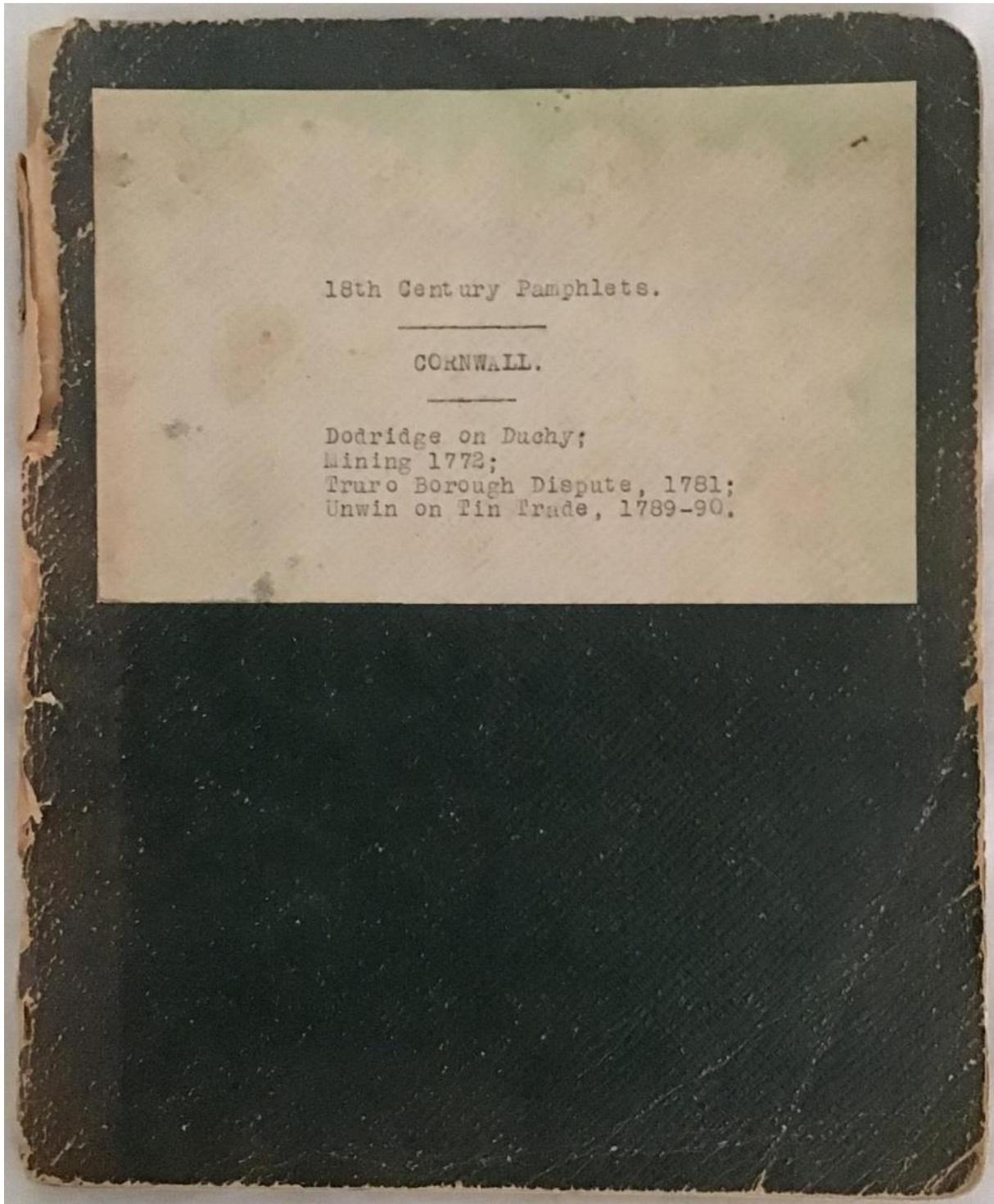


WG: an undated (probably late '30s / early '40s) manuscript notebook* containing lengthy passages about aspects of 18th century Cornish life transcribed from named sources



* The original is now held by the Courtney Library of the RCM, Truro

An Historical Account of the Ancient & Modern State
of the Principality of Wales, Duchy of Cornwall,
Earldom of Chester

by Sir John Dodridge, Knight.

[2nd edit. Lond. 1714].

[Bodl. Gough. Cornwall
14]

[Dedication to James - "King of England" etc].

Second Part. - The Duchy of Cornwall

pp. 92 ff.

Coinage of Tin.

Also there is annexed unto the said Duchy, the
Privileges & Profits of the Coinage of Tin within the
said Counties of Devon & Cornwall.

For the better understanding whereof, it is to
be observed, that in the said Counties (being in
many parts thereof, Mountainous, full of waste

SOURCE: *An Historical Account of the Ancient and Modern State of the Principality of Wales, Duchy of Cornwall and Earldom of Chester* by Sir John Dodridge, Knight (second edition, London, 1714)

TRANSCRIPTION (ABRIDGED): ... it is to be observed, that in [Devon and Cornwall] (being in many parts thereof, Mountainous, full of waste Grounds and Moors) there is found great quantities of Tin, the purest, best and most plentifullest in Europe; by reason whereof, it hath ever been accounted one of the Staple Commodities of this Kingdom and of good Estimation in Foreign Regions.

Grounds or Moors) there is found great quantities of Tin, the purest, best & most plentifullest in Europe; by reason whereof, it hath ever been accounted one of the Staple Commodities of this Kingdom, & of good Estimation [s] in foreign Regions. These Mines of Tin in these West parts of the Kingdom, were not unknown to the Romans; as appeareth by Diodorus Siculus [Diodorus quoted] . . .

All the Moors or Wastes wherein the Tin is found, being of Ancient times belonging to the Kings, & many of the said Moors at this Day being parcel of the Duchy of Cornwall.

The Kings of this Land in former times have cast their Princely Care to establish a good orderly Managing of the said Commodity, & have endowed the Tinner w. sundry Priviledges for their gd. Govt., thereby the more to Encourage them in the search for Tin. And hereupon by Ancient Charters, the whole

These Mines of Tin in these West parts of the Kingdom, were not unknown to the Romans; as appeareth by Diodorus Siculus ... All the Moors and Wastes wherein the Tin is found, being of ancient times belonging to the Kings, and many of the said Moors at this Day being parcel of the Duchy of Cornwall.

The Kings of this Land in former times have cast their Princely Care to establish a good and orderly Managing of the said Commodity and have endowed the Tinner with sundry Privileges for their good Government, thereby

Company & Body of Tinner, in every of the said
Counties of Devon & Cornwall, are cast & divid
into 4 several Stannaries or Jurisdictionis :
In every of wh: Stannaries, there is a Court, to
minister Justice, in all Causes personal, arising
between Tinner & Tinner, & between Tinner &
Foreigner; & also for & concerning the Right
Ownership of Tin Mines, & the Disposition
Hereof; except in causes of Land, life &
Member: & if any false & unjust Judgment be
given in any of the said Courts, the Party
grieved may make his appeal unto the Lord
-Warden of the Stannaries, who is their Superior
Judge, both for Law & Equity; & from him, unto
the Body of the Council of the Lord Prince, Duke
of Cornwall; to wh: Duke the Stannaries are
given & fr: them the Appeal lieth to the
King's most royal person.

