cure; leave no one probable Expedient unattempted; each Effort may produce some good Effect: Go on; still go on, till at last some one Regulation or other, perhaps several in Conjunction, may happily, with God's Blessing, accomplish the desirable Reformation, and put a stop to this devouring Pestilence, and all the Wickedness and Violence and Mischief it produces; and bless our Country with Thousands and Ten Thousands of sober, industrious, happy People!

In a Case, my Lord, of this apparent *Necessity*, the Difficulties which heighten the Merit of the Enterprize, do at the same time call more loudly for Zeal, Resolution and Dispatch. In one plain Word, something must be done, and *speedily* too; or this Nation is certainly undone. Where the Dilemma is so interesting and so dreadful, no Degree of Earnestness and Warmth can need an Apology.

'Tis more than probable, this may be the last Struggle between Life and Death, the last Gasp of dying Multitudes; and that the Body politic, notwithstanding the *fallacious* Appearance by a disproportioned Resort of People from all Quarters to the Metropolis, must gradually decline and soon perish under this sore Distemper, this spreading Pestilence, if immediate

diate Relief be not *properly* and *effectually* administered.

May the Fountain of Life and Father of Mercies, inspire us all in our respective Stations with a becoming Zeal upon this great Occasion!

I am, MY LORD,

With great Respect for Your Lordship,

and the Government of the City,

Your Lordship's

Most Obedient Humble Servant,

ISAAC WORCESTER.

P O S T S C R I P T.

SINCE the Conclusion of the foregoing Pages, to my great Surprize I was informed, that some Argument or other was drawn in Favour of these pernicious Spirits from the *Bills of Mortality*. I thought it incumbent upon me to examine the real Fact from those authentic Accounts annually published, by the Company of Parish-Clerks, which, tho' not *exactly* accurate, yet, when compared with *themselves*, one Year with another, must be supposed *equally* just.

The Fact then stands thus ;

The CHRISTENINGS were no more in the Year

1748, than ————— 14,153

1749, ————— 14,260

1750, ————— 14,548

This at a *Medium* amounts to 14,320 *per Ann.*

But if we look to *preceding* Years the *Christenings* are *much more* numerous ; for in

The Year 1731, the Christenings were 17,830

1732, ————— 17,788

1733, ————— 17,465

The *Medium* of these 3 Years is 17,694

The *annual Difference* then in this *short Tract* of Time is 3,374 Christenings !

But if we go still a little farther back, the Case will appear yet more evident and glaring.

The pernicious Practice of drinking these destructive Spirits began to be more frequent and extensive about the Year 1722 ; and the Christenings near that Time stand thus

1723, ————— 19,203

1724, ————— 19,370

1725, ————— 18,859

From that Time to the present, the Decrease, with some little Variations, has been very *gradual*, and in this View it now amounts to near 5,000 Christenings less than in the Year 1723.

What an amazing Loss is this to be annually sustained in *those* Parishes, and among *those* People *only*, who are register'd by the Company of Parish Clerks! More than the *one fourth* of the whole Number, every Year!

This Proportion will carry on our melancholy Thoughts with some Degree of *Certainty*, to those many, and some of them very populous, Places near the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, *not included* in the above annual Accounts of the Bills of Mortality; as for Example, *Camberwell, Chelsea, Deptford, Greenwich, Marybone, Pancras, Paddington, Kensington, Hampstead, Highgate, &c.* and will at the same Time enable us to frame a *proportional* Calculation of the terrible Havock and Destruction of the human Species, made by these pestilential Spirits in manufacturing Towns, and other distant Parts of the Kingdom; according as this fatal Poison appears to be proportionally spreading in those several Places.

In the *Burials*, as register'd by the Parish Clerks, there is no great Difference at the different Times; thus for Example,

In 1731, there were — 25,262. In 1749—25,516.

1732, ——— 23,258. 1750---23,727.

But as to Burials I am credibly informed, that since a late Practice has prevailed of having no Intercourse with the Parish Officers upon the *Removal* of a Corpse, there is *no Entry* made of that very great Number which are now annually *removed* to Places near and remote; these not being entred with the Company of Parish Clerks, by whom alone the publick Account is given. And if all such Deaths were added to the Number of registred Burials, it would very much swell the Account, and occasion a still greater Disproportion between the *present* Numbers of Births and Burials;

Burials; for upon due Enquiry it appears that the Number of the Corpses now carried away, is much larger than it was some Years ago, or than is commonly apprehended.

'Tis impossible, nor is it necessary, to be minutely exact, as to the Number of People in the City and Suburbs; it makes no considerable Alteration, if we take the common Calculation, and suppose the Number to be 850,000.

Then, as 17,694 Christenings is to 850,000 People; so is 14,320— to 687,916. The Difference is no less than 162,084 People, who upon this Proportion, founded on the Number of Christenings, appear to have been diminished, computing only from the Year 1733.

If only the *same* Number die from a *decreased* Stock; and if the *Supply* is so *inadequate* to the *Loss*, it certainly becomes a Matter of very melancholy and serious Consideration. The same sad Truth might be confirmed by various other Circumstances, which I will not enter into.

But to avoid all little Cavils, and the *supposed* Operation of *other* Causes, which it is extremely difficult to assign in a *Destruction* so exactly *coeval* with Gin, and which has manifestly *encreased*, as the Use of *that* pernicious Liquor has *encreased*; suppose instead of a Decrease of near 5,000, we only reckon 3,500. This Abatement will more than account for every *other* possible Cause of the Decrease; and this *reduced* Account leaves the Nation under the deplorable Circumstances of losing, in *one* District, more than 10,000, every three Years, even supposing these consuming Flames did not continue, as they have undoubtedly hitherto continued, with *encreasing* Devastation, to burn up the Human Race.

This *excessively* large Allowance is made, not because there appear any Reasons for it; but effectually to cut up by the Roots all frivolous Causes of the Diminution, that might be assigned, in order to weaken or set aside the just Conclusion, that would demonstratively arise

even from Half this important *annual* Loss. And if the *late War* should (as is very natural) be thought of upon this Occasion; I beg it may be observed, that besides the Necessity of employing every proper Method to *repair* the Loss of People *then* sustained, it appears that in the Year 1724, the Number of Children Christened was 19,370; but since that Time, as this Pestilence of Gin has spread, the Number of Christenings has been lessened; and in such Manner, that in no *one* Year since, the Christenings have ever amounted to 19,000: But, on the contrary, in Times of *Peace*, as well as War, have *gradually*, with small Variations, continued to *decrease*. Thus, in the Year 1734, *i. e.* in Ten Years, they were reduced from 19,370 to 17,630. And, since that Year, the Christenings have never once reached 17,000. But, in the Year 1743, they were reduced to 15,050. And since that Time, notwithstanding the Peace, and the *large Disbandments* consequent thereupon, the Christenings have never arisen to 15,000—But (*I repeat it again*) in the Year 1724, they amounted to 19,370!

Possibly the Case of the CITY OF PARIS may convey some useful *Instruction*, it certainly conveys very full *Evidence* of the happy Effects of the *Police* and Sobriety which are maintained in that populous Place.

The respective Accounts for the last Year stand thus,

PARIS	—	—	19,035	} Christenings.
LONDON	—	—	14,548	

Difference 4,487

LONDON	—	—	23,727	} Burials.
PARIS	—	—	18,084	

Difference 5,643

So that <i>Paris</i> has more Christenings	—	4,487
— fewer Burials	—	5,643

Difference upon both Articles *this* Year 10,130!

Again; In *PARIS*, notwithstanding the prodigious Report of grown People, from the Provinces of *France* and all other Parts of *Europe*, *Nunneries*, &c. the Supply by Christenings exceeds the Loss by Burials. — 951

In *LONDON*, the Case is unhappily inverted and the Loss by Burials exceeds the Supply by Christenings as many THOUSANDS, viz. — — 9,179

N.B. The Number of Foundling Children, receiv'd into the Hospital of *PARIS* this Year was, — 3,785.

Mr. *Maitland* in his *History of London*, p. 548, has given an Account for nine Years (1728—1736) of the Christenings and Burials at *PARIS*.

