

# An Encomium

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The *Indian and African Company's Undertaking*, as it is Faithfully Translated out of the *Amstelodam-Laydon Gazette*, May 13. 1700. N. S.

By which any Man may see the Sense of Foreigners concerning that Noble Design.

Great Enterprizes alwise require great Efforts, which must be sustained by a certain intrepidite and undauntedness of Courage; which encreasing the more by the Difficulties it meets with, cannot easilie be dashed: The Thirst of Glory and Hope of Riches, must be the potent Motives to carry them through all Discouragements, and bring Things to a happy Issue: And since a great deal of time is required to bring such kind of Projects to Perfection, People ought to arm themselves with unexhaustible Patience, to wait the happy Moment that is marked out for the Accomplishment of such great Designs. It was after this manner that the Ancient *Romans* did succeed in the Conquest of the greatest part of the World: They were Indefatigable, their Patience was proof against all sorts of Sufferings, greatest Dangers served only to awaken their Courage; the great profit that they proposed to themselves from their Enterprizes, did bear them up against all the Hardships that could fall in their way; and the desire of Glory which they expected to reap, did render every thing easie and agreeable, however painful and discouraging they appeared at first view. May we not say, That the *SCOTS* having formed a Design, to establish a Colony of their Nation in the Country of *DARIEN* in the *West-Indies*, have determined to practise all those Vertues of which we have been speaking, and which are essential in the Execution of such great Enterprizes; They have made appear with how much patience they could digest those bitter Draughts which they were forced to swallow in the very Beginning of that Design, which were Harsh, Troublesome and Discouraging, which any Man may easily figure to himself, in representing those people going about to Settle on a place destitute of all Things, exposed to the Rigours of the Climate, to Miserie, Hunger, Wild Beasts, and diverse Enemies who opposed themselves to the good Success of their Design; Their Constancie did signalize it self in the Firmness with which they did rigorously Resist all these Hardships; And if the disorder of their Affairs did force them sometimes to yield to Necessitie, they did not for that lose Courage, they did alwise persist in the Resolution not to abandon that post; And if they did Retire, it was only to make the Leap the greater. In fine, they could not abandon that Enterprize, without Sullieing their Honour, and exposing themselves to the Ignominie of Rashness, Presumption, and Weakness; And no Body can be ignorant, how Jealous the *Scottish* Nation is of their Honour and Glory: And it was in this view, and that they might not belie themselves, that after (as it were) a short Eclipse, they have again Re-established themselves in *Darien*, with a full Resolution to Mantain and Defend themselves there, to the last Drop of their Blood, with a firm Expectation of Reaping the precious Fruits of their Travels, and to enjoy those Treasures and Advantages, which do freely offer themselves by that New Conquest, and which are of that Consequence, as to render them in a very short time, one of the most Rich and Powerful Colonies that any *Europeans* can pretend to in that New World.

F I N I S.

