

A NEW AND COMPLETE
D I C T I O N A R Y
O F
TRADE and COMMERCE;

CONTAINING

A Distinct EXPLANATION of the
GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF COMMERCE;
An ACCURATE DEFINITION of its TERMS;

A N

Ample ILLUSTRATION of the LAWS and CUSTOMS of all Commercial States, with respect to MERCANTILE AFFAIRS, in general; including the several TREATIES of COMMERCE actually subsisting at this Time between the different Powers of EUROPE.

A Particular DESCRIPTION of the different
PRODUCTIONS OF ART AND NATURE,
Which are the BASIS and SUPPORT of COMMERCE;

Particularly distinguishing the

Growth, Product, and Manufactures of GREAT BRITAIN and its Colonies.

A N

Exact Specification and Valuation of all FOREIGN COINS, with Easy Concise TABLES for reducing them to the BRITISH STANDARD. An Historical and Critical Account of all Public and Private COMPANIES, and of all Public BANKS and FUNDS, with the Nature of their Securities. An Abstract of the BYE-LAWS and CUSTOMS of all Ports and Harbours; with a Description of the OFFICE and DUTY of CONSULS, AGENTS, and other Persons residing in Foreign Parts, for the Protection of the Commerce of their respective Nations.

A L S O

Observations on the PRESENT STATE of our FOREIGN COMMERCE, and of the NEW MANUFACTURES established and brought to Perfection of late Years in GREAT BRITAIN, of which no Account has hitherto been given in any other Commercial Dictionary.

By THOMAS MORTIMER, Esq;
His Majesty's VICE-CONSUL for the AUSTRIAN NETHERLANDS.

L O N D O N : Printed for the AUTHOR ;

And sold by S. CROWDER, at the Looking-Glass; and J. COOTE, at the King's Arms, in Pater-noster-row;
and J. FLETCHER, in St. Paul's Church-yard.

MDCCLXVI.

from copper ore. 5. White vitriol, from lead ore. 6. Misy, of the nature and colour of brimstone. 7. Brimstone, from a peculiar sort of ore, from whence drop the *flores sulphuris*, which usually coagulate like icicles.

BRUNT-ISLAND, a duty of two pennies Scots upon ale there. 6 *Geo. I. c. 28.* 20 *Geo. II. c. 20.*

BRUSH-MAKER. This business requires no great degree of strength, nor any extraordinary ingenuity to become fully master of it; and it is intirely independent on education, which if it be ever so liberal, cannot enable one to improve the art. The *brush-maker* makes hair-brooms, and brushes of all sorts. The principal part of his materials are hogs-bristles, which he picks, combs, and cuts into lengths fit for the various kinds of brushes. The wooden part of the brush or broom he forms with an instrument much of the nature of that used by the last-maker. From five to ten pounds is given with an apprentice, and the journeyman earns from twelve to fifteen shillings a week. Their hours of working are from six to nine. A *brush-maker* may employ in trade from fifty to two hundred pounds.

BRUTE WEIGHT, is when merchandize are weighed with the cases or packages, and pay the duties of import or export on the *brute weight*, which is thus distinguished from *net weight*, where a deduction is made for the weight of the package, freight, and other considerable expences. Several commodities pay the duties by *brute weight*, and others by *net weight*.

BRYONIA ALBA, in botany, *white bryony*.

The white bryony root is one of the largest roots we are acquainted with. It is of an oblong shape, and is frequently the thickness of a man's arm, sometimes of twice or three times that bigness.

The expressed juice of the root is of a bitter, acrid, and nauseous taste, and gives some tokens of its containing an acid. It is an attenuant and resolvent; it powerfully dissolves viscid humours, and carries them off by stool, and sometimes by vomit; but it is a rough medicine, and must be given with great caution; when dried, it becomes much more gentle in its operation, purging only downward. It is given with success in dropries, asthma, hysteric complaints, and even in palsies and epilepsies; it is much more powerful in all these intentions, when fresh; but it should be corrected with an addition of cream of tartar, vinegar, or some of the aromatics.

BUBBLES, by which the public have been tricked and deceived, are of two kinds, viz. 1. Those which we may properly enough term *trading-bubbles*. And, 2. *Stock*, or *fund-bubbles*. The former have been of various kinds, and the latter at different times; as in France and England in 1719 and 1720, and when any remarkable alterations have been made, with regard to the property of our monied corporations.

