

LINEN, in the *Manufactures*. There are various sorts of linen, the principal materials of which are cotton, flax, and hemp. The linen trade of Europe is chiefly in the hands of the Russians, Germans, Swifs, Flemings, Hollanders, and French.

Linen is the staple of Ireland, as it was of Scotland; but it was long neglected. The Scots at present are not, however, in so bad a situation in respect to this trade, as the French were in the reign of king Henry IV. or the Irish at the Revolution; where, by the force of public encouragement, it has arrived to an extraordinary pitch, and it is to be hoped will daily advance: the Scots have it not to begin, and they are improving and extending it to a very great degree.

The balance of trade between England and Scotland, and England and Ireland, is on the English side; and so far as England and its dependencies can be served with linen from Scotland and Ireland, instead of Holland, France, Germany, and Russia, so far will England be a gainer by this change in the course of trade. The more linen the Scots and Irish can sell in England, the more of the English commodities will they be able to purchase; and it may be reasonably supposed that their demands from England will always increase in proportion to the increase of their people and linen manufactures. It is then evidently the interest of England to promote and advance the manufacture of linen in Scotland and Ireland, and to give them all reasonable advantages in the trade, in preference to foreigners; where the balance of trade is against us, and this seems to be the sense of the nation, since all foreign linen, for home consumption, pays a duty. Post. Dict. Com.

The linen trade of this country is regulated by several statutes.

No person shall put to sale any piece of dowlas linen, &c. unless the just length be expressed thereon, on pain of forfeiting the same. (28 Hen. VIII. cap. 4.) Using means whereby linen-cloth shall be made deceitfully, incurs a forfeiture of the linen, and a month's imprisonment. (Stat. 1 Eliz. cap. 12.) Any persons may set up trades for dressing hemp or flax, and making thread for linen-cloth, &c. 15 Car. II. cap. 15.

By the 43 Geo. III. c. 69. all former duties on linen cloth, silks, cottons, and calicoes, are repealed; and in lieu thereof other duties are imposed upon all goods which shall be printed, stained, painted, or dyed in Great Britain, according to a schedule annexed to the act: and by 50 Geo. III. c. 26. certain export duties are imposed; the said duties to be paid by the printer, stainer, painter, or dyer. By 49 Geo. III. c. 98. certain duties and customs are imposed upon French linens, (or lawns.) By 43 Geo. III. c. 69. every calico printer, and every printer, painter, or stainer of linens, cottons, or stuffs, shall pay annually for a licence 10*l.* The printing or staining of calicoes must be for exportation; because by 7 Geo. I. c. 7. the use of printed, painted, stained, or dyed calico for wearing apparel is prohibited, on pain of 5*l.* to the informer, on conviction: and a person offering such for sale, unless for exportation, forfeits 20*l.*, half to the informer, and half to the poor. This prohibition, however, does not extend to calicoes dyed wholly blue: and it shall be lawful to use stuff made of linen yarn and cotton wool manufactured, and printed or painted in Great Britain, provided the warp thereof be wholly linen yarn.

yarn. (9 Geo. II. c. 4.) By 14 Geo. III. c. 72. it is enacted that no greater duty shall be paid for stuffs made of raw cotton wool within this kingdom than  $3\frac{1}{2}d.$  a yard, 43 Geo. III. c. 69. and that any person may use the same in apparel or otherwise: and every piece is to have three blue stripes in both selvages, and to be stamped at each end with a stamp provided by the officers of excise, and instead of the word *calico*, used for foreign calicoes, each piece shall be marked with the words *British Manufactory*. If stuffs made wholly of cotton, and printed, painted, stained, or dyed stuffs, (muslins, neckcloths, and fustians excepted,) without such mark shall be exposed to sale, they shall be forfeited, and 50*l.* for each piece. If any person shall counterfeit such stamp, or knowingly sell such stuffs with a counterfeit stamp, he shall be guilty of felony without benefit of clergy. If any person shall import any calicoes, muslins, or other stuffs made of linen yarn only, or of linen yarn and cotton wool mixed, or wholly of cotton wool, in which shall be wove in the selvedge any such blue stripe, he shall forfeit the same, and 10*l.* for each piece. Every such printer, painter, stainer, or dyer, shall give notice in writing, at the next office, of his name and place of abode, and where he intends to work, on pain of 50*l.* (10 Anne, c. 19. 25 Geo. III. c. 72.) By 1 Geo. II. c. 34. any person, undertaking to print, paint, &c. any silks, linens, or stuffs, at any other place than the place of his usual residence or exercise of his trade, shall first make entry of the place, and pay the duties, on pain of 50*l.*, and forfeiture of the goods. Officers may enter at all times by day or night to take account, &c. and the penalty of obstructing the officer in the execution of his duty is 200*l.* (10 Anne, c. 19. 25 Geo. III. c. 72.) Goods shall be entered once in six weeks on oath before the collector or supervisor, on pain of 50*l.* (10 Anne, c. 19.) No person shall begin to print, stain, paint, or dye any goods before they have been measured and marked, on pain of forfeiting the same, and also 20*l.* for every piece. (25 Geo. III. c. 72.) If any printer shall wilfully cut out or deface such frame mark, he shall forfeit 50*l.* Concealing goods, or avoiding duty, incurs a forfeiture of 50*l.*: and all goods found in a place, of which no notice has been given, or the value thereof, shall be forfeited. (10 Anne, c. 19. 25 Geo. III. c. 72.) Nor shall goods be kept in unentered places on pain of forfeiting 50*l.* and the goods. 20 Geo. III. c. 72.) Within six weeks the duties shall be cleared, on pain of forfeiting double. (10 Anne, c. 19.) Nor shall they be removed before the officer hath taken account of them and stamped them, on pain of 50*l.* and seizure. (10 Anne, c. 19. 25 Geo. III. c. 72.) Goods surveyed shall be kept separate from those unsurveyed, on pain of 50*l.*: and goods unstamped may be searched for and seized. (10 Anne, c. 19. 25 Geo. III. c. 72.) The person in whose custody such goods are found shall forfeit 100*l.* 5 Geo. c. 11. 27 Geo. III. c. 31.