When Matters of Moment, concerning the

the more to Encourage them in their search of Tin. And thereupon by Ancient Charters, the whole Company and Body of Tinner ... are cast and divided into 4 several Stanneries or Jurisdictionis: In [each] is a Court to minister Justice, in all causes personal ... except in causes of Land, Life and Member, and if any false or unjust Judgment be given ... the party grieved may make his appeal unto the Lord-Warden of the Stannaries, who is their Superior Judge, both for Law and

State of those Mines or Stanneries, shall come to be questioned or debated, there are in every of the said Counties, by the direction of the Lord Warden, several Parliaments or General Assemblies of the Tinniers summoned, whereunto every Stannery within that County sendeth Jurats or Burgesses, by whose Advice Consent, Constitutions, Orders & Laws, are made & ordained touching ~~touching~~ Tin; Causes wh: being promulged [s], the same do bind the whole Body of Tinniers of that County as firmly, as if the same had been established in the General Parliaments of this Realm.

As touching the Persons that deal or intermeddle w. Tin, & therefore carry the name of Tinniers, they are of four kinds. First, the Owners of the Soil where Mines are found. Secondly, the Adventurers for Tin, who may have, by the law of Tinniers, Power &

Equity; and from him, unto the Body of the Council of the Lord Prince, Duke of Cornwall; to which Duke the Stanneries are given ... and from them the Appeal lieth to the King's most royal person.

As touching the Persons that deal or intermeddle with Tin, and therefore carry the name of Tinniers, they are of four kinds. First, the Owners of the Soil where Mines are found. Secondly, the Adventurer for Tin, who may have, by the

Disposition of a Mine or Tin-work, although he be not Owner of the Soil. Thirdly, the Merchant, Broker, or Regrator of Tin, who either buyeth to transport out of the Realm, or else to regrate & sell again within the Realm. And fourthly, the Spadiard, or Spaliard, so called, because he liveth by his Spade, & is the Mine-worker & Labourer for Tin, who commonly, in respect of his poor Estate, is eaten out by the hard & usurious Contracts for Tin, wh: he is driven to make with the Merchant or Regrator. For those poor labourers having no Wages certain, but only Shares in the Mines, as the Quantity thereof shall arise, & being not able to sustain themselves & their Families until the time for Coinage, & Marts for Tin shall come, wh: is halfe yearly; they are by Necessity compelled, for a small Sum of Money before hand, to enter into Bonds unto the Merchant or Regrator of Tin, to deliver him, at the time of the next

law of Tinnors, Power and Disposition of a Mine or Tin-work, although he be not Owner of the Soil. Thirdly, the Merchant, Broker, or Regrator of Tin, who either buyeth to transport out of the Realm, or else to regrate and sell again within the Realm. And fourthly, the Spadiard, or Spaliard, so called because he liveth by his spade, and is the Mine-worker and Labourer for Tin, who commonly, in respect of his poor Estate, is eaten out by the hard and usurious Contracts for Tin, which he is driven to make with the Merchants or Regrator. For those poor labourers

ensuing Coinage, Tin, in Value much more than
the Money wh: they had formerly received.

It is not lawful, by the Law of Turners,
& it is, by the antient Charters of Priviledges
granted by the Kings of England, unto the
Turners, expressly forbidden, under Forfeiture
of the Tin, that no Tin shall be sold...
either Black or White Tin, but only at two
Sett Times of the year, & at Places appointed;
to wh: Places all the vendible Tin in the
several Counties is brought, & there, by the
Officers of the Duke, the same is weighed by a
Beam & Weights thereto appointed, & after the
same is coined with a Stamp, it is there-
upon allowed to be sold, & not before.
For wh: Weighing & Stamp, commonly called
the Coinage, there is due to the Lord
Prince, as D. of Cornwall, the Sum of
40s for every Thousand Weight of Tin,

having no Wages certain, but only Shares in the Mines as the Quantity thereof shall arise, and being not able to sustain themselves and their families until the time for Coinage and Marts for Tin shall come, which is half-yearly; they are by necessity compelled, for a small sum of money before hand, to enter into Bond unto the Merchant or Regrator of Tin, to deliver him, at the time of the next ensuing Coinage, Tin, in value much more than the money which they had formerly received.

so weighed & coined ; wh: is parcel of the Casual
Revenues of the said Dutchy, & first granted
by King Edward The Third
2
.. Also the Kings & Dukes have had the Pre-emption
of Tin

It is not Lawful, by the Law of Tinnors, and it is, by the ancient Charter of Privileges granted by the Kings of England unto the Tinnors, expressly forbidden, under forfeiture of the Tin, that no Tin shall be sold ... either Black or White Tin, but only at two Sett Times of the year, and at Places appointed; to which Places all the vendable Tin in the severall Counties is brought, and there, by the Officers of the Duke, the same is weighed by a beam and weights thereto appointed, and after the same is coined with a Stamp, it is thereupon allowed to be sold, and not before. For which Weighing and Stamp, commonly called the Coinage, there is due to the Lord Prince, as Duke of Cornwall, the Sum of 40s for every Thousand Weight of Tin as weighed and coined; which is parcel of the Casual Revenues of the said Duchy, and first granted by King Edward the Third ...

* * * * *

An Address to the Gentlemen of the County of Cornwall
on the Present State of Mining in that County:
w. some Observations on the Tin & Copper Trades.

[London MDCCLXXII.] [pp. i-iv; 1-42].

[Bodl. Gough. Cornwall. 14]

p. 1. - "the present languishing state of two of our
staple commodities ..."

pp. 68q. 'Devastation of Cornwall's woods' -

"Tho'. This subterraneous fuel [coal] has not yet
been discovered to be a native of Cornwall, yet
such is its portableness, that we are enabled
to procure it fr. Wales, at a cheaper rate than
common fire wood, including the expence of
carriage & felling. . . . When we behold
a wide barren waste, extending itself thro' out

An Address to the Gentlemen of the County of Cornwall on the Present State of Mining in that County with some Observations on the Tin and Copper Trades (London, 1772)

'Devastation of Cornwall's woods': Though this subterraneous fuel [coal] has not yet been discovered to be a native of Cornwall, yet such is its portableness, that we are enabled to procure it from Wales at a cheaper rate than common firewood, including the expenses of carriage and felling ... When we behold a wide and barren waste, extending itself throughout the whole mining district of this county, without a tree to intercept the fury of the wind, we have no reason

the whole mining district of this county, without a tree to intercept the fury of the wind, we have no reason to commend the prudence of our ancestors, in thus depriving their demesne of its necessary shelter.

[Condemns also the waste of land made by streaming - shd. be combined w. drainage. - see pp. 7-8.]

p.10. Amidst the mistakes wh. our less civilized ancestors fell into, in this, & many other instances, it is still a pleasing reflexion to consider, that, as I hinted above, one of the most essential maxims of state has ever been adhered to, I mean that of manufacturing their Tin at home.

[First local wood used ...]

The discovery, or rather the introduction of sea-coal, made a gr. alteration in the mining system. This valuable substitute

to commend the prudence of our ancestors in thus depriving their demesne of its necessary shelter ...

Amidst the mistakes which our less civilised ancestors fell into, in this, and many other instances, it is still a pleasing reflexion to consider that ... one of the most essential maxims of state has ever been adhered to, I mean that of manufacturing their Tin at home ... [First local wood used ...]

soon came into general use, & put a stop to that
ravage of coppice wh: was travelling insensibly
to the eastward; Such was the case
w. respect to our ancestors; & tho' the Tin ore,
fr: its natural purity, was more easy of
exportation, than we find to be the case w. the
generality of Copper ores, yet still it was left
to the refinement of later times to export
their raw materials, to give other countries the
benefit of manufacturing them.