In order to give the more spacious colouring to *trading-bubbles*, they have been generally undertaken by such crafty and designing fellows, who have had art enough to magnify the imaginary gain of their projects, with a view to obtain large subscriptions before-hand, that a few of the cunning ones may suddenly grow immensely rich, at the expence, and by the unwariness of numbers, who mean only to make a reasonable advantage of their money, rather than let it lie dead.

As numbers have been egregiously duped and imposed on, and many families ruined and undone by trading schemes, that have no foundation but in deceit and villainy, it may be useful, especially to the growing and unexperienced generation, to throw some cautions in their way, with respect to public impositions of this kind.

Many of these nefarious designs have been carried on by companies, such as the York-buildings, charitable corporation, and too many others. We shall make a few observations, first upon *trading bubbles*, to prevent the public being imposed on hereafter. Let the nature and extent of the commerce proposed be maturely weighed, as whether it will admit of the capital stock required, and whether less would not answer the purpose, and yet yield the adventurers only a reasonable gain; whether the branch of trade is not already over-done, either among ourselves, or by other nations; whether the public encouragement obtained is adequate to the business proposed; and whether

it so interferes with other branches which have a connection therewith, that its constitution can be but of short duration; whether there are not some latent sinister views in the acting junto, either to make a job of their scheme, or by drawing in numbers into their subscription at any rate, with design, at the critical time, when they have effectually blinded their encouragers, to dispose of their share at an extravagant real advantage, and leave the imaginary fairy-treasure in the hands of the dupes; whether the management of the business lies in the hands of men of discernment as well as worth and honour; or whether the leading cabal may not consist only of a few rotten conductors, who gloss over their proceedings with equipage and pageantry, and make use of a borrowed property of others, in order to raise a real one to themselves; whether many wise, upright, and opulent gentlemen may not be made tools of to raise the credit of a chimera, and become the *bubble of bubbles*, as well as the innocent widow and the orphan, and numberless others, who have but small fortune, whereon to subsist; whether such arts may not be made use of in the public news-papers, as even to deceive the most circumspect as well as the credulous; whether authentic accounts of the profits and losses of any public enterprizes should not be made public, from time to time, for the satisfaction of the proprietors, and not kept secret only, in the hands of a few designing managers; whether the choice of directors ought not to be so determined by private ballot, as that it may not be known for whom the electors vote; and be made annually, and by lists of the proprietors, not by lists formed by the managers themselves, so as that the change of hands may go only in a round of those who are in the secrets to ———?

These, it is humbly presumed, are some of those prudential precautions that are requisite to be taken by the public, when great sums of money are to be raised to prosecute any public schemes whatever, and what every honest man will readily acquiesce in. There is, indeed, one particular, which we had forgot to intimate; though we judge it not less essentially necessary than any that has been suggested. We mean, the necessity of proprietors in general making themselves thoroughly acquainted, from time to time, with the true state of the affairs of companies; and that men of the best sense among them, and who never intend to act in the management, should pretty constantly attend the public business, and scrutinize into all transactions. To which end we would most humbly submit to consideration, that gentlemen of the best education, and of the most knowledge of the world, should make themselves compleat accomptants; otherwise, how is it possible, that they should be capable of examining into the state of the accounts of public exportations? That we may not be misunderstood, we would desire to observe, for the sake of the private gentleman, as well as others, how far we judge this kind of knowledge necessary. A knowledge and readiness in numerical computation is not the only qualification; for, besides that, the thorough skill in the method of account-keeping, called debtor and creditor, by the way of charge and discharge, is indispensably requisite; this being applicable to the transactions of public companies, as well as to the affairs of private gentlemen, merchants, and other traders. The method of account-keeping by public companies, as well as the public offices, differs, indeed, from that used by merchants; but, though there is a difference in the form, there is none in the essence; a person who is grounded in the one, will apply it to the other easily, and be enabled to detect all fallacies, however subtilly disguised.

The number of the books, in the office of the accomptants, will multiply, according to the nature of the companies transactions; but, let them be ever so numerous, they are all of them reducible to a plain ledger, which, being always posted up, will exhibit the true state of the affairs of the greatest corporations, as familiarly as that of private men. And, why should not the ledger, and, indeed, all the other accounts of bodies corporate, be fairly laid before their general courts? Nay, why should not every proprietor, who is interested to a certain degree, have the liberty of inspecting the books at certain stated times, if not at all times? By this means, the man of penetration would be able to discern how the public business went on, and would be capable of prepar-

ing himself to speak to the interest of societies at their general courts; and who can do that to good purpose, without a competent knowledge in the companies negotiations? We must confess, that we have not discernment enough to discover, why the books and accounts of trading societies, any more than those of the public offices, where the state of the national revenue is registered, should be kept private, when the interest of the public requires otherwise?