Calicoes, &c. that shall not have three blue threads in the selvedge, shall be deemed foreign calicoes, and on being printed or dyed, shall be marked at each end with the words "foreign calicoes for exportation;" and every dealer who shall have any such goods in his custody (except dyed throughout of one colour) or any stuffs made wholly of cotton wool wove in Great Britain, commonly called "British Manufactory," (muslins, neckcloths, and fustians excepted,) not having such blue threads, shall forfeit 200*l.* and every such piece found in his custody. (25 Geo. III. c. 72.) The owner or printer of any piece or remnant of *colliac* or foreign muslins and calicoes shall, before they be presented to the officer, mark the same at both ends with a frame mark, containing his name and place of abode, and

also the name by which such goods are commonly known (except such as are dyed throughout of one colour) on pain of forfeiting 10*l.* for every piece or remnant. The owner or printer of any linens or stuffs made of cotton mixed, or wholly of cotton wool wove in Great Britain, called "British Manufactory or Muslins," shall mark the same at both ends (fustians, velvets, velverets, dimities, and other figured stuffs excepted) with a mark, containing his name and place of abode, and the name and quality of such goods, with the ready money price thereof, before the same are presented to the officer in order to be printed or dyed: on pain of forfeiture and seizure, and 20*l.*; and if any such piece be marked at a less price than the real value, the same may be seized and forfeited, and the owner shall forfeit 20*l.* If the frame mark be defaced, the same shall be renewed on notice; but if any person shall counterfeit or forge any frame mark, he shall forfeit 100*l.*: and if any person counterfeit the stamp, it is felony without benefit of clergy. (25 Geo. III. c. 72. 27 Geo. III. c. 31.) If any person shall knowingly sell any of the goods with a counterfeit stamp, he shall forfeit 100*l.* and stand two hours in the pillory. (10 Anne, c. 19. 13 Geo. III. c. 56. 25 Geo. III. c. 72.) By 27 Geo. III. c. 31. if any person shall knowingly sell any such goods with counterfeit stamp, thus intending to defraud his majesty, he shall be guilty of felony without benefit of clergy. Every person who hath paid the duties, or bought the goods of any person who hath paid the duties, may export the same, and shall be allowed all the duties in drawback, as set forth in 43 Geo. III. c. 69. Sched. C. on conforming to certain prescribed conditions. (25 Geo. III. c. 72. 25 Geo. III. c. 74.) By the 4 Geo. III. c. 37. which establishes the corporation of the English Linen Company for making cambrics and lawns, it is enacted that the commissioners of excise, where there shall be a manufactory of cambrics or lawns, or of goods known under that denomination, shall appoint the supervisor or other officer to seal the same, for which they shall have such fee as the commissioners shall appoint: the manufacturer to give notice in writing to the officer, of the finishing of every piece, before it is taken out of the loom, who shall seal the same at both ends; on pain that such manufacturer, taking the same out of the loom without having given such notice, and having the same sealed as aforesaid, shall forfeit 5*l.*; and every such piece shall be forfeited, and may be seized by any officer of the customs or excise, and the officer, with convenient speed after notice, shall mark and also number each piece; and make entry in writing, in books to be provided at the expence of the manufacturer, of the number set to each piece, the length thereof, and the number of threads in the warp, on pain of 10*l.* If the officer shall mark any not made in England, or after the same is taken out of the looms, he shall forfeit 50*l.* for each piece to him who shall sue, and forfeit his office, and be incapacitated to hold any other office of trust under the crown. If any person shall offer to the officer any bribe, he shall forfeit 50*l.*; and if he shall by bribery, or otherwise, prevail upon the officer to commit such offence, he shall forfeit 100*l.*, and stand in the pillory two hours. And the officer shall yearly, in the month of June, transmit to the commissioners an account of all goods which he shall have stamped, and a copy of the entries made, on pain of dismissal; and he, or his executors, shall deliver up the seals, on demand from the commissioners, on pain of 200*l.* Cambrics and lawns made in England found unstamped, shall be forfeited, and may be seized by any officer of the customs or excise, and after condemnation shall be sold; and every person who shall sell or expose to sale, or have in his custody

