England's Path
To
Wealth and Honour,
In A
Dialogue
Between an
English-Man
And A
Dutch-Man.

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

London:
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DIARIAE

EX CENSORIA

ENGLISHMAN

AND

DUTCHMAN

LUKE IV.
T. O.
The most Noble
Thomas Duke of L
Marquiss of Carmarnt
Earl of Danby,
Viscount Latimer
Baron Osborne of Kivett.

And

Knight of the most 1
Order of the Garter
Governour of the R
Fishery of England.

May it please Your Grace,
No Person having spent mo.
Money and Pains, that
Your Grace, to Re-establish the
Fishery of England; I presume to
A 2
Dedi
knowledge: But as believing in this Little Book contained true, it might safely appeal before the best of Judges.

With all Respect I am,

Your Grace's

most Humble,

most Faithful,
PREFACE.

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

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

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

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

Nor can the Number of our Seamen be readily Encreast, without Establishing a Fishery. For Men of War and Merchant-Men spend many Mariners, and breed few; the great and best Nursery for Seamen is the Fishery; where each Dogger brings up (it may be) Six, Eight, or Ten new Men every Year, and the Fishermen's Business lying where our Ships Danger lies, makes them know how the Sands shift, where the Rocks and Shelves are; consequently most able Coasters, and admirable Pilots.

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

Again, "A due Care for our Poor; is an Act of great Civil Prudence and Political Wisdom, for Poverty in it self is apt to Emasculate the Minds of Men, or at least it makes Men tumultuous and unquiet; where there are very many Poor, the Rich cannot long or safely continue such; necessity renders Men of Phlegmatick and dull Natures, Stupid and Indis- ciplinable, and Men of more fiery or active Constitutions, Rapacious and Des- perate.

The Poors Rates of England (besides Voluntary Charity) amounts to mo..."
P R E F A C E.

Million per Annum; by which it's Evi-
dent, what vast Numbers of Beggars and
Idle Persons live upon the Publick, with-
out return of Labour for their Bread;
now Beggars Children (if not destroy’d in
the Womb, or at the Birth) being bred
up in Want and Laziness, become of
unhealthful Bodies, and more than ordi-
nary subject to many loathsome Diseases,
whereof abundance die in their tender
Age; and such as attain to riper Years,
by Idle Habits contracted in their Youths,
are render’d for ever unapt and undis-
posed for Labour, and serve only to stock
the Kingdom with Thieves and Beggars:
So that without a due Care for Relief of
our Poor in a way of Industry, they’ll
daily increase.

Suppose, to employ our Poor any one
Manufacture be encourag’d. It may per-
chance remove the present Trade of one
City or County to another, and occasion
such Complaints as the Button-Makers
(not long since) made against Cloth But-
tons.
P R E F A C E

tons, yet leave the generality of our Poor destitute of a convenient Support and Provision!

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

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

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

Pacis Europæ Arbitri,

Maris Domini & Vindices.
A NEW

DIALOGUE

Between an

ENGLISH-MAN

AND A

DUTCH-MAN.

Dutch-Man, \textit{Good} morrow Friend, what art musing on?

Englæsh-Man, Considering the Extent of these your Dykes, I was thinking what excessive Charge and Pains Holland is yearly at to defend itself against invading Waves: Whereas the Sea that encircles England (Barrier like) fenceth it against Surprizes and Ravages, exempts us from the Charge and Terrore of Garrisons and Fortifications, and (with our Floating Gallies) continues to us that quiet Liberty.
berty and Security the rest of Europe more or
lefs have loft.

D. England is fenc'd in by the Seas, but Mo-
ney is the Sinews of War, and happier Holland
bath a mighty Ocean of Wealth to defend it.

E. The cold Winds (being moistened by
the Vapours, or loftened by the warmth of the
Seas motion before they reach our Islands) are
lefs fierce, and the Air is far more Mild and
Temperate (if not more Healthy) than any
Part of the Continent under the same Climate;
sot hat we have no necessity for Grotto's in
Summer, or Stoves in Winter.

D. In my Opinion, that Country is still Happi-
ief that is stocked with the richest Growths and
Products for Trafick and Commerce, and the
Air ever best where most Money is stirring; for
Poverty and Want will render People unhealth-
ily in all Climates.

