

*A GENERAL RECAPITULATION of the receiving and issuing of
the FINANCES.*

The Annual REVENUE.

	l.	s.	d.
B Y the produce of Tobacco - - -	1,221,820	0	6
Ditto of the Post-Office - - -	368,562	10	5
Ditto of the Provincial Farms, under which are included all kind of taxes that are paid upon the following six kinds of vivres : bread, oil, wine, fat, flesh meat, soap ; which taxes are renewed every six years ; and under this head is also comprehended the Alcavalas, and other rights and taxes	1,310,888	17	2
Ditto of the General Farms, in which are in- cluded, besides the customs, the duties on wool, the admiralties, rights of fanity, cards, mercuries, brandy, lead, gun-powder, &c.	2,530,627	15	3
Total of the Revenue	5,431,899	3	4

The Annual EXPENCE.

	l.	s.	d.
For the subsistence of the Land Army of 91,311 men, including the general officers of Artillery - - -	1,035,488	19	7
Ditto of the Naval Forces, consisting of 45,810 men, in pay - - -	714,561	6	7
Ditto of the Tribunals at MADRID, and through the whole kingdom, with the sa- laries of the Seneschals, Governors, and In- tendants, in all 1800 men, in actual pay	169,992	19	5
Ditto of the Garrisons, 7158 men - - -	166,410	11	8
Carried over,	2,086,453	17	3

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For

	l.	s.	d.
Brought over,	2,086,453	17	3
For the subsistence of 23,300 men, employed in the farms of Tobacco	-	317,402	4 5
Ditto of 18,000 men, employed in the Post- Office	-	50,368	9 0
Ditto of 11,500 men, employed in the Pro- vincial farms	-	53,240	0 0
Ditto of 19,000 men, employed in the Ge- neral Farms	-	64,458	17 10
Pensions paid out of the Finances	-	211,352	12 7
The expence of the Palace and Royal Family	-	174,334	5 8
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Total of the Annual Expence,	2,957,610	6	9

The RECAPITULATION.

The Annual Revenue	-	5,431,899	3 4
The Annual Expence	-	2,957,610	6 9
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Remains free	2,474,288	16	7

R E M A R K S.

THE *General Farms* are the customs, the sale of tobacco, salt, lead, and quick-silver; the post office; licences to vessels which trade to AMERICA; stamped paper; and some other particulars, specified at full length in USTARITZ. The greatest number of the taxes called general, such as tobacco, salt, and the customs, are under the management of a board for the King's behalf, and increase daily since they have been so regulated. The revenue from tobacco in particular, has increased annually a million of crowns vellon, or 111,111. sterling, since 1739, that the management was regulated according to the plan drawn up by Don MARTIN DE LOYNAZ. That Administrator-General gave security for the augmentation, which he proposed, but was freed from all obligation at the end of one year, when he proved, that the sales had amounted to eleven millions of rials more than usual. He increased the tax upon the best sorts of tobacco ten rials, and in the same degree lessened the tax upon the worst, which are purchased by the common people. The clergy, as

well as the other members of the state, are subject to the general taxes, because they are looked upon as rights of regality or sovereignty. They pay besides, the taxes of the *Crusado*, *Subsidio*, and *Escusado*, valued at 155,555 l. sterling.

○ THE farm of the *Provincial Taxes* respects only the twenty-two provinces of the crown of CASTILE, and includes several branches. 1st, The tax of *Alcavala*, established in 1341. This is ten *per cent.* upon every thing sold or exchanged, even upon land revenues, and all kinds of rents, with an augmentation of four additional taxes of one *per cent.* imposed each, successively in 1639, 1642, 1656, 1664.

○ UPON sales at first hand, the farmer of the Revenues requires only ten *per cent.* but upon sales in retail, fourteen *per cent.* is required. The regulation however does not appear to be uniform, since, according to USTARITZ, there is not more than between six or seven *per cent.* collected by this tax. Later writers nevertheless estimate this tax as I have done. After all, as the tax is repeated upon each sale, we may reasonably conclude, that every thing has at least paid the whole tax once, notwithstanding any abatement in the valuation. The clergy are not subject to this tax in their sales; on the contrary, they are allowed a discount in valuing the produce of their lands, or upon those things which are designed for their own consumption; and when they again sell that produce, they have the advantage of the rest of the King's subjects in the proportion of the whole tax. Those of the clergy, who have no lands, or who buy in retail, pay the tax, as it is included in the price of the commodity.