for that purpose, any cambrics or lawns made in England, unmarked, shall forfeit 200*l.* such goods not to be sold, or worn in this kingdom, but to be exported, and to be sold only on condition of exportation. Nor shall they be delivered out of the warehouse until bond be given, to the satisfaction of the collector, in double penalty of the goods, that the same shall be exported, and not reloaded. To counterfeit the seal appointed by this act, or import any foreign cambrics or lawns having such counterfeit mark thereon, or expose the same to sale, knowing the stamp thereon to be counterfeited, is felony without benefit of clergy. All goods condemned in pursuance of this act, and all pecuniary forfeitures (not otherwise directed) shall be sued for and recovered in any of his majesty's courts, in the name of the attorney-general, or of such officer as aforesaid; and applied, after deduction of charges, half to the king, and half to the officer seizing, informing, or suing, according to the directions of this act. The penalties may be sued for, levied, and mitigated as by the laws of excise, or in the courts at Westminster; and employed half to the king, and half to him that shall discover, inform, or sue. (10 Anne, c. 19. 24 Geo. II. c. 45. 25 Geo. III. c. 72.) All utensils and instruments for printing, painting, staining, or dyeing such goods, in custody of the said person, or any other, shall be liable to all arrears of the duty, and to all penalties concerning the same, in like manner as if such person was the lawful owner. 10 Anne, c. 19. 25 Geo. III. c. 72. 28 Geo. III. c. 37.

Stealing of linen, fustian, cotton goods, &c. from whitening-grounds or drying houses, to the value of 10*s.* or knowingly buying or receiving such stolen goods, is felony without benefit of clergy. (18 Geo. II. cap. 27.) Such also is breaking into houses, shops, &c. and destroying any linen cloth, or implements used in the manufacturing of it, by 4 Geo. III. cap. 37. See LARCENY.

A new manufacture was set on foot some time ago in London, for embellishing linen with flowers and other ornaments of gold leaf. The linen looks whiter than most of the printed linens; the gold is extremely beautiful, and is said to bear washing well. See STUFF.

There are many substances from which a juice or dye is obtained, that will stain linen of different colours. The juice of the anacardium, rubbed on linen or cotton, gives a reddish-brown stain, which soon deepens in the air into a black, and which has not been discharged by washing and boiling, with soap or alkaline ley. Hence the anacardium is said to be used for marking linen and cotton cloths, and to be known all over India by the name of marking-nut. The juice of the cashew-nut, called by some the anacardium of the West Indies, differs from the oriental anacardium in its colouring quality; that lodged between its shells being much paler, and giving to linen, cotton, or paper, only a brownish stain, which is durable, but does not change at all towards blackness.

Several species of the toxicodendron, or poison-wood, contain in their leaves a milky juice, which in drying becomes of a deep black, and communicates the same colour to the linen on which it is dropped: the linen thus stained, boiled with soap, came out without the least diminution of its colour, nor does strong ley of wood-ashes make any change in it. Phil. Transf. vol. xlix. for 1755.

Dr. Lewis has found, that the milks of wild poppies, garden poppies, dandelion, hawk-weed, and sow-thistle, gave brown or brownish-red stains, which were discharged by washing with soap; the colourless juice which issues from hop-stalks when cut, stains linen of a pale reddish or brownish-red, extremely durable: the juice of flax gave

likewise a pale brownish stain, which, by repeated washings with soap, and wetting with strong solution of alkaline salt, was darkened to a deeper brown; on baking the flax, their juice turns red, and the red stain which it then imparts to linen is, on washing with soap, changed to a pale blueish, which also proves durable. See DYEING of Thread.

The late Dr. Smellie has recommended the following method of marking linen, so as not to wash out again: take vermilion, as much as will lie on a half-crown piece, of the salt of steel a piece about the size of a small nutmeg; grind or levigate them well together with linseed oil: the composition may be diluted or thickened at pleasure.