E. England abounds with Mines, Rocks,
Pits and Quarries of (a) Aliblafter, (b) Anti-
mony, (c) Ardois, (d) Blacklead, (e) Chalk,
(f) Christal, (g) Tobaccope-Clay, (h) Coals

(a) Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, (b)

Derbyshire, (c) Cornwall, (d) Cumberland, (e) Sussex,
(f) Derbyshire, (g) Dorsetshire, (h) Carmarthenshire,
Cumberland, Durham, Lancashire, Leicestershire, Nor-
folk, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Yorkshire.
of divers Sorts, (i) Copper, (k) Fullers-Earth, (l) Freestone, (m) Iron, (n) Lapis Calamina-
ris to make Brats, (o) Leadstones, (p) Lead,
(q) Marble, (r) Millstones, (s) Plaister harder 
then that of Paris, (t) Potters-Oar, (u) Slate,
w) Salt, (x) Steel, (y) Tin, (z) Whet-
stones, 

Upon its Coasts are found (a) Amber, (b) 
Ambergreese, (c) abundance of Copperice 
Stone; (d) Jet, (e) Pearls, (f) fine Pebbles 
transparent like Diamonds,- also Fluit, Var-
rack, &c. to make Glass: Besides (not to 
mention the rich Commodities yearly Import-
ed from its Fruitful Plantations, that are to it 
as so many Mines of Treasure, 

England affords Plenty of Corn, Cattle, Powl, Fruit, Pulse, 
Leather, Wool, &c. Whereas, 

Holland pro-

duce th

(i) Cornwall, Cumberland, Darbyshire, Staffordshire, 
Yorkshire, (k) Bedfordshire, Surrey, (l) Dorsetshire, (m) 
Darbyshire, Durham, Gloucestershire, Hanshshire, Shrop-
shire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, (n) Somersetshire, 
o) Devonshire, (p) Cardiganshire, Carmarthenshire, Dar-
byshire, Durham, Staffordshire, Yorkshire, (q) Darby-
shire, Dorsetshire, (r) Anglesey, Cheshire, Darbyshire, 

Flintshire, (s) Nottinghamshire, (t) Carmarthenshire, (u) 
Cornwall, (w) Cheshire, Cumberland, Worcestershire, (x) 
Gloucestershire, (y) Cornwall, Devonshire, (z) Darbyshire.

(a) Norfolk, (l) Cornwall, (c) WhitstableSheff, 
(d) Norfolk, (q) Cumberland, (f) Cornwall, Gloucesters-
shire.
The Golden Mines of your Province, where do they lie?

In Neptune's Store-pond, which the Etruscan Empires call their Seas.

Our Famous Edgar, with a Navy of hundreds of ships, made his Dominion on the seas; and Records mention his predecessors or Canutes to have laid that ancient Havre, called Danegrit, upon all (whether Stuarts or Devisons) trading on our Coasts.

Egbert, Alfred and Ethelred, all of themselves Supreme Lords and Governors of the surrounding British Shore. King John (b) challenged the Honour of Duty of the Flag, universally partaken of by all Nations, as a Civility, but as a Right (c)
The Famous Record entituled Pro hominibus Hollandiae, shews how obscureous your Ancestors were, not only in acknowledging (i) Edward the First's Dominion on the Sea, but craving his Protection and Permission to fish on the Coast of England: And had not the Sovereignty of the British Seas in fact been in the Crown of England, why did the (k) Earls of Holland Petition Edward the Third (and the (l) French, our Henry the Sixth) for leave to fish therein? And why did your (m) Skippers use to purchase Licence from Scarborough Castle, before they presumed to cast a Net upon the North Coasts of England? Wherefore did Philip the Second of Spain, (m) obtain Licence of Queen Mary for his Subjects to fish upon the North Coasts of Ireland, for the Term of Twenty one Years, for which, was yearly paid One thousand Pounds into the Exchequer of Ireland, as by the Records appear?

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

E. —As the Roads of Holland are to Travel in, where both Natives and Foreigners are forc'd to pay Passage Ghelt.

B 2

D. Don't

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(l) Rot. Parl. 22. Ed. IV. memb. 2. (m) Camden's Britannia. (n) 1552.
D. Don’t Interrupt me Sir; I say, the Sea is as free to Fish in as the Air to Breath in, who doubts it, may read our Great Hugo Grotius’s Mare liberum.

E. Grotius, in his Sylva upon the Inauguration of King James (before he was perverted by the Importunities of his Country Men,) speaking his Thoughts freely says,

---Tria Sceptra profundi
  In magnum coiere Ducem.

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

Sume Animos à Rego tuo, qui dat Jura Mari.

Take Courage from the King that gives a Laws to the Seas.
And in the same Book in the contemplation of so great a Power, he concludes.

Finis hic est qui fine caret, &c.

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

And
And if you remember when King James observed your Encroachments, he enjoined his Ambassador Sir Dudley Carleton to Expostulate it with your States, as may be seen in Mr. Secretaries Letter, (o) wherein he tells them, "That unless they sought leave from his Majesty, and acknowledged his Right, as other Princes had done, and did, it might well come to pass, that they who would needs bear all the World before them by their Ma-re liberum, might soon endanger their hav-ving neither Terram, nec Solum, nec Rem-.ublicam liberam: So much did that Wise Prince disdain to be wrangled out of the Ancient Rights, and Regalities inherently annexed to his Crown, by the subtle Arguments of Wit and Sophistry.