THE second branch is the tax called *Millones*, with the additional taxes, known under the name of the new imposts. This tax began in 1590, when a service or subsidy of eight millions of ducats was granted to PHILIP II. by the States of CASTILE. In 1601 the same States granted an annual service of four millions of ducats during the course of six years. It was called the service of twenty-four millions, and the necessities of the monarchy have obliged it to be continued ever since. Of these
twenty-

twenty-four millions, four and one half were laid upon the price of salt, and the payment of the remainder was laid upon the price of wine, vinegar, oil, and butchers meat. The liquid measure called an *arrobe*, is composed of eight parts, named *axumbres*. One of these eights belongs to the King, and the proprietor is obliged to pay it according to the valuation of the seven remaining parts, including even the advance of price, by reason of this excise; by which means the *arrobe* sold under the name of eight *axumbres*, really contains only seven, and its subdivisions are in the same proportion. These taxes are farmed at 892,888 l. sterling.

THERE are also other taxes that may be included under the general title of provincial taxes, such as the tax upon brandy, upon soap, upon snow, upon cards, and other small articles. These taxes are farmed at 91,244 l. sterling.

ALMOST all the taxes of SPAIN, we may observe, are laid upon things consumed by the people, in the manner of a general excise; and those included under the name of provincial taxes, in a more particular manner affect the necessary and daily consumption of all ranks of men. In SPAIN the general outcry, and the groans of the people, have been excited by these provincial taxes. At present the ministry are labouring to make some reformation upon them, and they are only continued till something better can be established in their place.

DON MIGUEL DE ZABALA, in a memorial presented to PHILIP V. in 1734, demonstrates, that though the provincial taxes, on the lowest computation, amount to *seventy-six millions of rials vellon*, and though there is reason to think that sum is raised upon the people, yet only *seven millions* come into the King's exchequer.

THE *Juros* are perpetual rights of propriety, or in other words, pensions which the King pays to his subjects out of his own finances, by a temporal favour, by the endowment of some foundation, or for the reward of merit and services. Sometimes the

Juros mean a deduction of three *per cent.* from all the King's finances.

THE *Media Annata*, which is the same as our *First Fruits* is a tax of one half of the first years revenue, paid on every new succession to any ecclesiastical dignity or benefice. All lucrative or honourable employments, held from the King during life, are subject to this tax.

BESIDES the above-mentioned revenues, a general view of which (exclusive of the *Juros* and *Media Annata*) I have given in the *Recapitulation*; SPAIN likewise receives others that are very considerable from the *Indies*. The amount of these *per annum* is about 900,000 *l.* sterling, consequently there is said to remain free annually in the royal treasury, about 3,373,288 *l.* sterling.

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DON MIGUEL DE ZABALA, in a memorial presented to FERDINAND VI. in 1734, demonstrates, that though the provincial taxes, on the lowest computation, amount to twenty-five millions of *reals*, and though there is reason to think that this is raised upon the people, yet only seven millions come into the King's exchequer.

LETTER

The Juros are perpetual rights of property, or in other words, pensions which the king pays to his subjects out of his own finances, by a temporal favour, by the endowment of some foundation, or for the reward of merit and services. Sometimes the Juros

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L E T T E R X I I I .

A short View of the *Commerce and Manufactures* of
 SPAIN, so far as they relate to GREAT BRITAIN.

I HAVE been informed from good authority, that our trade
 with Old and New SPAIN is full one third less than it was
 about forty years ago; and that the balance and exchange, be-
 tween SPAIN and GREAT BRITAIN, are every day more and
 more turning against the later kingdom. The causes of this de-
 crease are indeed not at all difficult to be discovered or accounted
 for. Part of it is owing to the extreme avarice and extortion of
 our own merchants, who, not contented with moderate profits,
 have kept up the prices of their goods beyond their just pro-
 portion, and thereby opened a door for the French and Dutch to
 undersell us at the Spanish markets. Another reason is, that the
 price of labour in those two countries, is considerably lower than
 in our own, which enables them likewise to afford their goods to
 the Spaniards at a much cheaper rate than we can do. A third
 reason is, the alteration introduced during the Spanish war in Queen
 ANNE'S time, when the French crept into that trade, and de-
 prived us of a greater share of it than we shall probably be ever
 able to recover. A fourth reason may be, the progress which the
 Spaniards themselves have made in some branches of manufac-
 ture; for the encouragement which the Kings of the House of
 BOURBON have given to manufactures and arts, has excited some
 few Spaniards to apply themselves to industry and trade. For
 several years past, the ministry in SPAIN have endeavoured, by
 means of foreign workmen, to set on foot various manufactures;
 and