The Medium of Christenings for that Period is,	18,688
— of Burials	17,804

More Christenings than Burials — — 884

The melancholy View of the same Events at *LONDON* for the same Period (1728—1736) is quite the Reverse, for the Medium of Burials is,

— of Baptisms	17,211
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More Burials than Baptisms every Year --- 9,380!

And what is an additional Misfortune, the Christenings since that Time, as has been observed, have greatly decreased, and do not now amount to 15,000.

These Calculations are not offered, as drawn up with *Mathematical* Certainty, but only, in a general Way, and upon comparing similar Accounts together. And in this
Light,

Light, the *gross* Evidence, without regarding every minute Circumstance, is very sufficient to prove a *great* Disproportion in the Increase and Decrease of People in the different Cities, as Sobriety and Regularity have respectively greater or less Influence; and give a clear View, what prodigious Resources for *Manufactures* and *Commerce*, for *Fleets* and *Armies*, must continually arise, with great Superiority, where a *prudent* and *prolific* POLICE really takes place!

I desire not to aggravate the Case. I cannot do it, and I forbear to enlarge upon many, very many, most melancholy Particulars; or to compute the short, miserable, useless Lives of those wretched Infants, not in the present black Catalogue, who are brought into the World by Parents, enfeebled by these Spirituous Liquors; and chiefly fed, for the little Time they continue in the World, with inflammatory Spirits, which soon consume a Fabric so very slight and delicate.

But to give a somewhat juster Idea of the dreadful *Havock* of the *Human* Species made by these baneful Spirits, it may not be improper briefly to observe, that besides the before-mentioned important *Annual* Loss to the Nation, since the Prevalence of *Gin*, by the *Decrease* of near 5,000 Christenings in those Parishes *only* that are recounted in the Bills of Mortality, the Number of *Children*, not exceeding *five Years* old, who have annually died since the same most unhappy *Æra*, is *prodigious*, and appears with a dreadful *Disproportion* upon a just Comparison.

The Calculations of the learned and accurate Dr. *Halley*, will enable us with too much Certainty, to form this melancholy Comparison. The City of *Breslaw*, which cannot differ greatly from other Places, furnished the Materials for his Calculations. The annual Births *there* he states at a Medium to be 1,238; of these, it appears by the Tables, there died in the *first* Year 348; and between *one* Year and *six* compleat, 193; so there remained alive, out of 1,238, after *six* Years, 697. In

In LONDON the *Christenings*, at a Medium for the last *ten* Years, have annually amounted to 14,457.

But the annual Number of Children in LONDON, who have died under *five* Years of Age, at a Medium, amounts to no less than 10,590!

Whereas the Proportion, even at *six* Years of Age, should be no more than 6,317.

So that the Loss to the Public, by the premature Death of weakly, short-lived Children, in *one* District only, without including *those* Children of Gin-Drinkers, who die *unbaptized*, amounts to the astonishing Number of above *Four Thousand two Hundred!*

And, how dreadful is the Thought, *this* Loss is repeated every Year!

It would not be unworthy of the Magistrates of *London*, or of the greatest Assemblies in this Kingdom, strictly and *immediately* to enquire---Of all that large Number of Parish-Children, who for the last twenty Years have been committed to the Care of Parish-Nurses, how *few*, how extremely few are now alive? And how these Children are *quieted*? — Quieted indeed, poor, innocent, helpless Babes, with Drams of Gin! which soon put an End to their tender Lives, to the *Charge of the Parish*, and the Advantage that would arise to the Nation— The Nation for whose Safety and Preservation every upright, thoughtful Man will tremble, if ever it comes into that deplorable Condition, that not only the *present* Number of labouring People becomes idle, debauched, profligate, outrageous; if not only the Number of working Hands, our real Strength and Riches, is annually diminished, but the prolific Faculties, which should furnish a Supply, are themselves extinguished; all which may every honest *Englishman* and good Christian, seriously and speedily endeavour to prevent! *Amen.*

P E N N A N T, M A Y O R.

TUESDAY, *the 24th Day of* APRIL,
1750, *and in the Twenty-third Year*
of the Reign of King GEORGE
the Second of Great-Britain, &c.

IT is ordered, That the Thanks of this Court, be given to the Right Reverend Father in God the Lord Bishop of *Worcester*, for his Sermon preached before this Court, and the Governors of the several Hospitals of this C I T Y, at the Parish Church of *St. Bridget*, on *Monday* in *Easter* Week last, and that he be desired to print the same.

MAN.

J O B, CHAP. V. Ver. 16.

*So the POOR hath Hope, and INIQUITY
stoppeth her Mouth.*

TH E S E Words contain an Observation made by one of the Friends of J O B, upon the Conduct of the great Ruler of the World, whose impartial Justice punishes the most artful Guilt, whilst his Goodness and Mercy relieve the distressed Soul, *that those which mourn may be exalted to Safety.* By this different Treatment, according to their different Character, the Afflicted receive Comfort, and the Unrighteous are silenc'd and restrain'd; *so the Poor hath Hope, and Iniquity stoppeth her Mouth.*

This Reflection, though it has not the Form, hath yet all the Force of a divine Command, as the Conduct of God Himself, and the Maxims of divine Government, furnish the most instructive and most excellent Rules for human Behaviour: And hence the Duties suggested in the Text are not only *illustrated*, but strongly

enforc'd by the Practice of the wisest and best of all Beings.

The Words therefore, very suitably to the present Joyful and Christian Solemnity, recommend

I. *First*, A careful Imitation of the Divine Goodness, by shewing a compassionate Regard to those who are really destitute and afflicted ;—*so the Poor hath Hope*. And

II. *Secondly*, The Restraint and Correction of the Disorderly and Wicked ;—*and Iniquity stoppeth her Mouth*.

I. There is little Occasion to insist largely upon the *Obligations*, the *Necessity*, and the *Rewards* of charitable Compassion before this Benevolent and Christian Audience, who with so much Credit and Comfort to themselves, so much Benefit and Advantage to their suffering Brethren, are engag'd in almost every Species of necessary and useful Charity: Moreover, the important Arguments for Benevolence and Compassion, founded in Nature, *enforc'd* by Reason, illustrated by the Divine Example, and enjoined by Divine Revelation, have been so frequently and so fully urged and recommended from this Place, that I will not detain you with these general Topics, however weighty.

Blessed

Blessed be the God and Father of Mercies, *from whom originally cometh every good and perfect Gift*, for the great Success that has attended the pious Endeavours of many Predecessors in *this Work and Labour of Love!*

Very large and extensive is that Provision, which is made in this renowned Metropolis and its Confines, for the various Calamities to which frail Man is liable. Here we find suitable Education and proper Instruction for the Young and the Ignorant ;—Habitations for those, who have no Place to dwell in ;—Food for the Hungry ;—Cloaths for the Naked ;—Medicines for the Sick ;—proper Reception and skilful Relief for the Accidents and Distempers, to which the human Body is subject ;—and due Care and Provision for those, who labour under the greatest Misfortune incident to rational Creatures, a disorder'd Mind.

Amidst too many Instances of very irregular Conduct in sundry Respects, it is the Honour and Happiness of the present Age, to bestow great Attention, and administer the best Relief to the Miseries of Mankind, in the most skilful and most effectual Manner, by the wise and beneficial Institution of Hospitals and Infirmaries.

Not only the *old* Establishments have been supported, but *new* Foundations very necessary and useful, have been raised.

One very well known is provided for *exposed and deserted young Children*;— and another for the *Relief of poor lying-in married Women*, who fully ascertain their legal Matrimony. There is another Provision which well deserves Notice and Encouragement; a charitable Institution, that takes Care of those pitiable Objects, who are unavoidably excluded from all other Houses of Charity, the miserable Poor who are afflicted with that common, but dangerous, nauseous and infectious Distemper, the *Small-Pox*: And also a Provision for those Persons who desire by *Inoculation*, to receive this dangerous Distemper in the safest Manner, and prevent an unexpected Infection when the Body is least prepared for it. A Practice which, upon large Experience, appears to have been attended with great Success, and to have preserved many Lives.