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

E. Why then do the Venetians exercise Domination in the Adriatique, and the Tuscans Lord it, in the Tyrrhene Seas? How comes it to pass that all your Skippers pay Toll to Denmark for passing the Sound, and to Sweedland for Sailing in the Baltic? Wherefore doth the Republick of Genoa let to Farm the Fishery for Teunies
Tenny in their Neighbouring Seas: And the Emperor of Russia compel all Fishemen (within his Seas) to pay him Tribute: How is't that the like is done by the Duke of Medina Sidonia in Spain, and by all the Princes of Italy bordering on the Seas? Nay, wherefore do the Dutch Stile themselves Lords of the Southern Seas, and allow far less Liberty in India, than they take upon the English Coast? But to waive this Dispute: Pray Sir, how many Labourers have you in your Gold Mines, as you call'd 'em?

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

E. Whi
E. Which are they?

D. Anchor-smiths, Bakers, Balleymen, Basket-makers, Blacksmiths, Brewers, Butchers, Carpenters, Caulkers, Chop-board-splitters, Compass-makers, Cooperers, Duck-weavers, Hemp-dressers, Hook-makers, Hoop-Slitters, Joyners, Line-makers, Mariners, Mast-makers, Net-makers, Net-tanners, Plummers, Pully-makers, Pump-makers, Rope-Makers, Sail-makers, Sawyers, Ship-chandlers, Shipwrights, Tallow-chandlers, Thread and Twine-spinners, &c. to the no small Profit of the Makers and Venders of all Materials, Tools and Utensils belonging to those Trades, and of all Tradesmen that make or sell Culinary Wares, Bedding, Cleathing, &c. for Mariners; to which may be added, Packers, Tollers, Dressers, and Cowlers to carry, sort, and make the Herring lawful Merchandise; also Porters, Carmen, &c. In a Word, you can hardly cast an Eye upon any sort or condition of People, but profit by our Fishery; and the Community most of all.

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

D. In the beginning of June, the Herring rising about two Leagues off Cnaphead (the outermost part of Braccio-Sound,) stay there about fourteen Days, thence go to Farry Islands (seven Leagues to the Southward of Shetland,)
round which they remain one and twenty Days; thence to Buffinness (about thirty Leagues to the Southward of Fartry Island) the Fishing place is called Buffin-deeps, and is twenty Leagues to the Northward of the Frith, where the Herring abide about fourteen Days, and in the Fishing ground under Chivit-hills, and Chivit-Chale about fourteen Days; thence we follow them to the Dogger-Bank, where they stay about thirty seven Days; about the beginning of September they come into Yarmouth Seas, where they continue near seventy Days, from whence they fall to the Southward, followed by small Fisherboats, it being dangerous for Basses.

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

D. About (q) Three hundred thousand Lasts.

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

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(r) Anno 1633. (s) Page 100.
pray, Sir, where have you vent for all your Fitch?

D. At Artois, Brabant, Bremen, Cleveland, Cologne, Dantzig, Denmark, Elbin, Embden, Flanders, France, Frankford, Germany, Guickland, Hamburgh, Henault, Holstein, Italy, Liefland, Lithuania, Lubeck, Nerva, Norway, Poland, Pomerland, Portugal, Prussia, Quinsborough, Revel, Riga, Russia, Spain, Stade, Stratien, Sveeland, &c.

E. Are you never afraid of glutting the Markets?

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

E. What Returns are made for your Fitch?

D. Allum, Armour, Baraters, and other Frankford Commodities, Brandy, Bullion, Clapboard, Coin, Copper, Corn, Currants, and other Grocery Wares, Damasks, Dealboards, Dollars, Flax, Fruit, Furrs, Fusians, Glass, Hemp, Honey, Holland, Iron, Lade, Linnen, Milstones, Oil, Pitch, Plate, Pot-ash, Prunes, Rasses, Rofin, Sawfenets, Satins, Silks, Skins, Steel, Tapestry, Tar, Timber, Velvets, Wainscots, Wax, Wines, and other things in abundance; the exporting of such Commodities again to other Countries, gives our Ships full Employment, so that they need no
in Ballast to seek Freight, but by the Profit of our outward bound Voyages, are enabled to serve Foreigners so cheap, as to render us the common Carriers of the World, consequently Masters of the most certain Profit in Trade; for when Ships arrive safe in Harbour, though Merchants happen to lose by their Goods, Owners and Seamen are paid their full Wages.

Besides, by continual Bartering of such Exports, Holland is render'd the mighty Storehouse, and Empory of all Foreign Products and Manufactures, from whose infinite miscelany of Goods its Inhabitants are compleatly furnish'd with such marketable Wares, as enables them to Trade from Port to Port, without danger of glutting Markets.