. . . possessed of a numerous^o, frequently,
starving poor, w. the advan. of a harbour, the
second in pt. of size & safety in the whole
island, yet not a single manufactory of
pewter has ever been set on foot among us; &
the instances are v. rare of a direct export-
ation of block or bar Tin to Holland, Turkey,
or even to America. On the contrary it is
shipped for the port of London, & double

The ... introduction of sea-coal made a great alteration in the mining system ... and put a stop to that ravage of coppice which was travelling insensibly to the eastward ... [Despite] the advantage of a harbour, the second in point of size and safety in the whole island, yet not a single manufactory of pewter has ever been set on foot among us; and the instances are very rare of a direct exportation of block or bar Tin to Holland, Turkey, or even to America. On the contrary, it is

commission & insurance is the necessary consequence; at the same time that those cargoes are consigned to the Mediterranean or American markets must re-pass our coasts, & run a risque of being cast on their native shore. A discovery of gr. importance to this nation has been made within these few years, & a v. laudable spirit exerted in bringing it to perfection. Yet, notwithstanding places, as far distant fr. the centres of commerce, as Cardigan in N. Wales, have learnt to rival the Dutch in the Tin-plate manufactory, the spiritless inhab^s. of this county have not availed themselves of their discovery, tho'. They have the double motives of an advantageous situation for carrying on the manufactory, & thereby promoting the consumption of Tin.

The consignments of Tin on commission for foreign markets, have fallen by 2 know not

shipped for the port of London, and double commission and insurance is the necessary consequence; at the same time those cargoes [that] are consigned to the Mediterranean or American markets must re-pass our coasts, and run a risque of being cast on their native shore ... [Although] places as far distant from the centres of commerce as Cardigan in North Wales, have learnt to rival the Dutch in Tin-plate manufactory, the spiritless inhabitants of this county have not availed themselves of their discovery, though they have the double motives of

what situation, into the hands of the purveyor in London. His interest in keeping down the price of Block-tin, must infinitely exceed any degree of per-centage, he wd. expect on his commission for exportation. By this means, he is enabled to dictate to his principals, of the price of their commodity to his own standard.

The persons who stand between the real & original proprietors of the Tin-stuff & the exporters, tho. they have usually the great share of the White-tin in their possession, are not to be looked on as the real sufferers by the low price it bears, or even by a stagnation, unless it is unforeseen. Those gentlemen take care to make all proper deductions on that account when the Tin is brought to them to be sampled; & the discount on Tin-bills is an additional douceur. I wd. not be supposed even to hint at a combination between the smelter of the Tin or the manufacturer, or exporter;

an advantageous situation for carrying on the manufacture, and thereby promoting the consumption of Tin.

The persons who stand between the real and original proprietors of the Tin-stuff and the exporters ... are not to be looked on as the real sufferers by the low price it bears, or even by a stagnation, unless it is unforeseen. Those gentlemen take care to make all proper deductions on that account when the Tin is brought to them to be sampled; and the discount on Tin-bills is an additional

The credit of many of the former places them above a bare insinuation of this kind. I mean only to assert, that however they may join the general cry on account of the low price of Tin, no thinking person will ever set them down as sufferers thereby.

... Some late efforts made me hope, the gentlemen of the mining districts wd. not have wanted my assistance to awaken them. ...

A meeting of the gentlemen concerned in the Tin trade was convened by the sheriff: very few of those who attended the summons seem to have studied the subject. ... instead of going into the various & complicated causes of stagnation, a supposed importation of this ~~metal~~ metal, fr. the Molacca islands to Holland, without the offer of a proof of its reality, or at least of its being increased in such a manner as to enable the Dutch to

douceur. I would not be supposed even to hint at a combination between the smelter of the Tin and the manufacturer, or exporter; the credit of the former places them above a bare insinuation of this kind. I mean only to assert, that however they may join the general cry on account of the low price of Tin, no thinking person will ever set them down as sufferers thereby.

undersell us, was, however, thought sufficient grounds for an application for Parl. to take off the duty on Tin

[This was hardly likely to be accepted by a Chancellor of the Exchequer]

It is well-known that a similar argument induced Sir Robt. Walpole to take off the duty on coals consumed by fire-engines: but then the amazing consumption of that article was sufficient, under every favourable circumstance of cheapness, to damp the spirit of the hardest adventurers; & it did gr. honour to that minister's sagacity to foresee the beneficial effects that wd. ensue fr: encouraging the mines

The petition, thus ^{lastly} drawn up, was transmitted to the Lord Warden at that time attending his duty in Parliament. [The "desires" of collecting the sentiments of the numerous body of

A meeting of the gentlemen concerned in the Tin trade was convened by the Sheriff: very few of those who attended ... seemed to have studied the subject ... A supposed importation of [Tin] from the Molacca islands to Holland, without the offer of a proof of its reality ... was ... thought sufficient grounds for an application for Parliament to take off the duty on Tin ... [This was hardly likely to be accepted by a Chancellor of the Exchequer ...]

his countrymen at that time in London", gave out "a summons to all persons interested in the Tin trade to attend the reading of this petition, at the Thatched House Tavern". ~~The~~ To this] —

- not only the reputable manufacturers & exporters, but even the inferior artificers, the fabricator of porter-pots, thought himself included (as he most certainly was) in Mr. M — 's address. Those, I am sure, who attended that mtg., must well remember the motley assembly. These people (I mean the considerable merchants) will know that an enquiry into the Tin trade wd. naturally follow the carrying up of this petition, & therefore came to combat the allegations it contained. They went so far as to assert, that no Tin at that time remained unsold in London; & that their commissions from abroad wd. take off all the produce of the then ensuing coinage.

[A petition was drawn up and read by the Lord Warden to "a motley assembly" in London's Thatched House tavern. Realising that an enquiry into the trade would follow, "considerable merchants" attempted to "combat the allegations it contained".] They went so far as to assert that no Tin at that time remained unsold in London; and that their commissions from abroad would take off all the produce of the then ensuing coinage.

They likewise mentioned a cause of stagnation
not inserted in the petition; that was, the
war subsisting between the Empress of Russia &
the Pasha, wh. had for a consid. time put an
entire stop to the exports to the Mediterranean;
but wh., fr. the appearance of things, was on the
eve of ceasing to operate. Mr. S - n, who took
the lead on the part of the merchants, treated the
affair of the Molacca Tin as calculated merely
to mislead & amuse;

... The chairman of the previous mtg. at Trin,
was among the number ... & as I have been
informed, put some v. pertinent questions to
Mr. S - n, & some of the other merchants:
but, fr. the little degree of spirit he exerted
on the occasion, he either foresaw the success
that must attend an injudicious & premature
application to parl.; or, what is more likely,
fr. his known gd. sense & abilities, he nobly
disdained to take an active part in so

They likewise mentioned a cause of stagnation not mentioned in the petition ... the war subsisting between the Empress of Russia and the Pasha [of Turkey] which had for a considerable time put an entire stop to the exports to the Mediterranean; but which, from the appearance of things, was on the eve of ceasing to operate. Mr. S---n, who took the lead on the part of the merchants, treated the affair of the Molacca Tin as calculated merely to mislead and amuse ...

disgraceful a cause, as that of seeking for relief, when a mode of redressing the grievances complained of was in our own power, by only putting the Tin trade on a proper footing. . . . The petition . . . was unanimously judged improper . . .

. . . . A few orders for tin were the consequence of Mr. S — n's assertion, & as a salvo for his honor. . . . but . . . the matter was treated in the country as a mere trick . . . to evade enquiry.

It seemed somewhat strange, when the state of the Tin trade came to be examined into in so public a manner, that no notice was taken of the still more extraordinary situation of the Copper trade . . .

[— earlier miners called it powder & thought it of no account. — "a predominance

The chairman of the previous meeting at Truro, [a man of] known good sense and abilities ... nobly disdained to take an active part in so disgraceful a cause as that of seeking for relief, when a mode of redressing the grievances complained of was in our own power, by only putting the Tin trade on a proper footing ... The petition ... was unanimously judged improper [and] the matter was treated in the country ... as a mere trick to evade enquiry.

of this mineral, ^{wh:} was not an uncommon case in depth, was one of the ordinary causes of discontinuance, or, as they term it, of knocking a mine".]