Where the transactions of great bodies are kept as they ought to be, by variety of chief officers, and their underling clerks, the various officers and clerks are such checks upon each other, that it is extremely difficult, though not impossible, as is known from experience, for frauds to be committed by these officers. These, however, have but proved trifling in comparison to those which have been committed by the mal-administration of the head-officers; by those who have had the chief, and, as it were, the sole and uncontrollable direction and government of great bodies. Wherefore, the great lines of conduct are what the proprietors should vigilantly attend to.

To enable the proprietors in general to make a right judgment of the state of their affairs, why should not their accounts be annually made public, that adventurers may be convinced, what dividend may, and what not afforded, consistent with the real prosperity of the corporation? Would not this be one way to prevent the public being made a *bubble* of?

The other species of *bubbling* arises from the nature of our national duties; for, if between eighty and ninety millions of money are so tied up, as to remain untransferable, unnegotiable, and not to change hands, who could ever be induced to lend the government money upon the most pressing emergency, even in consideration of the largest interest?

Though parliamentary security gives the real value to the national debt, or the public funds, they would be like the miser's treasure, useless to the possessor, or like the undiscovered riches of the earth, did not circulation and credit set a market price upon them. As the best things may, so has the liberty of circulating our funds been greatly abused; nor can any thing, I am afraid, ever effectually prevent these general abuses, while our national incumbrances continue, without doing a greater public injury, than can be sustained by the present methods of circulation of the funds.

But, although a public mischief is not to be absolutely prevented, a private one, in a great measure, may, by a proper knowledge, and a competent judgment, to make a reasonable use of that knowledge.

But this can only be obtained by those, who duly attend to the transactions of the great corporations, and, from time to time, make proper memento's of the state of their affairs. The bulk of the public creditors are widows and orphans, and other ladies and gentlemen who cannot be supposed to have any knowledge in public business. Who then may we rely upon to watch over the conduct of great companies? To put the sole confidence in directors, no one will contend for, who is at all acquainted with what is past. Who then is so fit to take care of public property, as the public proprietors themselves? Such among these who are of the best abilities without doors, should attend to the conduct of those within; should call for accounts and vouchers at their general courts, and go to the root of their affairs, before schemes can be formed and executed to the public detriment. This vigilant inspection, this constant scrutiny of the most judicious proprietors, who have no share in the direction of public companies, is certainly the way to prevent those calamities, which have been so often experienced. That gentlemen may not be deterred from duly entering into enquiries of this kind, we shall, in its place, endeavour, to the best of our abilities, to set the nature, the constitution, and the transactions of these corporations in a true light, in order to prevent the creditors of the public, as well as the proprietors of trading bodies, from being imposed upon hereafter.

There is another kind of imposition, to which too many of the proprietors of our public funds are daily liable, not from any malversation in those, whom they have intrusted with the management of their affairs, but from their own voluntary act. I mean, their jobbing in the funds, for the

fake of more gain than their interest or dividends.

Would the proprietors please to consider, how few, how very few, in comparison to their great number, there are, who have, or can have, a competent intelligence and sagacity to trade in the stocks to advantage, they would not so easily be made tools of upon those occasions as they are. Those who make stock-dealing their employment, and lie in wait to take advantage of the innocent, the unwary, and ignorant, make it their business to get such intelligence, as will answer their end, either by buying or selling stocks: and, if such can obtain no real intelligence, to occasion a fluctuation in the stocks, they make no great difficulty to invent such as will answer their purpose. To which end, it is common to propagate one thing in the city, and whisper another at St. James's, and write different from either both at home and abroad. Have we not known at critical conjunctures, that letters have been forged as coming from foreign correspondents, with intelligence only to raise or fall stocks, according to the intention of the forgers? These are some of the artifices of money-jobbers; who knowing there is not one in a thousand among the public creditors, that are able to see through their finesses, or indeed have either opportunity or discernment to penetrate them, make a prey of the less knowing, by alarming their fears, or feeding their hopes. Whereas, were the public creditors more steady, and less intimidated for fear of loss, or elated with a view of gain, by the rise or fall of stocks, they could never be made such *bubbles* of, as they almost daily are: and it is great weakness for those, who have no opportunity of intelligence which may be relied on, to be stock-dabblers, or actuated to buy or sell by the nod, the wink, or any other insinuation of a broker, for the sake of his commission.