And thus as our Fishery hath encreased our Trade and Navigation; constant Employment hath still made Foreigners flock to us in such Numbers, that out of our Multitudes, supplying (from time to time) the loss of so many lives as the change of Climates, Successes against the Portuguese, and Victories against the Indians have cost us; we have forced Treaties of Commerce, Exclusive to all other Nations; Built Forts upon Straits, and Passes that Command the Entrances into Places of great Trade, and mightily advanced towards Engrossing the whole Commerce of the East Indies.
E. Well may you boast, that Amsterdam is founded upon Herring Bones; and no wonder that notwithstanding your so frequent and chargeable Wars ever since your Revolt from Spain, there is hardly a Beggar in your Streets.

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

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

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

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

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

Holland, where the East Winds coming to you o'er a mighty length of dry Continent, extreme Cold, and long Winters, put you to the expence of much Fire, Candles, Food and Rayment; and to great charge and pains in housing and foddering your Cattle, at which
mature on, 'ere ripe, their Fruit.

Holland, where that little Arable land have, lying generally on Sand or Lithons, requires much Soil, and when time is so short, that unless it be exactly sown, no Profit can be reaped; for when the Seed rots in the Ground (as by great frequently happens,) the Season is gone past before it can be Sown again.

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

Holland, whose Territories extending to powerful Neighbours, to defend its Front, and draw out a War in length by Siege, order to determine...
After all Reforms, you had Ten Regiments of Horse, and Nineteen of Foot, making together Twenty six thousand Two hundred Men, the constant Charge of which Forces was 35628l. Sterling per Annum.

I say, if in Holland, naturally loaded with these Disadvantages and Misfortunes, and all their ill Consequences; notwithstanding you are (a) Bridled with hard Laws, terrified with severe Executions, environ'd with Foreign Forces, and oppressed with the most cruel Hardships and variety of Taxes that were ever known under any Government: Your People are become so numerous and wealthy, by Fishing upon our Northern Coasts.

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

D. Why 'en just such a Sea Harvest as the Hamburgers did, who (after five or six Years trial to imitate as in the Herring Fishery,) found to

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(a) Sir William Temple's Observation on the United Provinces.
to their Cost we still outdid them, and so shall you.

E. The Reason why you oustdid the Hamburgers, was because they were yearly Frozen up somwhat longer than you, but seeing that Start you could outstrip them, surely we need not fear the Goal, who (besides what has been said,) have in Fishting many more Advantages of you, than ever you had of the Hamburgers.

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

E. I am not Ignorant what Industry has been used to Poison Englishmen with an Opinion, that only Dutchmen can thrive by Fishting: But upon examining, it will appear:

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

D. And have not we Dogger Boats to take off our Fish at Sea, and furnish the Fishermen with Cask, and other necessaries?

E. Yes Sir, and you have the charge and risque of those Dogger Boats too (both which the English live) after all if it happens to be a Rowling Sea, you must lie by and wait for a Calm.

D. What other Advantages can you boast?

E. England, hath many convenient Tides haven-Ports, as at Hull, Harwich, and Hot Island to the Northward, and Dover, Rye, Portsmouth, Southampton, Cowes, Weymouth, Dartmouth, Carmarthen, Fowey, Falmouth, Hilsford, Scilly, and Milford westward, where at low Water all of them are small Ching's or hard Sand; so that our Vessels may easily haul a shore, and Wash and Tallow at Pleasure; not are Creeks and commodious Places wanting in England to lodge our Baulks and Dogge's safe when not employed, so as to prevent wear of Cables, charge of Watching, danger of Fire, &c.

D. What else?
E. The Shores of England are bold, Coasts high-land, easily discovered, several our Cape-Lands opposite to France and Holland make Eddy-Bayes, whose depth of Water mean, as six, eight, ten, or twelve Fathom the Tides (on our own Coasts) are small Anchors hold, generally sill Clay, Chalk or hard Gravel, so that we need not dread Winter Storms besides the Advantage we have of lying in moderate Climate, and in the very Cent of the Trade of Europe, affords us opportunity of sending to Foreign Parts, from dive of our Ports at all Seasons of the Year. Whereas, the Coasts of Holland are extrem Low, subject to be Hazy and Foggy, have many Shoals and Sands, some of which lie far off at Sea, that frequently Ships are Strand before they see Land; its Ports are bad, and often choked up with Quick-sands; its Haven yearly frozen up two or three Months together: And the Northwest Wind (usually blowing the greatest part of the Year) makes Holland a Lee, and England a Weather-shore, so that (oft times) whilst you are Wind-bound Frozen up at home, we can supply the Market abroad.

Besides, wanting Wood at reasonable Rates, you cannot share with us in the Rich Herring Trade.
As for Pilchards, they cannot be well cured unless brought Fresh on Shore, and being taken on our Coasts, will be Stale e'er they can be carried to your's.

