

# A True REPRESENTATION of the Manufacture of Combing and Spinning of Wooll.

325

*Humbly Offered to the Consideration of the British Legislators.*



THAT the Woollen Manufacture is supposed to Employ Half the Working Hands in *England*, and that the Manufacture of Combing and Spinning of Wooll Employs Two Thirds of those People,

The Improvement of Manufacturing Wooll into Yarn, is more than the prime Cost, and in the greatest Part of the Manufacture more than twice the prime Cost, and in a great Part of the Manufacture three, four, and five times the prime Cost of the Wooll;

Which Manufacture of Combing and Spinning will be in Danger of being lost, if a Clause be not put in to the Callico Bill, to prohibit the Importing of *India* Cotton Yarn;

Or that a Duty be laid upon Cotton-Yarn Imported, which will so far advance the Price of it as not to hinder the Consumption of *English* Woollen-Yarn:

For if a Clause be not put in to that Effect, such Quantities of *India* Cotton-Yarn may be Imported as will entirely destroy the Manufacture of Fine Woollen Yarn; because the *Indians* can Live cheaper, and consequently Work cheaper than our Poor:

And will also hinder the Consumption of great Quantities of Wooll, by which the Gentlemens Tenants, whose Lands are used in the Growth of Wooll, will be necessitated to sell their Wooll for a low Price.

And the best Manufacturers, in Combing and Spinning of Wooll, will be necessitated to leave of Employing the Poor, or to reduce their Wages, by which means the Parishes, where great Numbers of the Poor are Employed in Combing and Spinning, will be very much burthened.

Four Parts in Five of the Petitions sent to the Honourable House of Commons against Callicos, were from Persons who employ the Poor in Combing and Spinning of Wooll, altho' they were not apprized at that Time of the great Inconvenience of the Importing of *India* Cotton-Yarn, which will be as destructive to their Manufactures, as the Callicos were, (occasions this Representation.)

And is a Parallel to the Omission of our last well design'd Law, which prohibited the Wearing of foreign Printed Callicoës, and was evaded by Printing them in *England*. And it may reasonably be suppos'd, that the Importing of *India* Cotton-Yarn will be as Prejudicial to the Manufacture of Wooll, as Printed Callicoës were.

The Persons who do Solicit for *London* and *Norwich*, are generally of the Weaving Trade only; and the Importing of any Foreign Yarn will not be prejudicial to their Trade, but will particularly hinder the Consumption of great Quantities of Wooll, and the Manufacture of Combing and Spinning.

The Author of this Representation hopes, that no Gentleman will deem it to be in Opposition to their good Design of Passing the Callico Bill; but that a Clause may be added to it, to promote the Consumption of Wooll, and the Manufacture of Combing and Spinning, which employs two thirds of the working People as aforesaid.

*All which is humbly submitted to the British Legislators.*