These different Designs, all which, God knows, are but too necessary, have sprung from those more *antient* Foundations, of which you, *my worthy Brethren*, are the bountiful Patrons and faithful Guardians: Which new Establishments cannot therefore fail to raise in your generous Breasts that sort of Satisfaction, which Parents feel at the increasing Prosperity of hopeful Children. And, however these good Designs are multiplied, I can make no Question, that they will constantly enjoy reciprocal good
Wishes,

Wishes, and the respective Friends of them be ready upon all Occasions to administer to each every kind Office and mutual Assistance; and the very Increase of such Institutions very much tends to preserve and enlarge the general Spirit of Benevolence and Compassion.

Heartily sorry I am to find, that *fresh Supplies* are absolutely requisite to the Support, Continuance and necessary Enlargement of those several most excellent and useful Charities of more ancient Date, which are now *more immediately* under Consideration.

The Exigencies of every Year, *far exceed* the certain *annual* Income. This important Deficiency, can only be made up by *Providential* Supplies from generous Benefactors. And for their own Sakes, and the Sake of the Poor, may the Divine Goodness raise up many such!

The present Circumstances of these Hospitals, and the increasing Number of Sick and Poor, with *just* and *loud* Importunity, call for *fresh* and *large* Assistance. Not to mention many other Arguments; the Text powerfully suggests, that to pity and relieve those who are in Distress and Affliction, is to *imitate* that heavenly Care, whereby it is declared, *the Poor hath Hope*; or in the expressive Words of the New Testament, *it is to be Followers of God as dear Children, and merciful as our Father in Heaven is merciful.*

The

The amiable Perfection of this great Original, the Excellence and Beauty of unlimited Goodness, if duly regarded, must prove a sufficient Persuasive to study this Resemblance.—The rational and delightful Resemblance of that divine Bounty, which is *good to all*, and *whose tender Mercies are over all his Works*.

An Example so perfect, and especially where we ourselves are not the *Spectators* only, but the *Objects* of this Divine Goodness, may justly warm our Hearts, to attempt the nearest Imitation, which human Frailty can accomplish; to be merciful as *our Father*, our Creator, Preserver and Redeemer, our kindest Friend, our constant Benefactor, *our Father which is in Heaven is merciful*.

The Obligations to endeavour such Imitation, are very powerful and very numerous: Besides the Fitness and Propriety, the substantial Honour and solid Satisfaction of studying this high Resemblance, it is farther inforc'd by the powerful Motives, both of *Gratitude* and *Duty*.

'Tis the Apostle's Argument, *be ye Followers of God as dear*, ἀγαπᾶτε, that is, as *beloved Children*, favoured with continual Proofs of the Divine Care and Parental Affection: Such a Resemblance is a most expressive Instance of Regard and Homage, 'tis to acknowledge the Divine Authority and our filial Subjection. Be as a
Father

Father to the fatherless, says the wise Son of SIRACH, and instead of an Husband unto their Mother, so shalt thou be as THE SON of the Most High.

What Opportunities at which you should rejoice, and what Demands with which you should comply, there are to act under this desirable and honourable Character of a Son of God, the Accounts now to be read sufficiently discover.

[*Here the Annual Account was read.*]

In these excellent Foundations, you will observe, due Provision is made for the various Sorts of Distress incident to human Nature, which should in a particular Manner touch the Heart of those, who have respectively suffer'd any of these different Calamities. The Mourner, who hath lost a tender Relation, may here sympathize with the Fatherless and the Widow. Those, who by any painful Distemper have spent restless Nights upon a Bed of Languishing, may here learn to compassionate their Fellow-Sufferers in the same Way, whose Anguish is greatly increased by the additional Pressures of Poverty and Want.

He likewise who hath been preserved in Health and Gladness, and *hath not come into Misfortune like other Folk*, may, and ought to express his Gratitude by shewing Mercy to the

Children of that heavenly Father, whose Providence has lengthened out his Tranquillity, and made his Cup to run over.

But this benevolent and Godlike Temper, excellent and praise-worthy as it is, must however be regulated by the Rules of Prudence. To give without Distinction, and yield to every loud and importunate Solicitation, instead of relieving honest Distress, encourages clamorous Idleness and Vice; and of course must prove greatly prejudicial not only to the Public, but to these Vagabonds themselves. And here also, as was observed, in the second Place,

II. We have Divine Providence for our Pattern. *The Poor hath Hope; — but Iniquity stoppeth her Mouth.*

With many excellent Provisions does this renowned City abound, for the Cure and Relief of the Distempers and Miseries of Mankind. Besides these, the large and burthenfome Contributions by parochial Assessments, which fall with peculiar Weight upon the laborious Inhabitants of a lower Degree, amount to a prodigious Sum! No Care, no Compassion seems wanting for those who actually labour under Distempers; and yet, whatever Provision is made for Objects when *actually* visited with Sickness and Distress, may it not be justly submitted.

mitted to this Audience, whether sufficient *Precaution* is employ'd to stop the Mischief in the Beginning, and effectually *prevent* Poverty and Sicknes by enforcing Industry, and carefully *preventing* an idle, intemperate, drunken, profligate Life, which at once wasting both Substance and Health, produces Want and various Diseases; and, after many Enormities, hastens Death.

As *Prevention* is unquestionably better than Cure, permit me to enquire whether this preventive Care will not admit of some Improvement; first, as to the *more regular Employment of the Poor*; secondly, the *restraining them from the detestable and pernicious Use of Spirituous Liquors*.

I am still (as you will observe) pursuing the Business of this Day, and pleading for the compassionate and useful Foundations designed to relieve the Sick and the Distressed; for that *preventive Wisdom* which, besides other good Effects, discharges Charity of unnecessary Burdens, must of course leave a *larger* and more comfortable Supply for such pitiable Objects, whose Calamities are unavoidable.

How great is the Unhappiness, how moving the Consideration, that after the vast Expence this Kingdom continually sustains (I fear in too many Places an increasing Expence) that yet,

this good Work of providing for the Poor should be so very defective ; such prodigious Sums ineffectual, and leave so many miserable Creatures in vast Distress !

The present parochial Method, liable to many chargeable Disputes and Litigations and some Abuses, where small separate Districts make separate Provisions, manifestly labours under *two* of the worst Inconveniencies, that can possibly attend a Design of this charitable Nature ; it is very *burdensome*, and at the same time *greatly ineffectual* *.

The Demands of Nature must be supplied ; if sufficient Care be not taken to *oblige* and *compel* those idle Wretches, with which this Metropolis and the Kingdom in general abounds, the younger Part of them especially, by honest Industry to earn a Livelihood, they soon fall upon and grow confirm'd in Methods of subsisting without Labour.

And when once they are *thoroughly* entered into the begging or pilfering Trade, as they find in themselves no great Inclination to work, but Idleness grows into a Habit ; so there are very few sober Families desirous to receive and employ Persons of that loose Character.

Houses

* See an excellent Dissertation of Sir *Josiah Child's*, upon the Relief and Employment of the Poor, in his Discourse upon TRADE, &c.

Houses of Correction there are, and of great Use ; the Number of Vagrants would without them, be much more considerable and pernicious ; but still some farther Care seems highly necessary ; the growing Evil, apparent in numerous bold Robberies and other outrageous Enormities, may in a little Time increase so fast, as to get beyond the Reach of Cure. As your Prudence will suggest the most proper Methods to obviate this Mischief ; your Zeal, I doubt not, will put those Methods into speedy and effectual Execution !

Crowds of unruly People not joined to a Society, by any Bonds of Property or Interest, may at any unhappy Juncture overwhelm us like a Torrent.

It is very difficult to cure in grown People, Habits of Idleness, rooted and confirm'd by Length of Time. The Work is much more easy to inure *Youth* to Labour, and *train up a Child in the Way he should go.*

And therefore, in a well regulated State not a single Child should be brought up in Idleness and Begging : If the Parents cannot provide for its Instruction in some Trade or useful Occupation ; the Community should supply that material Defect.