It would be difficult to fix the precise time when this fossil, so disagreeable to the Tinner in its mineral form, was discovered to be the ore of Copper. The interest of the discoverers made it to be kept for some time a profound secret; so that we must content ourselves w. saying, it happened nearly abt. the beginning of the present century.

The first discoverers, availing themselves of this import. secret, formed themselves into a company... [fixed favourable prices]. It is to them we owe the present mode of ticketing for Copper ores.

The secret at length transpiring, that Copper had been discovered in the mines of Cornwall, the methods of refining it, & consequently

It would be difficult to fix the precise time when [poder], so disagreeable to the Tinner in its mineral form, was discovered to be the ore of Copper. The interest of the discoverers made it to be kept for some time a profound secret; so that we must content ourselves with saying, it happened nearly about the beginning of the present [i.e. eighteenth] century.

estimating its value ... , were easily procured
fr. the northern parts of Europe. Other companies
were soon formed; & , fr. a rivalry in
trade, the adventurer received a better price
for his Tin [? copper], tho'. perhaps far
beneath its just value.

I shall not tire you w. the particulars
respecting the estab^t. of different companies
down to the present time. I think there are
eight or nine of them, that attend by their
agents, & throw in their tickets on the day
of sale. [a day of sampling
is fixed, w. a fortnight's interval to the
retailing-day.] On this retailing-
day a dinner is provided at the expence of
the mine; & the adventurers, together w. the
companies agents, assemble together. At the
close of this entertainment, or rather soon
after the cloth is removed, the tickets
containing the different offers of the diff.

The secret at length transpiring, that Copper had been discovered in the mines of Cornwall, the method of refining it, and consequently estimating its value ... were easily procured from the northern parts of Europe. Other companies were soon formed; and, from a rivalry in trade, the adventurer received a better price for his [Copper], though perhaps far beneath its just value.

companies are produced & registered by clerks, the originals being delivered to the proprietors, the highest bidder is of course the buyer.

[Thousands of pounds worth of ore disposed monthly. . . .]

I will not suppose a combination of those companies; tho', methinks, I hear somebody deriding me, who may be much better acquainted w. the mercantile world than I am

[Note - some parcels will not be urgently wanted - for there v. low prices will be offered. - they will tend to be sold at these prices - wh. is clear gain to the buyers]

[Among the companies — "the utmost harmony seems to subsist . . . the talk of establishing a new company is sure to be attended w. an association of the old ones, in order to defeat it".]

[In attempt to estimate effects of this power of the Companies - the writer

[After explaining the sale by ticketing of Copper]: I will not suppose a combination of those ["eight or nine" Copper] companies [between whom "the utmost harmony seems to subsist"], though, methinks, I hear somebody deriding me who may be much better acquainted with the mercantile world than I am ... [Note: [for] some parcels [not] urgently wanted ... very low prices will be offered - and ... tend to be sold at these prices, which is clear gain to the buyers ...]

seeks prices at wh: they sell].

... The price demanded fr: the Braziers, being only in the way of retail, I have not been able to find; nor wd. it be a fair proof, as it may pass thro' various hands. There is, however, one gr. annual sale of Copper, wh:, as it so intimately concerns the County, is known to almost every individual in it: I mean, the sale of Copper to the E.I.C. The price given by that company for their last purchase of fine Copper was 102 l. per ton; while the price they have bought at here has been as low as 70 l. per ton.

No disgrace can fall on the gentlemen of this county for not encouraging the setting on of expensive & hazardous adventures. The spirit existing in different parts of it within these last twenty years, has been so

Talk of establishing a new company is sure to be attended with an association of the old ones, in order to defeat it ... No disgrace can fall on the gentlemen of this county for not encouraging the setting on of expensive and hazardous adventures. The spirit existing in different parts of it within these last twenty years, has been so great as to savour sometimes of phrensy ... [but] ... the labourer has

gr. as to savour sometimes of phrency, ---
[But] ... the labourer has thereby been enabled
to support himself & his family in times of
scarcity, a consideration wh: alone ought to
exempt the adventurer from the title of a
gamester.

The first Copper ores ... were carried to
Bristol [a mistake "double expense of
carriage — soon after the different Coy^s
began to erect their Copper-houses in some part
of Wales, convenient for the carriage of the coals
from a neighbouring town; likewise w. the
advantages of a little harbour. It is a
circumstance of some importance, while we
consider this affair, to observe that as the numerous
fire-engines employ a large fleet of colliers to
supply their demands, so the back carriage
of the Copper ore is by no means so considerable
as it wd otherwise be. — but let us know

thereby been enabled to support himself and his family in times of scarcity, a consideration which alone ought to exempt the adventurer from the title of gamester The first Copper ores were carried to Bristol: a mistake because double expense of carriage – soon after, the different Companies began to erect their Copper-houses in some part of Wales convenient for the carriage of the coals from a neighbouring town; and likewise with the advantages of a little

our eyes to the flourishing state of those parts of Wales wh: have been so fortunate as to become the factories of the different Copper Companies

The evil at present seems irremediable fr. the vast opulence of the diff. Companies; That it wd. have answered their purpose to have smelted the Copper ores on this side the Channel, seems undeniably proved from the throwing situation of the only Copper-house that has as yet been erected in Cornwall; I mean that of the Hayle Company, who wd. hardly increase the number of their furnaces, without having experienced the benefit of the undertaking. It is much to be wished that some spirited gentlemen wd. imitate their example

[In last par. prophesies that steam engine will

harbour. It is a circumstance of some importance, while we consider this affair, to observe that as the numerous fire-engines [i.e. steam-engines] employ a large fleet of colliers to supply their demands, so the back-carriage of the Copper ore is by no means so considerable as it would otherwise be. But let us turn our eyes to the flourishing state of those parts of Wales which have been so fortunate as to become the factories of the different Copper companies ...

improve - "either the fire-engine will be
built on more enlarged principles, or there
will be a v. consid. saving in the article of
coals".]

The evil at present seems irremediable from the vast opulence of the different companies ... That it would have answered their purpose to have smelted the Copper ores on this side of the [Bristol] Channel seems undeniably proved from the thriving situation of the only Copper-house that has as yet been created in Cornwall; I mean that of the Hayle Company, who would hardly increase the number of their furnaces without having experienced the benefit of the undertaking. It is much to be wished that some spirited gentleman would imitate their example ...

[The last paragraph prophesies that steam engines will improve - "either the fire-engine will be built on more enlarged principles, or there will be a very considerable saving in the article of coals."]

* * * * *

To be Absolutely Sold,

The following Parts of MINES, in Cornwall
belonging to Henry Rosewarne, Esq;

<u>Names.</u>	<u>Situations</u>	<u>Parts</u>	<u>What Lodes.</u>
The Pink	St. Agnes	$\frac{1}{16}$	Tin
Wheal Bellick	"	$\frac{1}{16}$	"
" Dragon	"	5 112 ^{ths}	"
" Glynn	"	1 14 ^{ths}	"
Pownyare	"	5 32 ^{ths} & one 128 th	"
Manfetha & Velvas	"	one 7 th	"
The General, & St. George	"	One 4 th	"
Turnarone Adit	"	one 16 th	"
Great St. George	Perran-zabuloe	One 8 th	Tin & Copper
East, & Middle ' St. George	"	one 16 th	"

Notice of a public auction of all mining shares owned by Henry Rosewarne Esq., Vice-Warden of the Stannaries of Cornwall, in order that he may carry out his duties without suspicion of partiality. Source unnamed.