These, we fear, are not the only evils necessarily attendant upon our national incumbrances; for, while men's minds are engaged in shuffling of property from hand to hand among ourselves only, which makes us never the richer, with all the bustle of these transactions, they neglect solid and useful commerce, which alone can make the nation really richer. However wealthy the greatest of these fund-jobbers may be, and however much he may plume himself upon his treasure, it is the direct way to render all his monied property of little worth; for, the more stock-jobbing prevails by latent artifices, and the longer the public tranquility shall continue, the higher will the premiums rise: and will not this? or has it not ever given occasion to the reduction of their interest; and is there no danger that they may be actuated to job with their stocks, till they themselves become the instruments of so reducing their interest, that their principal will be worth nothing? Perhaps they may flatter themselves with the trite notion, that, the lower their interest is, the higher will the price of their lands be: but, when money shall fetch little or no interest, what land will they be able to purchase with it?

This may deserve the serious consideration of the national creditors. But stock-jobbing, or *stock-bubbling*, if you please, seems, at present, to be brought to a kind of science. The gamesters meet in Exchange-alley, and, just as if they were at box and dice, South-Sea, or this or the other stock is the main, which brings in all the bites to set high; and, when the cullies that are not in the secret, throw at all, they commonly throw out and lose the box, which the bites take, and the setters go round, laying most extravagant odds, upon the success; but they cog the dice, and nick the main, and so sweep away all the cash. Does this kind of traffic enrich the nation? Will such arts tend ever to realize the property of the public creditors? We wish they would consider their own interest better, as well as that of the king; for these, and other such like measures, we are persuaded, will soon tend to annihilate all their property.

For what's the worth of any thing?
But just as much as it will bring.

It is for the interest of the public creditors, that they should be faithfully apprized of their present situation; and what is likely to be the fate of their posterity, so far as it respects their monied properties. This we shall endeavour to do with all impartiality, and hope to convince them, that nothing can give solid treasure to the nation, and ren-

der their properties permanently secure to their posterity, but their encouragement of commerce, and contempt of stock-jobbing; that nothing can more effectually prevent their progeny being made the tools and *bubbles* of designing men, and make them independent, than to train up, especially the younger branches of their families, to commerce, and not to despise that whereby their ancestors acquired both their landed and monied estates. See ACTION of a company.

BUCCANEERS, or adventurers, as the French call them, a sort of rovers at sea, who cruize about in privateers to take all the vessels and small craft they can meet with.

In the twelfth century there were a great many of these picaroons in America, who took considerable prizes from the Spaniards, and behaved with great resolution, as Peter le Grand, captain Rock, John Davis, Monbars, and Morgan. These sort of pirates were commonly French and English, who had no certain pay, making that place their country, where they could plunder best; they made no scruple of taking what came in their way, and were as prodigal in spending, as they were unjust in getting. They were sometimes rich, and sometimes poor; sometimes masters, and sometimes slaves.

BUCENTAUR, a galeas, or great galley of the doge of Venice, adorned with fine pillars on both sides, and gilt over from the prow to the stern: the doge's seat is upon the uppermost deck, where the standard of the republic is displayed, with the prince's arms on the side: justice is represented in gold upon the prow, holding a naked sword in her right hand, and a pair of scales in her left. This vessel is covered over head with a kind of tent made of purple silk. It is in this galeas that the doge receives the great lords and persons of quality that go to Venice, accompanied with the ambassadors and counsellors of state, all the senators being seated upon benches by him. This same vessel serves also every year in the magnificent ceremony of Ascension-day, in which the duke of Venice throws a ring into the sea to espouse it, and to denote his dominion over the Gulf of Venice.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE affords but little for foreign markets, as its sole manufacture is of bone-lace at Olney, and Newport-Pagnel; and its products confined to corn, cattle, and wool, except some lump-butter sent up fresh from hence, and from Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, and Essex, and in pots from Derbyshire to London, in such quantities, as to import, in the whole, at least one hundred thousand firkins *per annum*, which are consumed within the bills of mortality.

BUCKLE-MAKER. The making of common shoe and knee-buckles is an easy business, fit for a lad of slender make, whose friends have little money to spare, as the masters seldom take above five or ten pounds with an apprentice, who must work from six in the morning till nine; but when out of his apprenticeship may earn fifteen or twenty shillings a week; and with a little money may buy tools, commence master, and work for the shops. This business, however, requires some fancy to invent new fashions.

BUCKLE-CHAFE-MAKER. The making of buckle-chafes and tongues is a separate business by itself, and may be learnt without much strength or abilities. The masters take from five to ten pounds with an apprentice; who, when out of his time, may with a small sum set up for himself.