To disregard poor, helpless young Creatures, is no less prejudicial to the Public, than cruel

to these most pitiable Objects, who have before them a whole Life of Guilt and Misery, if neglected ; or by seasonable Care, a Life of Industry, Virtue and Happiness. It may in particular well deserve Consideration, whether the Number of lewd, abandoned Prostitutes, who with the Shadows of the Evening croud and infest your Streets, debauch the Servants, too often the Children of worthy Men, and give Occasion to Wickedness, Poverty, loathsome Diseases and Ruin ; whether these pernicious Creatures, as well as the bold Invaders of Property, are not unquestionably owing to the same Neglect, the not inuring them in the early Stages of Life to some honest and industrious Employment.

True Policy therefore, Humanity and Religion, jointly advise this necessary Care, to prevent as much as possible, especially in younger People, that gross Idleness, which is the Fountain and Occasion, the Encouragement and Opportunity of so many other Evils.

'Tis a sound Dictate of civil Prudence, as well as a Precept of Christianity — *if any will not work who are capable of it, neither let them eat.*

How numerous are the Manufactures, that *are or may be* carried on in this Kingdom ? How various the Methods of Employment ?

The

The Sheep of our Fields are *Mines* of Treasure, if they are made the Materials to exercise our own Labour ; but become the Riches of other Countries, when their Fleeces are carried abroad unmanufactured. How many other Methods are there, both in the cultivated, and uncultivated Parts of this Island, and now I may with pleasure add in the OCEAN too, with which we are surrounded, to furnish those who are fit for Labour, with proper Work and useful Employment ?

There are Parts of the Kingdom where Provision is cheap and plentiful ; where the industrious Poor would not learn the Amusements, the Diversions, the Extravagance and Vices, which abound in populous Places, and of which the Confines of this great City have so large a Share. They might in these remote Countries, by constant Labour in some useful Manufacture, perhaps at present needlessly imported, be effectually taught and continued in the honest Arts of Industry and Frugality : Lessons not so easily learnt, where Men are surrounded with Examples of Luxury, Extravagance and Debauchery !

Every possible Consideration therefore, of *Prudence, Compassion* and *Religion*, concur in recommending this important Article of *employing*

ploying the Poor, and engaging the *younger Part* of them especially in honest Industry.

Were the first Attempts for this good Purpose attended with some Expence, it would be an Expence wisely incurred, which with tolerable Care would soon find ample Compensation, and prevent the much larger Expences of what can scarce be called *Provision* for the Poor: Furnishing a young Creature capable of Labour with Food and Cloaths is by no means so great an Act of real Charity, as to instruct and inure that young Creature *of either Sex*, by Diligence and Labour to acquire its own Subsistence; and the earlier in Life this Instruction is begun, the more beneficial in all Respects.

Very unhappy and deplorable it is, and cannot fail to touch every rational Heart with deep Concern, that the Necessity is so great to turn our Thoughts to the *second Particular* that was mention'd, the *destructive and fatal Use* of *Spirituous Liquors*, which consume the *Substance*, the *Time*, the *Health*, the *Understanding* of so many of our Fellow-Subjects; those *intoxicating, inflammatory, baneful* Spirits, which *deprave the Mind*, *corrupt the Morals*, and render the *Temper furious and savage*, ready for every audacious and wicked Enterprize; but yet have an *enticing* Quality, as they give a short Warmth that soon evaporates, and requires a
fresh

fresh Supply of the same pernicious Fewel ; which, while it heats and enflames, consumes the Health and Strength of the human Fabrick : And hence this odious Vice, to the prodigious Detriment of the Public, as well as the Ruin of private Persons, becomes the most pernicious *Pestilence* that ever beset this Kingdom, destroying in the Course of a few Years more Lives than *Sword*, or *Plague*, or *Famine* have ever yet destroyed ; lessening the Number of our People by daily Slaughter ; lessening their Usefulness by debauching their Morals and weakening their Strength ; diminishing and enfeebling Posterity ; and in every Respect both as to *Number*, *Health* and *Vigour*, keeping down the *Offspring* and *Breed* of the Nation.

What a *Gloom* does it cast upon this Day of Joy and Festivity, to consider that while this worthy Audience, with becoming Piety are here assembled in the House of God, in Behalf of Charity and Virtue, so many *Thousand wretched Creatures* are now actually employ'd in *multiplying Distempers*, now swallowing those deadly Potions, that by *slower Degrees* indeed, but with the *Certainty of a Bullet* must soon fatally end their Days ; those *miserable Days* which have been consum'd in *Idleness*, *Intemperance* and *Wickedness*, to the Ruin of their *Health*, and *Substance*, and *Families*, — and what is

still infinitely more dreadful, the Ruin of their *immortal* Souls!

How infectious, how shameless is this horrid Vice? nor *Women*, nor *Children* escape its baneful, odious Influence.

Is it possible, without much Pity and Concern, mixed indeed with Indignation, to behold in numerous Instances, that Part of the human Species, whose Modesty and Gentleness are their proper Guard and chief Ornament, *transform'd* into those frightful Spectacles of *Impudence* and *almost Fury*, which continually in every *Quarter of the Town*, and at every *Hour of the Day*, shock and offend the Sight!

And, if possible, still more dreadful is it to see *Children, young Children, even Babes hanging at the Breast*, with those *pinning, meagre, bagged Looks*, that do at once declare *their Misery*, and the horrid Guilt of their unnatural and cruel PARENTS;—*sad Spectacles indeed!*

Relieve *your Mind*, by turning your Eyes to different Objects; View *this pleasing Sight*, this fine Collection of modest, *regular* and healthy Children here present*, brought up and educated upon a virtuous Plan. How different the Appearance! How strong the Contrast! What humane Delight, what rational Satisfaction, is derived from such a pleasing Sight? And yet, alas! every returning Year sees a much larger
Num-

* The Children of CHRIST-HOSPITAL, &c.

Number of Poor, innocent, murdered Children; really murdered; dreadful to think of! Most inhumanly murdered, and with *Impunity* too, by *direful Spirituous Liquors*, administered or derived to the helpless Infants by those Persons, whose peculiar Duty it is to preserve their tender Lives.

How affecting is the Thought! that these slaughtered Babes, under better Management, might have grown up and appeared with the same *Health* and *Strength* and *Vigour*,—the same *good Looks* and *good Dispositions* as adorn this agreeable Collection of Children now before you, and might have proved as *useful to their Country*, as from former Experience we have Reason to hope these will do.

What *Heart* would not melt, what *Eyes* would not dissolve in Tears at the moving, melancholy, dreadful Sight of such a Slaughter, brought into one View,—a Slaughter much more cruel, and far more extensive than that of HEROD! for here PARENTS themselves commit the horrid Execution upon their own Children!

I am not *aggravating* this affecting Subject—God knows it needs no Aggravation—it scarce admits of Aggravation: I speak from Conviction,—I speak from Evidence.

The *prodigious*, dreadful Havock, made by these pernicious Spirits is no less certain, because

all the *daily* Victims, *Men, Women, Children,* do not fall in our Sight, nor are buried together in one, vast, astonishing, and shameful Heap!

Alas! Public Observation and the Records of Parishes confirm the sad and alarming Truth, with Proofs but too convincing. Many well founded Representations have been made of the pernicious Effects of these Spirituous Liquors, both at Sea and at Land, by vigilant and worthy Magistrates, and other Persons of great Knowledge, Integrity, and Public Spirit. Hear only the honest and disinterested Declaration of those skilful and able Judges the learned *College of Physicians,* in their own Words, “ We have, “ say they, with Concern observed for some “ Years past, the *fatal Effects* of the frequent “ Use of several Sorts of *Distilled* Spirituous Li- “ quors upon *great Numbers* of *both* Sexes, ren- “ dering them *Diseased,* not *fit for Business,* “ *Poor,* a Burden to themselves and Neighbours, “ and too often the Cause of *Weak, Feeble,* and “ Distemper’d Children, who must be, instead “ of an Advantage and Strength, a Charge to “ their Country. — This Custom doth *every* “ *Year increase,* notwithstanding our REPEATED “ *Advice* to the contrary.” Thus far those learned Gentlemen; and most melancholy it is to consider how much this pernicious Vice hath

increased since this Representation was made, and *is increasing* EVERY Day.