To be Absolutely Sold

The following Parts of MINES, in Cornwall belonging to Henry Rosewarne, Esq;

The names, locations and lodes of eighteen mines are listed, together with Mr. Rosewarne's share-holding in each.

Baldew	Kea	One 8 th	"
Wheal Hope	"	"	"
" Bunnery	"	One 4 th	"
Trowaskus	Guineas	One 1/1 th	"
Wheal Quick	Bweenap	One 8 th	"
" Shutt	"	"	"
United Miners	"	Three 64 ^{ths}	"
Wheal Fortune Bosence Adit		One 16 th	"

The VICE-WARDEN of the Stannaries of Cornwall, seeing that whilst he continues to carry on Adventures in Tin, or Tin & Copper Mines, in this County, he may be interested in Questions properly cognizable before him: To satisfy his own mind on that Account, & that he may be altogether indifferent in the discharge of the important Trust

The VICE-WARDEN of the Stannaries of Cornwall, seeing that whilst he continues to carry on Adventures in Tin, or Tin and Copper Mines, in this County, he may be interested in Questions properly cognizable before him: To satisfy his own mind on that Account, and that he may be altogether indifferent in the discharge of the important Trust which he has undertaken, has resolved to dispose of all his Shares in such Mines, many of which are very valuable at present, and others give the most flattering hopes of Riches.

For which Purpose a Public Auction will be held at the Red Lion Inn, in Truro, on Tuesday the 6th Day of April next, by Six o'Clock in the Evening, when

wh: he has undertaken, has resolved to dispose of all his Shares in such Mines, many of wh: are v. valuable at present, others give the most flattering hopes of Riches.

For wh: Purpose, a Public Auction will be held at the Red Lion Inn, in Truro, on Tuesday the 6th Day of April next, by Six o' Clock in the Evening, when they will be sold separately, or connectively; & for further information respecting them, application in the mean time may be made to Messrs Thomas & James Attornies, or to Messrs. Milford & Traer, in Truro.

Truro, March 4th, 1779.

Falmouth : Printed by Philip Elliot

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Truro, March 4th, 1779

Falmouth : Printed by Philip Elliot

An Answer to a Narrative of some late
Transactions concerning the Borough of Truro.
Containing a Letter from the Vice-Warden of
Cornwall to a friend
And also some Remarks . . .

[London M.DCC.LXXXI.]

(Ded. to "The Gentlemen of the Corporation of Truro")

[Protests agst "numberless libels circulated agst"
the Vice-Warden, Henry Rosewarne.

Swiss copy of long letter to the author fr:
Henry Rosewarne, dated St. Truro, Jan 1. 1781]
Letter.

[Recent reports circulated "injurious to the reputation
of the gentlemen who were the principal cause

Through the 1770s and early 1780s, the abuse of power in the administration of the Corporation of Truro by Lord Falmouth, its Recorder, led to increasing unrest among its members; it also "excited the attention of the public" and provoked "various reports". When Deputy Recorder Henry Rosewarne eventually moved to resist Falmouth's despotic dominion, rumours "injurious to [his] reputation" were circulated: that, whilst working to bring down the Recorder, he "deceived him by keeping up an appearance of friendship"; that after he was elected a Burgess of Truro, he undertook in writing to promote Lord Falmouth's interest; that he "made professions to Mrs. Boscawen"; and that he was "bribed ... to oppose Lord Falmouth" by an increase in his Vice-Warden's salary.

of the spirited exertions made to rescue that borough fr: the oppressive & disgraceful situation under wh: it had long groaned

Narrative offered "to trace the conduct of the Recorder, fr: the time Mr. John Thomas, the late mayor of Truro, & Mr. Rosewarne, the deputy recorder (who took the most active part in this matter) were elected members of the corporation, to the day the Recorder's influence was put an end to".]

The Corporation of Truro had for a vast number of years, placed the most unreserved confidence in the Boseawen family, & treated them w. the highest marks of friendship on every occasion. The head of that family was their Recorder, & two gentlemen of the same family were for several parliaments chosen their representatives, in the most noble & disinterested manner, they being elected freely & uncorruptedly, wh: was equally

The unnamed recipient of a long letter written by Henry Rosewarne on 1 January 1781 reproduces that letter and one other, and also adds comments of his own, in order to shed light on a thoroughly murky business ...

(Dedicated to The Gentlemen of the Corporation of Truro; London, 1781)

honourable to the electors & elected

In this respectable situation stood the borough of Truro, when Mr. Thomas & myself were by the Recorder's recommendation or rather directions elected capital burgesses, for I soon discovered the influence of the Recorder had obtained, was so unlimited, that he absolutely nominated & dictated to the Corporation on all occasions, & was implicitly obeyed.

Had the Recorder been content w. bringing in whom he pleased to be capital burgesses, aldermen & mayor, & w. having two of his own family returned to parl^t. without expen^{ce} or trouble, his influence wd have been as gr. as ever, nor wd. it have been in the power of any person to ^{have} put an end to it, if the attempt had been made; but not satisfied he abused the gr. confidence reposed in him by the Corporation till he justly forfeited all pretensions to a continuance

... I soon discovered the influence the Recorder had obtained, was so unlimited, that he absolutely nominated and dictated to the Corporation on all occasions, and was implicitly obeyed ... but not satisfied ... he abused the great confidence reposed in him ... till he justly forfeited all pretensions to a continuance of it ... On the death of his nephew the Recorder totally altered the line of conduct which to that period had been observed, and the borough of Truro ... was levelled to

of it, & therefore I will venture to affirm ~~that~~
nothing but his own strange, improper,
ungrateful treatment has been the occasion
of what has happened. On the death of his
nephew the Recorder totally altered the line
of conduct, wh: to that period had been
observed, & the bod' of Inuro, wh: till that
time had preserved its reputation, was
levelled to the lowest degree of infamy, &
prostituted w. as much opennes as if the
members ~~had~~ of the corporation were a set
of low wretches who sold their votes to
the best bidder, without regard to honor,
reputation or conscience, whereas, there
never existed a more pure disinterested
bod', being absolutely uncontaminated
even w. a shadow of corruption.

The first experiment made by the
Recorder was bringing down Sir Alexander
Leith¹ on the vacancy occasioned by his
1. See Names "The Commons"

the lowest degree of infamy, and was prostituted with as much opennes as if the members of the corporation were a set of low wretches who sold their votes to the best bidder, without regard to honor, reputation or conscience ...

nephew's death, & such was the attachment of the corporation, that Sir Alexander was elected member for this borough without hesitation; but before he could take his seat, parliament was unexpectedly dissolved, & then the most extraordinary measures were pursued by the Recorder which are almost beyond credit.

On the sudden... dissolution of parliament, the Recorder, who was then at Tregothnan, posted away to London, & was absent almost a week: he returned the day before the mayor was chosen; but tho' the writ was published, & the election must come on in two days, he absolutely avowed that he did not know himself who were to be our members, but expected an express from London, which arrived only a few hours before the election came on, & then he kept the corporation in the dark till about ten minutes before they went to the hall &

... Though the writ was published, and the election must come on in two days, he absolutely avowed that he did not know himself who were to be our members, but expected an express from London which arrived only a few hours before the election came on, and then he kept the corporation in the dark till about ten minutes before they went to the hall and implicitly obeyed [his] mandate. I feel

implicitly obeyed the Recorder's mandate.
I feel a blush even now at the recollection
of this disgraceful proceeding: had the
corporation of Turo been sunk in the lowest
state of venality, instead of being totally
free from it, it wd. have been impossible
to have treated it w. more studied contempt,
or to have adopted a more certain mode
of prostituting the characters of its members:
..... we were laughed at & despised
everywhere, & looked upon as a set of low,
mean wretches who sold their voices, it not
being supposed possible otherwise for us
to submit to the treatment we received:
yet such was the force of custom, & so
astonishing the influence obtained by the
Recorder over the electors, that even this
was submitted to, tho' not without great
discontent, wh. vented itself in murmurs,
but produced no immediate alteration &

a blush even now at the recollection of this disgraceful proceeding: had the corporation ... been sunk in the lowest state of venality, instead of being totally free from it, it would have been impossible to have treated it with more studied contempt ... We were laughed at and despised everywhere ...

the management of the corporation.