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

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

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

E. We now find by Experience, that far Herrings being pressed and cured like Pilchards, take Salt kindly, and yield Store of Oil, to the great Encouragement of our Shipwrights, Curriers, Soap-boylets, &c.

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

E. Diæt. Diem docet; those noble Salt Rocks in Cheshire; (sufficient to supply all Europe) have not been many Years discovered.
Besides, of a Stone abounding in Shropshire, much Pitch is now made of to Excellent a Nature; Next only caueth it to penetrate deeper into Plank, and Cold cannot make it crackle off; both which are Advantages Holland can't pretend to.

D. What more?

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

D. Notwithstanding all the Advantages you speak of your Chief Fishing Towns, Yarmouth and Layloffs are beholden either to us at Enckhuijzen, or to the French at Diep, for selling them Nets?

E. Before the late War, they used to buy Sail Cloath of you too, but that now made at Fulham, &c. is brought to equal Perfection with your best Hollands Duck; and as for Nets, the Towns you mention, have these seven Years last past made most they used; and who knows, but that our Artifians (universally allowed the best upon Earth for Improvements) may in a little time as much Excel you in these Things, as they outdo the Germans in fine Steel-works; which though they first Invent ed, yet we now make and sell to them?
But seeing you talk of being beholden: I think you are beholden to us, for selling you our Thames Lampreys wherewith you bait for North Sea Cod, else you might go whistle for 'em.

D. Have you any more Advantages of us?
E. I omitted to tell you, that upon Exporting our Fish, we have the Benefit of a considerable Drawback upon Salt.

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

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

D. Nevertheless we have all Naval Stores in Barter for Herrings, which cost us little but the trouble of hawling up out of the Sea, which being considered, and how much the catching such Herrings (by employing and increasing our Ships and Mariners, adds to the Wealth and Strength of our Country,) it conduceth far more to our Advantage, than if Holland had Naval Stores of its own Product: Whereas, to purchase Earl Country Wares, the English are year.
by forced to Export much Coin, to the great ex-
hausing of their Treasure.

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

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

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

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

D. We build cheaper in Holland than you do
in England.

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

D. Our Vessels are sailed with fewer Hands.

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

But supposing your Assertion true, if as all Ships that carry Corn to Venice, are permitted to Load Currants at Zant: so all Bottoms which exported English caught Fisht, might be allowed to return with a Loading of Naval Stores, without paying Aliens Duty: That would set us upon even Ground with you, as to the Business of our Fishtery.

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

Consider:

How many Women and Children do just nothing, but spend what others get.
idle Hours in making Nets, might not only reap the Profit of their Work; but by accustoming them to Business in their Youths, beget in them such industrious Dispositions, as would prevent (what now too frequently happens) their becoming Beggars, or worse at Old Age.

The Time of Labouring, and industrious People well employed, is the best Commodity of any Country; and were a Fishery established in England, how Advantages would it be to the Publick. When all our disbandred Soldiers, poor Prisoners, Widows and Orphans, all poor Tradesmen, Artificers and Labourers, their Wives, Children and Servants, each vacant Interval may be getting a Penny by broiding and beeting of Nets, &c.

D. But still you want Mariners; whereas Sailors in Holland, are as common as Beggars in England.

E. 'Tis own'd, our want of Marine enough at once to Man our Navy, and Carry, cost London, and the Dependencies upon Rivers of Thames (during the late W above Seven hundred thousand Pounds, c in the Price of Coals; by which may be g ded, how Detrimental it was to the Trad our Nation in general.

But the more we want Mariners, the r Reason we have to establish a Fi
which (the Preface shows) is the best way to Encrease their Number.

The many Thousands English, Scotch and Irish Mariners, who now yearly lieth for you, would hardly seek Work abroad, if a Fishery afforded them full Employment at home; and 'tis odds, but a finer Country, cheaper and better Food and Raiment, wholesome Air, easier Rents and Taxes, will tempt many of your Countrymen to cross the Herring-Pond.

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

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

E. Your learned Keckerman says, Omnibus Hodiē Gentibus, Navigandi, industria & petitiō Superiores esse Anglos,

'Tis certain, our Mariners do as cheerfully undergo Hardships, and are as bold in Danger as any; and for hard Labour, the Working of a Mine is incomparably harder than that of a Ship. No Country but Great-Britain can boast, that after twelve Hours hard Work, its Natives will (in the Evening) go to Foot-ball, Stool-ball, Cricket, Prison-base, Wrestling, Cludgel-playing, or some such vehement Exercise.
life for their Recreations; and as for their Genius, it's Remarkable, that such Lads and Country Fellows, as at Yarmouth, Lowestoft, &c. are once hired into the Fishing Trade, and come to feed on the Firth they catch, it improves them at such a rate, that of pitiful Weaklings at Land, they become healthful, stout and hardy Persons; and upon trial find it so much to their liking, that not one in twenty but take to the Sea for good and all.