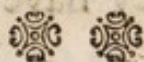
My Brethren, these Things ought not so to be.

What then is to be done to stop, to remedy the growing Evil?—INATTENTION cannot do it; DESPAIR will never do it—Public Communities and private Persons, every one in his respective Station must exert his zealous honest Endeavours in this important Cause; the Cause of Religion and Humanity, the Cause of our Country, and the Cause of God.

Once resolve upon the good Work—and resolve to pursue it—with God's Blessing, it is half accomplished.

Let this great and renowned Metropolis and its present worthy Magistrates, whose Example will have an extensive Influence, *immediately* begin the desirable Reformation—Their Wisdom will suggest the most proper Methods, their Zeal and Firmness carry those Methods into just Execution.

In such an Undertaking, so *compassionate*, so *pious*, so *useful*, and so *absolutely necessary*, the Hearts and Hands of all good Men will join them—They will want no Credit or Honour, no Comfort or Satisfaction in this World, and infinitely great will be their Reward in the World to come. *Amen!*



A P P E N D I X.

WHILE the foregoing Sheets were printing off, the Nation was much obliged, and I trust will be much profited, by a learned and seasonable Discourse, entitled, *An ENQUIRY into the Causes of the late Increase of Street-Robbers, &c.* by HENRY FIELDING, *Esq;* It is much to be wished that the weighty Considerations therein offered, may effectually awaken Attention, where it is of the utmost Importance and Necessity it should be awake. The Treatise itself has spread, and I hope will spread, so widely, as to render it superfluous to quote many Passages; I shall therefore only mention a few, which fully confirm what has been advanced in the foregoing Pages.

P. 18. “ Now, besides the moral ill Consequences occasioned by this Drunkenness, with which, in this Treatise, I profess not to deal; how greatly must this be supposed to contribute to those political Mischiefs which this Essay proposes to remedy? This will appear from considering, that however cheap this *vile Potion* may be, the poorer Sort will not easily be able to supply themselves with the Quantities they desire; for the intoxicating Draught itself disqualifies them from using any honest Means to acquire it, at the same time that it removes all Sense of Fear and Shame, and emboldens them to commit every wicked and desperate Enterprize. *Many Instances of this I see daily: Wretches are often brought before me, charged with Theft and Robbery, whom I am forced to confine before they are in a Condition to be examined; and when they have afterwards become sober,*

“ I have plainly perceived, from the State of the Case, that
 “ the *Gin* ALONE was the Cause of the Transgression, and
 “ have been sometimes sorry that I was obliged to commit
 “ them to Prison.”

P. 22. “ Tho’ the Encrease of Thieves, and the De-
 “ struction of Morality; tho’ the Loss of our Labourers,
 “ our Sailors, and our Soldiers, should not be sufficient
 “ Reasons, there is one which seems to be unanswerable,
 “ and that is, the Loss of our Gin-drinkers: Since, should
 “ the drinking this *Poison* be continued in its present
 “ Height, during the next twenty Years, there will, by that
 “ Time, be very few of the common People left to drink
 “ it.”

There is another Discourse published some Years ago, entituled, *Distilled Spirituous Liquors the Bane of the Nation; the second Edition*: Which is also justly recommended by Mr. *Fielding*, and contains so thorough a Discussion of this important Subject with Evidence so convincing, that in hopes the reverend and learned Author will soon favour the World with a new Edition of the whole Book, I shall not transcribe particular Passages, however apposite and conclusive.

His Majesty by Royal Proclamations, the Legislature in the Preambles to divers Acts of Parliament, the Magistrates in sundry Places, many eminent Prelates and other learned Divines, and likewise the learned College of Physicians, have represented in the strongest Terms, the infinite Damage that arises to the Health, the Lives, the Morals, the Souls of the People, and the Increase of the human Species, and to good Order and Government, and the Quiet and Safety of peaceable Subjects, from the mischievous and prevailing Custom of drinking these intoxicating and inflammatory Spirits.

However unwilling I am to swell this Appendix, I cannot omit inserting a Collection made by that judicious and vigilant Prelate the late Bishop of *London*, (which he an-

nexed to a *Dissuasive from Intemperance, &c. with a particular View to Spirituous Liquors*) containing several *publick Representations* of the pernicious Effects of *Spirituos Liquors*.

I. *The great Mischiefs of Spirituous Liquors among the INDIANS.*

IN the Books of the Society for propagating the Gospel, mention is made of a select Committee at *Lambeth*, on the 22d of *April 1710*, to consider of the Address of the *Indian Sachems* to *Queen Anne, &c.* and they came to the following Resolution, among others :

“ That it be recommended to the Governor of *New England*, and *New York*, strictly to put the Laws in Execution against selling *Rum, Brandy*, and other *intoxicating Liquors* to the *Indians*, this being the earnest Request of the *Sachems* themselves.

II. *In the Abstract of the Proceedings of the Society for propagating the Gospel, Ann. 1715, it is remark'd as follows :*

“ AMONG the *Indians* of the five Nations, a Stop hath been put to the so much expected Progress of the Gospel, under the Conduct of our Mission from *England*, by debauching their Morals ; which is imputable to some of our Neighbours, in promoting Riots and Excess, by the Sale of *Rum* so often prohibited ; and during which Traffick, all sober Endeavours used for their Salvation must be rendered utterly ineffectual.”

III. *The humble Representation of the College of Physicians in London, to the House of Commons, Ann. 1725.*

“ WE the President and College or Commonalty of the Faculty of Physick in *London*, who are appointed by

“ by the Laws of this Kingdom to take care of the
 “ Health of his Majesty’s Subjects in *London*, and within
 “ seven Miles Circuit of the same ; do think it our Duty
 “ most humbly to represent, That we have with Con-
 “ cern observed, for some Years past, the *Fatal Effects*
 “ of the frequent Use of several Sorts of distilled Spiri-
 “ tuous Liquors, upon great Numbers of both Sexes,
 “ rendering them diseased, not fit for Business, poor, a
 “ Burthen to themselves and Neighbours, and too often
 “ the Cause of weak, feeble, and distempered Children,
 “ who must be, instead of an Advantage and Strength, a
 “ Charge to their Country. We crave Leave further most
 “ humbly to represent, That this Custom doth every
 “ Year encrease, notwithstanding our repeated Advices to
 “ the contrary. We therefore most humbly submit to
 “ the Consideration of Parliament so great and growing
 “ an Evil. In Testimony whereof, we have this 19th
 “ Day of *January* 1725, caused our common Seal to be
 “ affixed to this our Representation.”

IV. *Preamble to an Act (2 Geo. II.) for laying a Duty upon Compound Waters, or Spirits, commonly called Gin, &c.*

“ W H E R E A S the drinking of *Spirits* and *Strong*
 “ *Waters*, is become very common amongst the People
 “ of inferior Rank, and the constant and excessive Use
 “ thereof tends greatly to the Destruction of their *Healths*,
 “ enervating them, and rendering them unfit for useful
 “ Labour and Service, intoxicating them, and debauch-
 “ ing their Morals, and driving them into all Manner of
 “ Vices and Wickedness ; the Prevention whereof would
 “ be of the greatest publick Good, and Benefit ; and
 “ whereas it is found by Experience, that the great
 “ Temptation to such licentious Use of these pernicious
 “ Liquors, is from the *Cheapness* thereof, &c.

V. *Preamble to an Act (9 Geo. II.) for laying a Duty upon the Retailers of Spirituous Liquors, &c.*

“ W H E R E A S the drinking of Spirituous Liquors
 “ or Strong Waters is become very common, especially
 “ amongst the People of lower and inferior Rank, the
 “ constant and excessive Use whereof tends greatly to the
 “ Destruction of their Healths, rendering them unfit for
 “ useful Labour and Business, debauching their Morals,
 “ and inciting them to perpetrate all Manner of Vices ;
 “ and the ill Consequences of the excessive Use of such
 “ Liquors are not confined to the *present* Generation, but
 “ extend to *future* Ages, and tend to the Devastation and
 “ Ruin of this Kingdom, &c.”