[Roswame says "the Recorder was v. fairly warned by me of the effect of such conduct². . . . But it was to no purpose to give good advice to a person who consulted nothing but how to gratify his own avaritious views".]

[Mr. B. Gascoyne, one member then elected, was removed to the Admiralty Board, "wh: vacating his seat, the Recorder recommended him to be re-elected", to wh: they wd. not have objected - "as the bor: of Truro was really friendly to government, & had no reason to be dissatisfied w. Mr. Gascoyne's part^l conduct . . . , esp^{ly} as we thought it probable that one of our members being at the Admiralty Board might be of gr. use to a commercial borough."]

Judge then what must be the astonishment of the electors, when they discovered that the Recorder had demanded a large sum of money of Mr. Gascoyne for his re-election,

... Mr. B. Gascoyne, one member then elected, was removed to the Admiralty Board, "which, vacating his seat, the Recorder recommended him to be re-elected" ... Judge then what must be the astonishment of the electors when they discovered that the Recorder had demanded a large sum of money from Mr. Gascoyne for his re-election, and assigned as a reason, that the borough of Truro was an expensive borough, and that he must pay for a new burial ground and a

& assigned as a reason, that the boro' of Truro was an expensive borough, & that he must pay for a new burial ground & a new workhouse! The Recorder had not contributed a farthing to the workhouse, & as to the burial ground, it was built by subscription, to wh: he subscribed only thirty guineas. — Indeed, he gave the inhabitants of the town part of the land for the new burial ground, to the value of abt. fifteen pounds, & permitted them to open a quarry, & draw the stones both for the workhouse & burial ground, but this was no more than I had before offered the inhabitants fr: my quarry. What an insult therefore was it to the corporation, to attempt to palliate his conduct, under a pretence that the borough of Truro was an expensive borough?

^{The Recorder's intentions for the election}
[This] came out because some of the Recorder's confidants didn't keep the secret. — & "the only ..."

new workhouse. The Recorder had not contributed a farthing to the workhouse, and as to the burial ground, it was built by subscription, to which he subscribed only thirty guineas ... What an insult therefore was it to the corporation, to attempt to palliate his conduct, under a pretence that the borough of Truro was an expensive borough?

request the corporation made him since the general election in 1774, was treated w. the most mortifying neglect"].

The request I allude to, was made by the corporation in their official capacity, & was only to desire the Recorder to get a young man of the town made a Second Lieutenant of Marines: no answer being made to the request; the Town-Clerk, who had occasion to go to London, waited on the recorder to know what was done in consequence of the application made to him abt. three months before, & was informed by the Recorder, that he had been applied to by his steward at the same time to get a young man made a lieutenant of Marines, & that he had applied for him, & c^d. not therefore ask for another at the same time When I saw the Recorder in town, the February following, I remonstrated w. him on the strange impropriety of his conduct, & painted to him v. faithfully

... the only request the corporation made [of the Recorder] since ... 1774 was treated with the most mortifying neglect. [This was] to get a young man of the town made a Second Lieutenant of Marines. [After several months of inactivity] I remonstrated with [the Recorder] on the strange impropriety of his conduct, and painted to him very faithfully the consequences ... He then did apply [without success, due to the applicant's age] ... But this is no excuse for his neglect.

the consequences ... he then did apply,
but it was not to be obtained, the young man
being above the age ... But this is no excuse
for his neglect.

§ ... The Corporation of Truro was at last
roused, & on Monday the 28th of August last, a
mtg. of several of the gentlemen of the corporation
was held, & the conduct of the Recorder taken
into consideration ... it was determined to
throw off the yoke, & never again to permit him
to interfere in the election of their members either
for parliament or the magistracy. Unwilling
however totally to break w. the Boscawen family,
after so long a connection, they waited day
after day for the Recorder's arrival, & on
the Sunday previous to the day of election, I
was requested to go to Tregothnan, & inform
the Recorder of the determined resolution of
the majority of the corporation, not to permit
him to interfere in the election of their

The Corporation ... was at last roused, and ... a meeting ... was held, and the conduct of the Recorder taken into consideration. It was determined to throw off the yoke, and never again to permit him to interfere in the election of their members either for parliament or the magistracy. Unwilling, however, totally to break with the Boscawen family ... they waited day after day for [his] arrival ...

members, but that they intended to elect Mr. George Evelyn Boscawen & Mr. Bamber Gascoyne, provided he wd. not give them any opposition. Accordingly on Sunday afternoon I went to Tregothnan, but to my gr. astonishment the recorder was not arrived. I waited there near three hours in expectation of his arrival, but in vain; at last I returned to Truro, & on my road met Mr. Bampfylde, who informed me the recorder was not arrived at Bodmin, fr. wh. place he had rec^d. an Express

My friends were all assembled at the Mayor's house, in anxious expectation of the event of my conference, [Footnote: The author of the Narrative says "The measure of assembling the corporation early in the morning for the purpose of proposing these resolutions was concerted the night before by a junta of 3 or 4 persons at Mr. Thomas's house." The fact is, that 12 gent^{men} of the Corporation (a gr. majority)

... I went to Tregothnan [Lord Falmouth's home], but to my great astonishment, the recorder was not arrived. I waited there near three hours in expectation of his arrival, but in vain; at last I returned to Truro, and on my road met Mr. Bampfylde, who informed me the recorder was not arrived at Bodmin, from which place he had received an Express...

composed (his joints (as it is called) who w. one voice insisted on Mr. Rosewarne being their representative, & requested the mayor to draw up a set of resolutions agst. the next morning] ... when they were informed he was not come to Tregothnan, tho'. the parl. was dissolved on Friday, when they considered they had not received the least compliment or application fr. him relative to the election, & compared it w. the treatment they had experienced six yrs. before; the flame of resentment burst forth, & w. one voice they declared they wd. break off all connection w. the Recorder, & insisted on my permitting them to elect me one of their repr^s. in conjunction w. Mr. Gascoyne, without the least solicitation on my part; on the contrary, I had not the least inclination to be elected, & nothing but the honour of representing my native borough on such honourable grounds

... when [the Corporation] were informed [the Recorder] was not come to Tregothnan, though the parliament was dissolved on Friday, when they considered they had not received the least compliment or application from him relative to the election, and compared it with the treatment they had experienced six years before; the flame of resentment burst forth ...

ed. have induced me to quit that retired situation w. wh: I was perfectly satisfied. [Footnote: The author of the Narrative says "yet his supposed reluctance of accepting this honour is too curious a defence to remain unnoticed..." In reply.. The public are now informed, that Mr. Rosewarne, only a few weeks previous to this event, absolutely declined the offer of a seat in parl., free of the least expence, wh: was made him by the unbounded generosity & friendship of a gentleman of the first rank in the County of Cornwall: he also declined an offer of a seat in the house the parl. before next morning the Corporation met at the Hall when the resolutions wh: were published in the papers were agreed to by a gr. majority; abt. 12.0' clock, the Recorder, who arrived at Tregothnan abt. an hour after I left it, came to town, & was met at the Hall by the mayor & several of the corporation, who

... about 12 o'clock, the Recorder ... was met at the Hall by the mayor and several of the corporation, who informed him of their determination ... The Recorder however repeatedly canvassed the electors, betrayed the private letters of several of them, and made use of every artifice in his power to prevail on them to break through their resolutions, but [their] honour was not to be shaken, and every one of them stood immovable as rocks ...

informed him of their determination
The Recorder however repeatedly canvassed the
electors, betrayed the private letters of
several of them, & made use of every artifice in
his power to prevail on them to break thro' their
resolutions; but the honour of the
gentlemen of the corporation of Truro was not to
be shaken, & every one of them stood
immoveable as rocks

[Footnote: The Narrative says "It may be pre-
sumed the majority acted under a blind &
momentary impulse" "let him
know to his confusion, that the Corporation
of Truro, have, by a deliberate corporate
act, ordered the resolutions of the 4th of
September, to be written in letters of gold,
& hung up in the council chamber as a
perpetual memorial of their public spirit
& determined independence.]