D. Englishmen are dainty Chaps; and when a Fishing cannot fare like ours.

E. It is certain, they need nor; for Meat and Drink in Ireland, and in many Parts of England are above as Cheap again as in Holland, which producest no other Provisions (for Trafick) than Butter and Cheese, and even those with us are Cheaper than with you: Besides 'tis observed, that whatever Dutch Fishermen fare by eating of Grout, they drink more than ours in Brand.

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

E. Doubtless Plenty of Food is a great Blessing of God, and no Good Englishman will desire to grow Rich by a Famine.

It's generally the landed Men bear the Burden of the Poor, without finding them Work.
they must maintain them idle: Where the Poor's Rates are high, Lands will fall, and Rents are ill-paid.

The cheaper Provisions are, the less Taxes will serve in time of War, House-keeping will be less chargeable, and a less Rate maintain our Poor.; But when Provisions are Dear, Work and Wages will rise in proportion, to the great Decreiment of Husbandry, and stop to Improvements, which (pro tanto) will fall Rents; and, raise all Manufactures, yet lessen their Consumption both at home and abroad, and Neccessitate Masters for want of Vent (by turning off their Journeymen) to make whole Families of Beggars at once.

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

. Catching much Fish will give Work to many Thousands of both Sexes that now are clothed in Rags, and (through Poverty) live only on Bread, Water, Pulses, Roots, and the like; who, when they come to have the rewards of their Labours in their Hands, will encourage the Woollen Manufacture, by buying new Cloaths; and our Farmers, by a greater Consumption of the Product of the Earth; by drinking Strong-beer, will advance the King's Exche; by increasing the Number of

D 2...
Husbandman can employ his Time in the Market should be overstock'd at the Life Butter is too good a Commodity, France, Spain, Portugal, &c. want Vent abroad.

The Cheaper our Provisions are, Navigation will be encouraged, more Ships will Victual with us; fewer Ireland, and the more Beef, Pork. we Export to Barbadoes, Jamaica, that supposing Meat should not drop at a very excessive Rate, yet where Consumption causeth a quick Market at a miling Price; if the Proved light gains will make a heavy Part...
our Farmers would gain far more by the rise of the *Fleece*, than they'd lose by the fall of the *Flesh*.

Besides, the Profit of Land doth not wholly arise from Breeding, abate in Grazing, and plow up more Pasture, and *Flesh* will hold its Price.

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

E. The Reason why Farmers sometimes want Vent for their Grain, is because we have not always Store, and therefore Merchants make no Provision for the Trade. But if we yearly Sow such Quantities of Corn beyond the Expence of the Nation, as Merchants may be no less certain of a constant supply here than they are in the Sound (where the Country depends as much upon their Harvest, as France does on its Vintages,) Plenty would soon create a Trade, and the Advantage of England's lying so much nearer than Dantzic to the Places to which Corn is usually exported, together with the Allowance granted by 25 Car. I. upon the Exporting thereof, will sufficiently Encourage Merchants to deal there-in.

Most of our Ships are now sent light to Bilbao and Lisbon, (now what loads our Ships helps our Navigation,) and our Exports to Lif...
been not answering our Imports from thence: the more we send them in Corn, the less their Wines will cost the Nation in ready Money, or Bills of Exchange, which is all one.

Gold and Silver Mines England hath none, and in time of Peace no way to get Bullion, but by Foreign Traffick; to which, nothing can more conduces than cheap Fishing, and cheap Working and Manufacturing the Commodities, which compose the Exports of our Kingdom, and that is not to be effected except that Labour be Cheap, which it can never be, where Provisions are dear. But the cheaper our Provisions are, the cheaper our Exports may be afforded, consequently the more Vent we shall have for them, and much Vent will cause many Workmen, and when the Wheel is set a-go, Trade begets Trade, as Fire begets Fire; and the more Trade increaseth, the more will Industrious People from all Parts flock to us, and Tenant our Houses, enclose our Waste, improve our Lands, encrease our Manufactures, and enlarge our Products, far beyond the whole Expence of our Nation; and thereby in Proportion add to its Wealth and Treasure; for Merchants exporting the Surplus, will in Returns bring back Gold, Silver, and other valuable Commodities, which in England, that hath property by Succession of Contracts, will diffuse among its Inhabitants, and thus is the
the Number of Persons made Rich by their Labour and Industry encrease, and the Choice of Tenants and Chapmen are enlarged, a kind of Competition amongst them must and will make Rents and Lands advance in Proportion: Witness Holland, and such of our Lands as lie near Great and Populous Corporations. So true it is, that Trade and Lands are Twins, that always wax and wain together.