VI. *Preamble to an Act to prevent the Importation and Use of Rum and Brandies in the Province of Georgia, Ann. 1735.*

“ W H E R E A S it is found by Experience, that the
 “ Use of the Liquors called Rum and Brandies, in the
 “ Province of *Georgia*, are more particularly hurtful and
 “ pernicious to Man’s Body, and have been attended
 “ with dangerous Maladies and fatal Distempers, and, if
 “ not timely prevented, will, in all likelihood, ruin the
 “ said Colony, and frustrate your Majesty’s good and fa-
 “ therly Intentions towards such of your Subjects as shall
 “ go to reside in the said Province : And whereas we
 “ your Majesty’s most dutiful Subjects, the Trustees for
 “ establishing the Colony of *Georgia* in *America*, have
 “ received Complaints from the Chiefs of several of the
 “ *Indian* Nations inhabiting near to your Majesty’s said
 “ Colony, of great Disorders amongst them, occasioned
 “ by the Use of the said Liquors, and which are brought
 “ them by the Persons using and carrying on the *Indian*
 “ Trade : For Remedy thereof, we the Trustees for esta-
 “ blishing the Colony of *Georgia* in *America*, humbly
 “ beseech

“ beseech your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it
 “ enacted, That from and after the Four and Twentieth
 “ Day of *June*, which shall be in the Year of our Lord
 “ One thousand seven hundred and thirty-five, no Rum
 “ or Brandies, nor any other Kind of Spirits or Strong
 “ Waters, by whatsoever Name they are or may be dis-
 “ tinguished, shall be imported or brought ashore, &c.”

And then it follows :

Which Act his Majesty thought proper to refer to the
 Consideration of a Committee of his Majesty's most ho-
 nourable Privy Council, who having received the Opinion
 of the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations
 thereupon, did this Day report to his Majesty, as their
 Opinion, That the said Act was proper to receive his Ma-
 jesty's Royal Approbation. His Majesty taking the same
 into Consideration, is hereby pleased, with the Advice of
 his Privy Council, to declare his Approbation of the said
 Act; and pursuant to his Majesty's Royal Pleasure there-
 upon expressed, the said Act is hereby confirmed, finally
 enacted, and ratified accordingly.

VII. *In a Presentment of the Grand Jury of the City of London, Ann. 1735.*

“ W E the Grand Jury of the City of *London*, met at
 “ the present Sessions at the *Old Bailey*, to enquire of and
 “ present such publick Nufances as disturb and annoy the
 “ Inhabitants of the City, think it our Duty to complain
 “ of the late surprising Increase of GIN-SHOPS, and other
 “ Retailers of Distilled *Spirituuous Liquors*, which we
 “ have great Reason to apprehend (if not restrained) will
 “ be attended with the most dreadful and lasting ill Con-
 “ sequences.

“ To this pernicious Practice is chiefly owing.—That
 “ our lower Kind of People are *enseebled* and *disabled*,
 “ having neither the Will nor Power to labour for an
 “ honest Livelihood, &c.

VIII. *In a Presentment of the Grand Jury for the County of Middlesex, Ann. 1735.*

“ WE the Grand Jury for the County of *Middlesex*,
 “ taking notice of the vast Number of Brandy and Ge-
 “ neva-Shops, &c. for the Retailing of Gin, and other
 “ Spirituous Liquors? which being sold at a very low
 “ Rate, the meaner, though useful Part of the Nation,
 “ as Day-Labourers, Men and Women Servants, and
 “ common Soldiers, nay even Children are enticed and fe-
 “ duced to taste, like, and approve of those pernicious
 “ Liquors sold for such small Sums of Money, whereby
 “ they are daily intoxicated and get Drunk, and are fre-
 “ quently seen in our Streets in a Condition abhorrent to
 “ reasonable Creatures.—

“ It is visible, that by this destructive Practice, the
 “ Strength and Constitution of Numbers is greatly weak-
 “ ened and destroyed, and many are thereby rendered use-
 “ less to themselves as well as to the Community; many
 “ die suddenly by drinking it to Excess; and infinite
 “ Numbers lay the Foundation of Distempers which
 “ shorten their Lives, or make them miserable, weak,
 “ feeble, unable and unwilling to work, a Scandal and
 “ Burthen to their Country.”

IX. *In a Presentment of the Grand Jury of the Tower Hamlets, Ann. 1735.*

“ WE the Grand Jury for the Liberty of the Tower
 “ of *London* and Precincts thereof, think it our Duty to
 “ represent to this Court, the prodigious Increase in the
 “ Number of Shops, and other Places, for retailing Gin
 “ and distilled Liquors, and the many Enormities that are
 “ occasioned by its being drank by the meaner Sort of
 “ People in this Kingdom, chiefly because they can be
 “ debauch'd at a very small Expence.

“ It

“ It is with great Trouble that We observe the Number of Gin-shops to multiply in every publick Street.

X. *In a Report made to the Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, Ann. 1735-6.*

“ I T is with the deepest Concern, your Committee observe the strong Inclination of the inferior Sort of People to these destructive Liquors, and how surprizingly this Infection has spread within these few Years. Not only the Vicious and Immoral give into this Practice, but those also who to all Appearance are in other Respects sober and regular : Not only one Person here and there in a Family, but whole Families shamefully and constantly indulge themselves in this pernicious Practice : Fathers and Masters, Children as well as Servants.—

“ Your Committee proceeded to enquire, according to your Directions, into the Mischiefs arising from the immoderate Use of Spirituous Liquors, and more especially of Geneva : And these, to their great Concern, appear to be of the highest Nature, and most lasting Consequences ; affecting not only particular Persons and Families, but also the Trade of the Nation, and the public Welfare. With respect to particular Persons, it deprives them of their Money, Time, Health, and Understanding ; weakens and destroys their natural Strength and Constitutions, and thereby renders them useles to themselves, as well as to the Community. And when their Spirits are raised by drinking to Excess, they are often carried to a Degree of outrageous Passion, and become bold and daring in committing Robberies and other Offences, for an immediate Livelihood.

“ Farther, they who indulge themselves in this pernicious Custom, are thereby rendered incapable of hard
“ Labour,

“ Labour, as well as indisposed to it ; their Health is
“ ruined, and their Lives by Degrees destroyed.”

XI. *In a Royal Proclamation, March 8, 1737; for putting
in Execution the late Act against retailing of Spirituous
Liquors ; the Introduction is as follows:*

“ W H E R E A S, in order to put a Stop to the per-
“ nicious Practice of common and excessive drinking of
“ Brandy, Geneva, and other Spirituous Liquors, so de-
“ structive of the Health, Morals, and Industry of our
“ Subjects, and so manifestly injurious to the publick
“ Peace and Tranquillity ; an Act of Parliament was
“ made, &c.”

XII. *In a Letter of the Lords of the Privy Council, writ-
ten by his Majesty's Command, to the Custodes Rotulo-
rum, of the several Counties, and bearing Date, March
31, 1743 ; it is set forth.*

“ That the excessive drinking of spirituous Liquors has
“ not been prevented by former Acts of Parliament, but
“ still continues the same ; and it is there complained of,
“ As a Custom destructive of the Health, Morals, and
“ Industry of his Majesty's Subjects, and to the Peace of
“ his Kingdom.”

The pious and benevolent Dr. H A L E S of Teddington
(Author of, *A friendly Admonition to the Drinkers of Brandy
and other Spirituous Liquors*) whose faithful and skilful Ex-
periments and Observations are so well known and approved
in the learned World, has upon this Occasion favoured me,
for the Use of the Public, with the following Dissertation,

*On the Unwholsomeness and Destructiveness of fermented,
distilled, Spirituous Liquors.*

T H E Destructiveness of fermented, distilled, Spirituous
Liquors is now become so flagrantly enormous, by spread-
ing

ing their baneful Influence far and wide, and making yearly farther and farther Devastations, both of the Lives and Morals of Mankind; and even debasing the Breed of Man: That it behoves all who have any Bowels of Pity for their Fellow-Creatures, to do their best to *with-hold* and deter them from it.