One shd. really suppose the Recorder

One should really suppose the Recorder looked upon the borough of Truro as his goods and chattels: it is difficult on any other ground to account for his conduct . . . If I may judge from the testimonials I have seen from almost every quarter of the kingdom, the conduct of the Corporation of Truro is generally applauded, and I only wish every other borough may send representatives to parliament in the same noble and disinterested manner.

looked upon the borough of Turo as his goods
& chattels: it is difficult on any other ground
to account for his conduct; it was however high
time to put an end to such proceedings, & if
I may judge fr: the testimonials I have seen
fr: almost every quarter of the Kingdom, the
conduct of the Corporation of Turo is generally
applauded, & I only wish every other bor:
may send repr:^s to parl. in the same noble
& disinterested manner.

[Roswarne goes on to deal w. charges made
agst. him - eg. "That tho' I was doing every-
thing in my power to undermine & destroy the
Recorder's influence in the bor: of Turo, I
deceived him, by keeping up an appearance of
friendship & attachment"]

... I declare, Sir, on my honour, & am ready
to do it on my oath, that till the 28th of
August last, I never took a step to oppose
the Recorder's measures, tho' I did most

... I declare, Sir, on my honour ... that till the 28th of August last, I never took a step to oppose the Recorder's measures, though I did most heartily disapprove of them, and made remonstrances to him ... If he had done me the honour to consult me, and ask my vote and interest for his two nephews, the week, or even two days before our first meeting, I certainly should have freely given them ...

heartily disapprove of them, & made remonstrances to him. . . . so far was I fr: being pre-determined to oppose him, that I solemnly declare, if he had done me the honour to consult me, & ask my vote & interest for his two nephews, the week, or even two days before our first mtg., I certainly shd. have freely given them

If my attachment to the Recorder had not been sincere, it was equally in my power to have put an end to his interest seven years ago; & indeed it was not owing to want of sollicitation that I did not consent to it, but because I was not then apprized of the circumstances of the Recorder's conduct. . . . therefore I cd. not justify to my own mind the idea of opposition to him

The next charge made agst. me is, "That when I was elected a Burgess of Inno, I wrote a letter to the Recorder, wherein

If my attachment to the Recorder had not been sincere, it was equally in my power to have put an end to his interest seven years ago; and indeed it was not owing to want of sollicitation that I did not consent to it, but because I was not then apprized of the circumstances of the Recorder's conduct ... and therefore I could not justify to my own mind the idea of opposition to him ...

I engaged to support his interest".

I readily admit the writing such a letter, wh:
I am so far fr: wishing to suppress, that I
now subjoin a copy of it verbatim.

Truro, Sept. 27., 1772

My lord,

Mr. Warrick has hinted to me that your
lordship has had some thoughts of recommending
me, at the next election of magistrates for this
town, as a proper person to fill one of the
vacancies, & has desired me to signify to your
lordship my thoughts on that head. I therefore
take the liberty of saying, that if your lordship
chuses to recommend me, I shall esteem
it a favour, & as to promoting yr. interest
in the Borough, I never wd. consent to
be brought in a magistrate by your lordship's
influence, unless I was determined in
return to do every thing in my power to

... if your Lordship chuses to recommend me [for election to magistrate], I shall esteem it a favour, and as to promoting your interest in the Borough, I never would consent to be brought in a magistrate by your Lordship's influence, unless I was determined in return to do every thing in my power to oblige you and promote the interest of your family ...

oblige you, & promote the interest of your
family.

I am, very respectfully, my Lord,
Your faithful & Obedient Servant,

HENRY ROSEWARNE.

Vise. Falmouth,
Tregothnan }

... I beg leave to state how I was pre-
vailed on to write it. Mr. Warrick, who
informed me of the Recorder's intentions, told me
that there was a little jealousy subsisting
w. him on account of the intimate connection
between my father-in-law Mr. Heame &
Lord Edgumbe, & that he hoped I shd.
have no objection to satisfy him on that
head; to wh. I replied, "I certainly
wd. not permit myself to be brought into
the corporation thro' the Recorder if I
had an intention to oppose his interest":

[When] Lord Falmouth [proposed] getting Mr. George Evelyn Boscawen elected a capital burgess of Truro [he] requested me to talk with Mrs. Boscawen on the subject ... I told her ... I certainly would oppose it, and assigned as a reason that it looked as if Lord Falmouth doubted the friendship of the gentlemen of Truro and wanted to adopt some extraordinary measures to secure an interest ...

he requested me to write to the recorder to that effect, & I readily complied

Another charge is "That I made professions to Mrs. Boscawen".

. a conversation I held w. her in February, 1779 by the desire of Mr. Falmouth, who sounded me on a project he had formed of getting Mr. George Evelyn Boscawen elected a capital burghess of Truro, & requested me to talk w. Mrs Boscawen on the subject. I well remember I told her my sentiments freely on that proposition, & that I certainly wd. oppose it, & assigned as a reason that it looked as if Mr. Falmouth doubted the friendship of the gentlemen of Truro & wanted to adopt some extraordinary measures to secure an interest, wh: he had no reason to do, after the repeated proofs he had received of the attachment of the bor'... to the

On the day of the election I fully explained ... my conduct, and professed my wish to live on terms of friendship with the Boscawen family, and I am most perfectly convinced the gentlemen of the corporation ... would on a future occasion have chosen at least one [Boscawen] to represent them, if their own indiscreet behaviour had not raised an almost insuperable barrier against any future connection.

Boseawen family

... on the day of the election I fully explained the motives of my conduct, & profess my wish to live on terms of friendship w. the Boseawen family, & I am most perfectly convinced the gentlemen of the corporation of Truro, out of respect to the memory of the late Admiral Boseawen, wd. on a future occasion have chosen one at least of that family to represent them, if their own indiscreet behaviour had not raised an almost insuperable barrier agst. any future connection

Our quarrel was not w. the Boseawen family but w. the Recorder.

[Last charge - "no less than .. bribery".
"That I was bribed by the ministers w. an increase of salary as Vice-warden of the Stannaries .. to oppose Ld. Falmouth"]

[Rosewarne was Vice-Warden of the Stannaries and acknowledges that he did receive an increase in salary, but denies absolutely that this amounted to a bribe to oppose Lord Falmouth's interest]: I could not imagine even malice itself would venture to degrade the bounty of my sovereign, annexed to a most respectable office at the request of the noblemen and gentlemen of Cornwall, and to repre-

... I ed. not imagine even malice itself wd. venture
to degrade the bounty of my sovereign, annexed
to a most respectable office at the request of
the noblemen & gentlemen of Cornwall, & to
represent it as bestowed for the worst of purposes
& to answer the vilest ends. But, Sir, I appeal
to the Ld. Warden of the Stannaries, (who from
a conviction of the propriety of the request
made in favour of the Vice-Warden, was a
warm advocate for its being granted) who will
testify his having recd. the most absolute
promise of its being granted before he went
abroad for the recovery of his health in the
fall of the year 1779, & Ld. North assured
my worthy friend Sir F. Basset, in February
last, that govt. had determined to grant my
request, & that the only reason for its not
being settled was owing to the immense
hurry of business they were involved in.