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

E. Why do you not (for the same Reason) advise us, to forbear Trading to East India, Turkey, Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, &c. nay, to quit all Navigation, and abandon ourselves to the next Cornets. Was it not the Fishing Trade gave rise to all your Wealth, and as Money grew plentiful in Holland, did not Lands rise gradually to near forty Years Purchase, and Interest fall by degrees from Eight to Three per Cent? Why then may not we expect, that a Fishery will do the same in England, and be a means to regain our Muscovy, Greenland, Norway, and East Country Trades? For, still as Trade by increasing,

...
E. Stately Genoa, that once employed fifty thousand Hands in the Silk-manufacture, declines now as fast, as her formerly neglected Neighbour Leghorn riseth. And if the French King continues to court all the World’s popular Immunities, Leghorn (in time) will give Place to her Sister Marseilles.

The King of Portugal having discovered the Passage to the East Indies, by the Cape of Good Hope, and to diverted the Court of Spain from Trade driven by the Venetians, from Alexandria, and the Red Sea to his Port of Lisbon, kept Factors at Antwerp, to vend there his Indian Commodity, which drew several Merchants from divers Parts to reside there, it made that pleasant seated City the Pack-house of Europe. But when the Dutch (y) also, for
improved their own Estates, but ruin'd Antwerp.

Trade, like the Sea, its Element, often ebbs and flows from one Place to another. Not many Years since, we imported Silk-flockings from the Levant: But now the Tide is turn'd, and we send them thither.

D. It's too great an Undertaking.

E. The Flemings were long settled in the Manufacturing of our Wool; yet (in Edward III time) when the English set about it themselves in good earnest, they effectually fix'd that rich Staple in England. The Dutch likewise for many Years after had the Dressing and Dying of our Woolen Manufactures; but when we undertook the Work, they were soon deprived of that Advantage, which so great Benefits our Country would have yet wanted, had all Men thought them too big to be accomplished.

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

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

D. Have
D. However, let us start an ESSAY.
E: Here we are, Sir.

[Text continues, but is not transcribed due to the quality of the image.]
THE PROPOSAL.

1. That towards raising a Joint-stock for employing the Poor in a National Fishery, a Million be subscribed.

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

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

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

5. That the Subscribers be Incorporated by Act of Parliament (by the Name of the Corporation,
the said Subscribers, by plurality of
prevented to the Parliament.

7. That out of the said Thirty, 
ominated Fathers of the Poor, and in
the National Fishery by both House
liament, approved by His Majesty
ountable to them for their Trust.

8. That in case of Vacancy (by
or Misdemeanor of any one of the fa
of the Poor (during Sessions of Par
the said Corporation to present Their
which His Majesty and Parliament to
One, as before, and so to tories quoties
case the Parliament shall not then b
that such Vacancies be filled up by the
of the Surviving Fathers until next S
Parliament; and then the Corporation
sent, and the King and Parliament t
10. That the said Fathers, and such Stewards of the Poor, be exempted from all Parish Offices.

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

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

13. That to prevent People from being oppressed and ground to Poverty by Pawn Brokers, that screw out of them 40 or 50 per Cent; the said Fathers may be allowed to erect Lumber-Offices in every City and Town in England exclusive of all others, upon Condition they take not above . . . . . per Cent, per Annum.

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

15. That until the Business of the Fishery be sufficient alone to give Employment to all our Poor, (or at least during Ten Years next after the Establishing a National Fishery,) the said Fathers and Stewards of the Poor may be impowered to employ such of them as they shall think fit, in erecting Free-Schools, Hospitals, Work-houses, and Ware-houses; for the Corporation, in making Enclosures, in repairing Sea Banks, draining Fens, cleaning and deepning Rivers and Havens, in building and repairing Churches, Bridges and Causeways, in mending Roads, in planting Oaks near Navigable Rivers, and Fruit Trees, in Inland Countries, also in cleaning of Streets, Common-hores, and the like.

16. That the said Fathers of the Poor be impowered to send such refractory Poor as they shall think fit, to serve in his Majesty's Plantations, taking Security for their comfortable Maintenance during...... Years Service, and for their Freedom afterwards.
17. That all the Poors Rates in England be Collected, as formerly by the Church-Wardens of each Parish, and by them quarterly paid into the Treasury of the said Corporation, as a Recompence for their providing for the Poor, and freeing the Nation from Beggars.

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

19. That the Treasure of the said Corporation be accounted as Sacred, and that it be Felony to imbezel, lend, convert, or apply the same to any other Uie, than maintaining the Poor, or carrying on the Business of the Fishery.

20. That His Majesty may be addressed to grant Leaves to the said National Fishery, of all Waits and Derelict Lands to be by them used in building Warehouses, curing Fish, spinning Twine, and drying and beeting their Nets and the like; and also to be by them distributed amongst such of their Apprentices, their Heirs and Assigns, as shall have faithfully served them Eight, or more Years, not more than five Acres apiece.