That eminent Physician Dr. *Hoffman*, in his Seven Rules for preserving Health, expressly cautions against the Use of fermented, distilled Spirituous Liquors. “ Because, he says, “ they are above all things most unwholsome, because “ caustick, burning Spirits, by inflaming the Solids, and “ coagulating and thickening the Fluids, cause Obstructions, “ which bring on many fatal Diseases, such as Hectick “ Fevers, Jaundices, Dropsies, &c. whereby Multitudes “ are daily and yearly destroyed. And also that they rot “ the Intraills, such as the Liver, Stomach and Bowels, as “ is evident, as he observes, not only by opening the Bodies “ of those who are killed by drinking them; but also by “ what is observed in *Germany*, from the Effects, which the “ caustick, fiery, remaining Wash of Distillers, has on the “ Guts of Hogs, which are thereby so rotted, that they “ cannot make Hogs-Puddings with them. And the Flesh “ of such Hogs is hereby so much tenderer, that it will “ not keep by Salting, so well as the Flesh of other Hogs “ will do.”

Dr. *Cheyne*, in his Essay of *Health and Long Life*, says, “ People who have any Regard to their Health and Lives, “ ought to tremble at the first Cravings for such *poisonous* “ Liquors.

“ The Maladies begot by them bring forth Necessity “ upon Necessity of *Drams and Gills*, ’till at last a kind of “ *Dropsy*, nervous *Convulsions*, a nervous *Consumption*, or a “ colliquative *Diarrhœa*, or *Flux*, if not a *Fever* or a “ *Frenzy*, sets the poor Soul free.

“ This bewitching Poison heightens and enrages all their “ Symptoms and Sufferings ever afterwards, excepting the “ *few Moments* after the taking it down.”

It is the well-known Observation of the Dealers in Hair for Wigs, that they can distinguish the Dram-drinkers Hair by the Touch, finding it dry, harsh, and dead-ended, and unfit for Use. And in the same Manner these Drams spoil the Stomach and Bowels, the Liver and Lungs, and the whole Body of those unhappy Persons addicted to them.

It is also found, that these pernicious Drams not only alter the Quality, but also by their drying and corrosive Power, lessen the Quantity of Hair: And what is a melancholy Proof of the great Prevalence of this wicked Practice, there is now so much less Hair to be bought among the lower People, that our Hair-Dealers are obliged to send Money Abroad to purchase *French* and other foreign Hair. So surprisingly extensive is the Mischief of Gin-drinking.

I have found, by putting raw Flesh into several Sorts of distilled Spirits, viz. Brandy, Rum, Arrack, &c. that they all, in a like manner, harden the Flesh by their pernicious burning caustic Salts, which are made such by the Action of Fire on them in Distillation, in the same manner as Salt-Petre, from a mild, wholesome Substance, is, by the Action of Fire in Distillation, made one of the rankest Poisons; its Salts being by that means formed into subtile Darts and Spears, which tear not only all animal Substances in Pieces, but also the hardest and most solid Metals and Minerals. And accordingly, I have been informed by Distillers here, and by Planters in *America*, that the more of the Action of Fire these Spirits have undergone, so much the more fiery they are.

It is pretended that Drams comfort, warm, and defend from the severe Cold to which Men are sometimes exposed, which is probably in a great measure true of those who are much habituated to drink them; the Blood of such being thereby so much impoverished, that many of the habitual Drinkers of Drams are cold and lifeless, even in the midst of Summer, without frequent fresh Draughts of it. But on the other hand, how much abler are sober Persons to endure

Cold and Hardships; their vital Heat not being extinguished with Intemperance, does, by its kindly genial Warmth, more effectually secure them from the Inclemency of Weather, than the false Flash of Heat, which a Dram gives. Besides, it is well known, that Men did not perish in the coldest Countries for want of Drams, when they were not to be had. — Of the undoubted Truth of this, Captain *Ellis* gives a full Proof, in the Account of his Voyage to *Hudson's-Bay*, p. 199. where he observes, that the Natives on the very cold Coast of that Bay, to whom the *French* act in a wiser and better Manner, than to sell them distilled Spirituous Liquors, are tall, hardy, robust, and active. Whereas those of them that are supplied with *Drams* from the *English*, are meagre, small, indolent People, hardly equal to the Hardships of the Country, and subject to many Disorders.

It may not be improper here to insert a Panegyric on Temperance, worthy to be recorded in every one's Memory. “ O! Temperance! thou Support and Attendant
 “ of other Virtues! Thou Preserver and Restorer of
 “ Health, and Protractor of Life! Thou Maintainer of
 “ the Dignity and Liberty of rational Beings from the
 “ wretched inhuman Slavery of *Sensuality, Taste, Custom,*
 “ and *Example!* Thou Brightner of the Understanding
 “ and Memory! Thou Sweetner of Life, and all its Com-
 “ forts! Thou Companion of Reason, and Guard of the
 “ Passions! Thou bountiful Rewarder of thy Admirers and
 “ Followers! How do thine Excellencies extort the unwill-
 “ ing Commendations of thine Enemies! And with what
 “ rapturous Pleasures can thy Friends raise up a Panegyric
 “ in thy Praise.”

Not only the *Bodies*, but the Minds, of Men are greatly infected by these corrosive inflammatory Spirits, which render them in a remarkable Manner savage and furious, ready for every Violence, and void of all Compassion. The Effect is the same upon Brute Creatures; for

It is very observable, that these pernicious distilled Spirits not only hurt the Flesh, but spoil the Tempers, of Hogs, rendering them remarkably cruel to each other.

This I have upon good Information. As to the Effects of the Flesh of Hogs fed by Distillers upon the Human Body, we have a very authentic Account thereof in a Report from a Committee of the Honourable House of Commons, to whom was referred, in the Year 1745, the Petition of several YEOMEN, FARMERS and GRAZIERS, in the Counties of *Middlesex, Surry, and Kent*, concerned in the Growth of CORN, and the Breeding and Fattening of CATTLE; also the PETITION of the YEOMEN and FARMERS of *East Kent*.

Mr. *Timothy Child* said, that he had been in the Business of making of Bacon upwards of twenty Years: That he had bought Hogs fatted by Farmers and Distillers; that Pork and Bacon of Distillers Hogs was not near so good as the Farmers, if kept any Time; nor was the Flesh so firm when dressed; that it wasted in the Dressing very much; and that six Pounds of the Bacon, fed in the Country, would do as much Service as eight Pounds of what is fed by the Distillers.

That the Flesh of Distillers Hogs would take Salt, being of a soft Nature; but was unwholesome when kept in Salt or Pickle any Time; and half of it would be rotten, when the Flesh of the Farmers Hogs, killed at the same Time, would be very good.

He said further, That he apprehended the Pork and Bacon of Hogs, fed by Distillers, would not keep good in a Voyage to the *East or West-Indies*; and that if the Feeding of Hogs by the Farmers was encouraged, it would cause a great Consumption of Corn.

Mr. *John Jennings* said, that the Commissioners at the Victualling-Office had made an Experiment, by salting some Meat of Hogs fed by Distillers, and some of those

fed by Farmers; and after each had been barrell'd fix Months, both were opened, and the Distillers was found to be great Part of it rotten, and the Farmers very good.

These hurtful Spirits greatly tend also to the depraving the Morals of Mankind, by quenching the Spirit of Religion to such a Degree, as to make them profane and abandon'd, as to all Sense of Duty to God or Man; as also wholly regardless of their own either present, or future eternal Welfare and Happiness.

Thus, not only their temporal bodily Health is irreparably depraved to such a Degree, as that, by the concurring Testimony of all Physicians, it cannot be restored; for Medicines have no healing Efficacy in such Cases. But what is infinitely worse, and an astonishing Consideration; their Souls are debas'd and sunk, at so vast a Distance, from all the healing Influences of Religion, that they have no Sense of, nor Longings after the *Fountain of ever-living Waters*.