and the great attention they have given to that object, has not been altogether without effect. But at present, by a strange infatuation, the minister to whose department the care of the manufactures belongs, not only neglects, but discourages them; and they consequently decline very fast.

THE state of trade between GREAT BRITAIN and SPAIN, in the time of JOSHUA GEE, was as follows. Our *Exports* to SPAIN were, 1. Broad cloths. 2. Druggets. 3. Callimancoes. 4. Bays. 5. Stuffs. 6. Leather. 7. Baccalao, or salted fish. 8. Tin. 9. Lead. 10. Corn. Our returns from SPAIN were in, 1. Wines. 2. Oil. 3. Fruits. 4. Wool. 5. Indigo. 6. Logwood. 7. Cochineal. 8. Materials for dying. Mr. GEE has taken no notice of *silk* in this account, and for a good reason; for the exportation of it from SPAIN was not permitted till 1760, and then limited to the ports of BARCELONA, ALICANT, and CARTHAGENA, from the 16th of November to the 16th of May every year, there being no exportation allowed during the other six months, that the manufacturers may have leisure to take care of their fabrics.

WE used about that period to take off at least two thirds of all the produce of SPAIN, which made our manufactures an easy purchase to the Spaniards, who nevertheless paid us a very considerable balance in bullion.

SINCE the accession of the House of BOURBON, this balance in our favour has been daily declining. For many years past we have ceased to be considered as *the favoured nation*; and FRANCE now shares a great part of the gold and silver of the Spanish West-Indies, in return for her silk, her linen, and other manufactures introduced into SPAIN.

THE infamous peace of UTRECHT was hardly signed, when we began to feel the effects of a *predilection*, which the Spaniards discovered towards the French nation; so that a *Family Compact*, if things be justly considered, will appear no novelty. This will be evident enough from the following curious extracts from the

the letters of several English gentlemen, relating to that point: — Mr. POULDON, the English Consul at the CANARIES, in a letter dated from TENERIFF, the 22d of March 1715, and addressed to Sir PAUL METHUEN, then minister at MADRID, says, “ Since the suspension of arms, the subjects of his Britannic Majesty, in the CANARIES, have been continually oppressed. The bishop of GERONDA had published an order in the name of the King, in virtue of which order all British vessels were to pay only the ordinary duties; but since the arrival of the new General, this order is explained in a new manner. They exclude from being comprehended in it all kinds of merchandize, which, as they pretend, are not properly English manufactures, although transported by and in English vessels. In consequence of this explanation of the order, the subjects of his Majesty have paid lately, upwards of 3000 pounds sterling.”

THE following are the words of Mr. KEEN, our consul at ALICANT, in a letter to Mr. STANHOPE at MADRID. “ By an express order of the court, published here by the governor of VALENCIA, all foreigners are obliged in lieu of the Alcabalas and Millones, to pay a duty named *quartals*, which amounts to 14 *per cent.* and is to begin with the year 1714, for merchandize, on which the duties have already been paid, at the rate of 15 *per cent.* so that we must at present pay 29 *per cent.* for the entry of all kinds of merchandize. Besides the exorbitancy of these duties, this proceeding is attended with another inconvenience; for the factors have already regulated their accounts with the merchants, on the footing of 15 *per cent.* Moreover, those who refuse to pay these duties, are exposed to be quartered upon by soldiers, and to give them so much *per day* till such time as the duties be paid. These are unheard of demands, which were never before made upon any subjects of GREAT BRITAIN, who never paid more than 7½ *per cent.* under the reign of CHARLES II. the last prince of the Austrian line.”

SIR