BUCKRAM, a sort of coarse cloth, made of hemp, gummed, calendered, and dyed several colours. It is put into those places of the lining of a garment, which one would have stiff, and to keep their form. It is also used in the bodies of women's gowns; and it often serves to make wrappers, to cover, or wrap up cloths, serges, and such other merchandizes, in order to preserve them, and keep them from the dust, and their colours from fading.

Buckrams are sold wholesale by the dozen of small pieces, or remnants, each about four ells long, and broad according to the pieces from which they were cut. Sometimes they use new pieces of linen cloth to make *buckrams* of; but most commonly old sheets, and old pieces of fails.

Imported, to what duties liable. 4 *Will.* and *Mar. c. 5. f. 2.* 12 *Ann. Stat. 2. c. 19.*

BUCKRAM-MAKER. There are but few of these, and they are mostly about London. The cloth of which buckram is made for the most part, comes from Scotland: it is coarse, thin, made on purpose for this use, and is stiffened by being several times wetted with a glutinous matter, and afterwards pressed or calendered, to make it smooth. This business requires more strength than ingenuity. The masters take five or ten pounds with an apprentice; and give their journeymen ten shillings a week, who work from six to eight. It requires two hundred pounds and upwards to set up master.

BUDZIACK-TARTARY, situated on the rivers Neister, Bog, and Nieper, having Poland and Russia on the north, Little-Tartary on the east, the Black-Sea on the South, and Bessarabia on the west, is subject to the Turks. The chief town is Oczakow, and their chief traffic is that of making daily excursions into the neighbouring plains, to steal Christians, and sell them for slaves to the gallees.

BUENOS-AYRES, situated in the thirty-fifth degree of south latitude, is built on the southern bank of the great river of Plate in America, on the declivity of a little hill, at the mouth of a small river, falling into the great one. It contains near four thousand houses, all earth, except fifty brick; its inhabitants are rich, and owe their riches to the great trade they drive, both at home and abroad.

Its inland trade is with Paraguay, Chili, and Peru; and the foreign one, first, with Brazil, where the merchants send their ships, although they will admit no Portuguese into their ports. Secondly, with the Spaniards of Europe, who load several register-ships, to bring here all such goods as are fit for Porto-Bello, *which see*. Thirdly, with the English when the *Asiento* trade subsisted; and, fourthly, here come several vessels from several parts of Spanish America.

The chief commodities exported from *Buenos Ayres*, are hides (of which vast quantities are shipped here) cochineal in small cakes, and Vigonian wool, both from Peru; Coquimbo copper, Paraguay herb, tobacco leaf, and *mucovada* sugar, cotton thread, yellow wax, and what else the cities of Paraguay and las Corrientes produce; in truck of which, the inhabitants of these two places take knives, scissars, ribbons, taffeties, linens of Bretagne, flowered ditto of Rouen, silk stockings, English coloured flannels, as no cash ever comes from or goes to either of the said cities.

BUFF, a sort of leather prepared from the skin of the buffalo, which dressed in oil after the manner of shammy, makes what we call buff-skin. It is a considerable article in the French, English, and Dutch commerce at Constantinople, Smyrna, and along the coast of Africa. The skins of elks, oxen, and other like animals, when dressed in oil, and prepared after the same manner as that of the buffalo, are likewise called *buff*, and used for the same purposes.

Buff-hides, to what duties liable. 4 and 5 *Will.* and *Mar. c. 5. f. 2.* 9 *Ann. c. 11. f. 1.*

BUFONITES, in natural history, the *toad-stone*.

This is a fossil that has been received not only among the list of native stones by the generality of authors, but even has held a place among the gems, and is still worn in rings by some people.

It is usually of one uniform colour; but some are found mottled and variegated, the yellowish ones with black, and the brown with a pale greyish colour. Some few are found with a spot in the center, surrounded with a number of concentric circles of various colours. These are the most beautiful of all.

BULGARIA is divided into *Great* and *Little*, or Asiatic and European.

Bulgaria the Great, makes part of the Russian empire, and is bounded on the north by the kingdom of Casan, on the east by Bashiria, on the south by the Samara, which divides it from the kingdom of Astracan, and on the west by the Wolga.

This territory is so little known to us, that we are scarce certain whether, or by whom it is inhabited; whether it be populous, fertile, &c. or the contrary. Some cities, not inconsiderable indeed, we find towards the western side, as *Bulgar*, the capital, advantageously situated on the Wolga,