And since this Evil is become so very epidemical as to debilitate and destroy Multitudes, how fatal must it be to the real Welfare of any Nation, where it rages. Such weighty Considerations ought therefore, in Reason, to rouse the Governors of the Nation, as tender Fathers, to use their utmost Endeavours to deliver the people, committed to their Charge, from this mighty Destroyer. Can there be any Considerations of sufficient Weight to the contrary? And will not this in the End be found a more effectual Means to increase the real Strength and Wealth of a Nation, than to make Drunkenness the cheapest of all Vices.

As the learned Physicians at BATH are in a particular Manner conversant with the Distempers which proceed from excessive Drinking, I was extremely desirous of knowing the Sentiments of that skilful, humane, and religious Physician Dr. HARTLEY; who much for the Benefit of Persons visited with Sickness, has now resided at that Place for some Years. His benevolent Regard to his

Fellow-Creatures, prompted him to send me the following very judicious, and very serious Letter. The Opinion and Observations of a Gentleman of so great Skill and Integrity have been thought, by very able Judges, too important and too useful to be suppress'd ; however, his Modesty would otherwise have declined the Publication of them,

MY LORD,

I Fear it will not be in my Power to suggest any Thing of Efficacy to stop the Progress of so great an Evil as the present Practice of drinking Spirituous Liquors ; however, as your Lordship does me the Honour to desire my Concurrence in so good a Cause ; I think myself obliged to use my best Endeavours, and will accordingly offer some Remarks upon the two Points proposed by your Lordship, *viz.*

I. The *Nature* and *Certainty* of the ill Effects produced by Gin and other Spirituous Liquors.

II. The most likely and proper Methods of putting an effectual Stop to the pernicious and spreading Vice of drinking them.

The *first*, Of the ill Effects of Spirituous Liquors, which I shall consider, is their *destroying Life and Health*. Now in this Respect they may be ranked amongst *Poisons* ; for the frequent continued Use of them does as *certainly* destroy Life, though not in so short a Time, as the Bodies termed poisonous in a strict Sense. And as Poisons, before they extinguish Life, disorder the natural Functions, and occasion exquisite Pains and Torments, so do Spirituous Liquors. They never fail to reduce the unhappy Sufferers to a most deplorable State by a Variety of uneasy and intense Feelings and Maladies, Sicknefs, Vomitings, Languor, Dejection, Pains of the Stomach and Bowels, Jaundice, Dropsy, Consumption, &c. so that nothing is gained by their being more tedious in their Operation than common Poisons. Nay, it is probable that the most malicious Invention could not contrive so great a Degree of Suffering,

as Dram-drinkers inflict upon themselves in their Way to the Regions of Death and Hell.

A *second* Evil attending these unhappy Persons, is their being reduced to utter Want and Distress in their Fortunes; they spend their Substance and daily Earnings, lead an idle and vagabond Life, and after some Time are rendered incapable, both in Body and Mind, of getting an honest Livelihood. And thus it happens, that some die through the Want of even the most common Necessaries.

The *third* Evil is the intire Subversion of all moral and religious Principles, and the Force which is given to irregular and outrageous Passions; and in this distilled Spirits far exceed all other inebriating Liquors. DRUNKENNESS from them is *Frenzy* and *Madness*. Hence Murders, Street-robberies, House-breakings, and all the enormous Mischiefs and Dangers which infest *London* and other populous Places: Hence the Loss of many precious Souls for which Christ died. It is in Gin-shops and infamous Houses, where Spirituous Liquors are sold, that *Youth* are first debauched, and entered into Gangs of older Profligates, and of abandoned Ruffians; so that one may call them a kind of *Schools* for teaching the *extreamest Vices*, and the Depths of Satan.

If now we consider these Evils as extending every Day more and more to each Age, Sex, and Rank of Life, but especially to the *laborious* Part of Mankind, which make the Bulk of it, and that in every Climate, the hottest as well as the coldest; it will follow that more and *more* dreadful Havock is likely to be made by distilled Spirits, than by Pestilences, Wars, and Famines, all put together.

How to prevent this is therefore a Matter of the highest Importance; it is probable that it cannot immediately be done in any great Degree; Reason and Religion cannot take place with any great Effect, except in the *Few*: The *Many*, the head-strong Multitude, are too violently impelled by their Passions to see and hear, and will take the *broad Path*; and yet every Man, whether his Station be public or private,

vate, may, by desiring God's Blessing on his Endeavours, and then using them to the utmost of his Power, do something.

And *first*, All Persons ought diligently to watch over themselves, lest they be betrayed insensibly, as it were, into the Habit of Dram-drinking. A Dram is supposed a ready Cure for a slight Sickness, or Pain in the Stomach, and for a Fit of Low Spirits; also a proper Defence against Cold in a Journey, &c. and many unwary, and at first innocent Persons of *both* Sexes, are in this Way seduced, and afterwards gradually carried on to the most abandoned and miserable State.

Secondly, All *Masters and Mistresses* of Families, and Superiors of other Kinds, ought to watch over their Servants and Dependants, and by all proper Restraints and Prohibitions, secure their Innocency, as far as lies in their Power. The *Officers* of the *Army* and *Navy* have, perhaps, in this Respect, a harder Task than any other Superiors; but they cannot deserve better of their Country, than by exerting themselves vigorously in the Discharge of a Duty which is of the greatest Importance to its Safety and Welfare.

Thirdly, *The Clergy* are indispensably bound to guard against the Introduction and Spreading of this pernicious Vice in their Parishes, and to warn their Flocks, by private Admonitions, from House to House, in certain proper Cases, as well as by public Preachings.

Fourthly, *Justices of the Peace* have considerable Powers intrusted with them, which may serve the good Purposes of preventing and restraining Dram-drinking; they are therefore obliged to direct and exert their best Endeavours for these Purposes.

Lastly, *The Legislative Power* of the Nation may *undoubtedly* find out *some* Method, by which they, as God's Vicegerents, may at least *check* a Vice of so destructive a Nature to the People under their Charge: For He, who has given them a Commission to promote Good and prevent Evil, will certainly support and bless them in the Execution

of it. Whatever *present* Inconveniencies may attend the lessening *one* Branch of the public Revenue, whatever Objections and Misconstructions, an opposite political Interest may throw in the Way, all those, who act with a proper Regard to the Almighty and righteous Governor of the World, and Confidence in him, will meet with Success and Reward from him at last, and may for the present expect the Concurrence, Assistance, and Prayers of good and wise Men, as an Earnest and Means thereof. This is a general Truth, of which I cannot doubt; but as to the particular Method of putting the desirable Design in Execution, I am not able to suggest any Thing concerning it. I am,

With all Respect, MY LORD,

Your Lordship's Most Obedient,

Dec. 4, 1750.

and most Humble Servant,

D. HARTLEY.

I find that the inquisitive and skilful Mr. J. T. of BRISTOL, Author of, *A brief Essay on the Advantages and Disadvantages which respectively attend France and Great-Britain, with regard to Trade, &c.* printed for T. Trye, 1750, has collected, from Gentlemen of great Knowledge and Experience in that Place, some Observations, which I hope will soon be laid before the Public, upon distilled *Spirituos Liguors*, and the proper Methods to prevent the excessive Use of them, with particular *Estimates* of the Loss occasioned thereby to *Great-Britain*, in the several Articles of Husbandry, Manufactories, Trade, &c. which amounts in the whole to a prodigious Sum.



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Machinery we know of the public Revenue, whatever Ob-
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may arise in the Way, all which, who are not without
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World, and Consequence of the same, will be taken into
Reward from him as his, and may for the present expect
the Consequence, Advantage, and Favour of good and wise
Men, as an Interest and Means thereof. This is a general
Truth, of which I cannot doubt; but as to the particular
Method of printing the duplicate Origin in Execution, I
am not able to suggest any Thing concerning it I am,

Wm. H. H. Esq. Mr. Lora,

Your Obedient Servant,

Dec. 1750.

and most Humble Servant,

D. HARTLEY.

I find that the injudicious and foolish Mr. Pitt of Brit-
ton, Author of A brief Essay on the Advantages and Dis-
Advantages which respectively attend Taxes and Grant-
Britain, with regard to Trade, &c. printed for J. T. 1750,
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