21. That the said Fathers may buy up, when cheap, a certain Quantity of Corn, Coals, &c. yearly, and lodge the same in their Granaries, for the Use of the Poor, but not make Merchandize.
22. That the Stock in the said Fishery be not chargeable with any Rates, Duties, or Impostions whatsoever.

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

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

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

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

How to prevent their Desertion can be shown beyond Objection.

The Boys being in the Fishing Season employ'd at Sea, and working at other Times at that Trade relating to the Fishery to which they
they were Bound, when their Time is out, will be able to get their Livelyhoods either at Sea or Land; and it to render them more capable of serving their Country, the said Fathers or Stewards (at Four a Clock each Saturday in the Afternoon) should cause them when (on shore) to Muster, and Exercise, although only with Staves, and for Diversion to play at Cudgels, or Fence, and reward the Conqueror with liberty of wearing a small Riband, whose distinguishing Colour of Red, Blue, &c. should Entitle them to be called Captains, Lieutenants, &c. by the rest of their Fellows, till next Weeks trial of Skill; How soon would Emulation beget Address? And what a Treasure and Strength to England would such a Militia be, always ready for Service both by Sea and Land, and yet no Charge to the Nation till actually in it?

Nor will such Lads be less profitable to the Corporation, for suppose (as usual) the charge of Fishing to consist one third in the Dogger and Rigging, one third in Victuals, Nets, &c., and one third in Seamens-Wages; and the whole to amount to nine hundred Pounds.

Admitting our Craft, Rigging and Victualling, as chargeable as the Dutch, and that they amount together to six hundred Pounds.
own Servants (having what Officers till their own Apprentices are fit to Command) it will save them one of the said three hundred Pounds, and if the next Year the Corporation have the half of their Doggers-Crew their Apprentices, it will then save them one hundred and fifty Pounds of the said three hundred Pounds, and thus their Fish would hand them the last Year in about ten, and the next in near fifteen for Cost. Let it be the Duty, and so proportionable to the Numbers of their Servants, their Profits will increase; till at length, paying little or no Wages, they may afford to sell Fish to the Hollanders cheaper than they can catch them.

D. Money is scarce in England.

E. The greater the Dearth, the more case...
D. Upon the whole, I confess, that England may outfish us, but then you must have nothing to do with Companies, only make it every particular Man's Interest, and they'll soon make it their Business.

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

Glutting Markets may ruin particular Men, but it's far more difficult to put tricks upon Companies.

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

E. In Amsterdam, you have your Church-Wardens, Directors of Batavia, of your Raas-house, of your Spin-house, &c. Commissioners for your small Differences, and those of your Levant Trade, your Sea Affairs, &c. also your Vroedschap, your Schepens, and your Burgh-masters, which are Places of far more Trouble than Profit, yet (being the usual steps to Preferment) are generally (like that of Common-Council-Men in London) officiated without Reproach. Not for that the Dutch are honester Men than their Neighbours: But because such as are found tardy in those Employments, have all future hopes of Advancement.
Men from serving the Government in a public militia (now small wages cover the Corporation) and an army. The men would never want to serve, but would rather work and provide for their families. Giving a small wage is not enough to keep them in service. It is important to promote the trade and gain, especially in the service of the country.

A man in the service of the King or a citizen of the city. The trade began to decay and the country was in decay. The King was in a hurry to get to Amsterdam and removed to London in the winter. Eventually, the trade began to recover and people started to work harder.
CONCLUSION.

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

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

For shame let not English-Men Prov.26.13. longer say, with Solomon's slothful: There is a Lion in the Way.
A PLEADER TO THE NEEDER WHEN A READER.

As all, my friend, through wily knaves, full often suffer wrongs,
Forget not, pray, when if you've read, to whom this book belongs.
Than one Charles Clark, of Totham Hall, none to't a right hath better,
A wight, that same, more read than some in the lore of old black-letter.
And as C. C. in Essex dwells—a shire at which all laugh—
His books must, sure, less fit seem drest, if they're not bound in calf!
Cares take, my friend, this book you ne'er with grease or dirt besmear it;
While none but awkward puppies will continue to "dog's-car" it!
And o'er my books when book-worms "grub," I'd have them understand,
No marks the margins must de-face from any busy "hand!"
Marks, as re-marks, in books of Clark's, when e're some critic spy leaves,
It always him so wasp-ish makes, though they're but on the fly-leaves!
Yes, if so they're used, he'd not de-fer to deal a fate most meet—
He'd have the soiler of his quires do penance in a sheet!
The Ettrick Hogg—ne'er deemed a bore—his candid mind revealing,
Declares, to beg "a copy" now's a mere pre-text for stealing!
So, as some knave to grant the loan of this my book may wish me,
I thus my book-plate here display, lest some such "fly" should dish me!
—But hold,—though I again declare with-holding I'll not brook,
And "a sea of trouble" still shall take to bring book-worms "to book!"