Trans Jan 18 1787.

Henry Rosewarne

sent it as bestowed for the worst of purposes and to answer the vilest ends. But, Sir, I appeal to the Lord-Warden ... who will testify to having received the most absolute promise of its being granted before he went abroad ... in the fall of ... 1779, and [to] Lord North [who] assured my worthy friend Sir Francis Basset, in February last, that government had determined to grant my request [which was not settled] owing to the immense hurry of business they were involved in.

It is asserted in the Narrative that
"It is a fact notorious to the County of Cornwall, that
the man by whom the Tregothnan interest has been
chiefly supplanted, owes the foundation, if not
the attainment, of all his present advantages
to their favour & protection. He obtained the
place he enjoys by Lord Falmouth's influence,
etc. etc."

One shd. be tempted to suppose Mr.
Rosewarne owes his fortune & independent
situation in life to the Boscawen
family That Lord Falmouth joined
w. Lord Edgcumbe, Mr. Pitt, & Messrs.
Prideauxes, in an application to the Lord-
Warden, to appoint Mr. Rosewarne the Vice-
Warden, in case of a vacancy, is readily
admitted; tho' by the bye, Lord Falmouth
first refused to join him in the application,
having promised his interest to a Mr.

It is ... " ... a fact notorious to the County of Cornwall, that the man by whom the Tregothnan interest has been chiefly supplanted, owes the foundation, if not the attainment, of all his present advantages to their favour and protection. He obtained the place he enjoys by Lord Falmouth's influence, etc. etc."

One should be tempted to suppose Mr. Rosewarne owes his fortune and independent situation in life to the Boscawen family ...

1 Luke

Mr. Rosewarne has some relations who have posts under govt., one is a collector of the post of Truro, & another has the post-office. The former is one of the capital burgesses, & always zealously supported the Boscawen interest as long as he cd. do it consistent w. honour or duty to his country; the other was recommended to the noble lord, by all the corporation of Truro But does the author of the Address forget that the father of that v. person preserved the interest of the Boscawens in Truro, fr. being totally overturned some years ago?

Copy of letter from Mr. Thomas (Attorney at Law) to Lord Falmouth.

Truro, 26 Sept., 1772.

My Lord,

Your Lordship having been pleased to

One of [Mr. Rosewarne's relations] is a collector of the post of Truro, and another has the post-office. The former is one of the capital burgesses ... [and] the other was recommended to the noble Lord by all the corporation ... But does the author of the Address forget that the father of that very person preserved the interests of the Boscawens ... from being totally overturned some years ago?

signify to me by Mr. Christopher Warrick
your inclination to recommend me to fill one
of the vacancies in this corporation, & desire
to have my sentiments thereupon, it becomes
my duty to obey yr. Lordship's commands.

The proposal cannot be displeasing,
as it conveys w. of yr. Lordship's favourable
opinion of me. I do not know how the
members of the corporation are affected
towards me, as I never courted their distinc-
tion; but shd. it be put in my power to
serve yr. Lordship, I shd. be ambitious
of the honour of being counted amongst
the number of yr. Lordship's faithful friends.
And it must be a peculiar pleasure to
those who wish well to the town of Freetown,
to observe, that whilst other Cornish towns
are distracted w. divisions, this is blest
w. unanimity under yr. Lordship's discreet
patronage, & moreover preserves the uncommon

Copy of letter from Mr. Thomas (Attorney at Law) to Lord Falmouth:

My Lord,

Your Lordship having been pleased to signify to me ... your inclination to recommend me to fill one of the vacancies in this corporation, and desire to have

reputation of chusing its repr^s. disinterestedly
out of an ancient & distinguished family of its
own neighbourhood, instead of corruptly
flying to strangers, who wd. have no honest
attachment towards them, & who, tho' they
might flatter them w. their lips, must in
their hearts contemn them.

I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's obliged, most
obedient, & most humble servant,

JOHN THOMAS.

my sentiments thereupon, it becomes my duty to obey your Lordship's commands.

The proposal cannot be displeasing, as it conveys with it your Lordship's favourable opinion of me. I do not know how the members of the corporation are affected towards me, as I never courted their distinction; but should it be put in my power to serve your Lordship, I should be ambitious of the honour of being counted amongst the number of your Lordship's faithful friends. And it must be a peculiar pleasure to those, who wish well to the town of Truro, to observe, that whilst other Cornish boroughs are distracted with divisions, this is blest with unanimity under your Lordship's discreet patronage, and moreover preserves the uncommon reputation of chusing its representatives disinterestedly out of an ancient and distinguished family of its own neighbourhood, instead of corruptly flying to strangers, who would have no honest attachment towards them, and who, though they might flatter them with their lips, must in their hearts contemn them ...

JOHN THOMAS, Truro, 26 September, 1772

* * * * *

A State of the Proceedings of the Convocation,
or, Parl. for the Stannaries of the County of
Cornwall, held at Lostwithiel, on Tuesday,
the 28th of August, 1750, and at Helstone
by Prorogation on Sat. 20th of October following,
& also

The Point in Dispute between the Ld. Warden, &
the House of Stannators

By a Cornish Man [i.e. Thos. Pitt]:
[London: MDCCLI.]. ^{Bd.} [Gough. Cornwall 14.]

Names of Stannators at Lostwithiel (not all). —

Mr. Speaker Hoblyn; Sir John Molesworth, Mr.
Morrice, Mr. Harris, Mr. John Hearle, Mr. Hussey,
Dr. Borlace, Mr. Vyvyan, Mr. Beauchamp, Mr.
Blynn, Mr. Carlyon, Mr. Lemon, Mr. Sawke, Mr.
Prideaux, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Hawkins, & Mr. Thomas
Hearle.

A state of the proceedings of the Convocation, or, Parliament for the Stannaries of the County of Cornwall, held at Lostwithiel, on Tuesday, the 28th of August, 1750, and at Helston by Prorogation on Saturday 20th October following, and also the Point in Dispute between the Lord Warden and the House of Stannators. By a Cornish Man (i.e. Thomas Pitt), London, 1751

Names of the Stannators at Lostwithiel (not all):

Mr. Speaker Hoblyn, Sir John Molesworth, Mr. Morrice, Mr, Harris, Mr, John Hearle, Mr. Hussey, Dr. Borlace, Mr. Vyvyan, Mr. Beauchamp [and eight others].

At Truro, the 16th day of Sept., 1742

The Committee Appointed by the Tinneris to
 treat with the Merchants concerning a Farm of
 the Tin to be raised in the County of Cornwall
 for the Term of Seven Years from
 next are as follows, viz.

John Hearle, Esq.	William Lemon, Esq.	
James Bonwithorne, Esq.	Thomas Glynn, Esq.	
Doctor Bostase.	John Rogers, Esq.	X
John Treubody Esq.	Francis Beauchamp, Esq.	
Thomas Treowen, Esq.	Philip Carlyon, Esq.	
John Williams, Esq.	John Tremayne, Esq.	
John Hill, Esq.	Thomas Hicks, Esq.	
John Nance, Esq.	Mr. William Churchill	
Charles Pennick, Esq.	Mr. Walter Rosewarne	
Mr. George Bewett	Mr. Edmund Moore.	

At Truro, the 16th day of Sept., 1742

The Committee Appointed by the Tinneris to treat with the Merchants concerning a Farm of the Tin to be raised in the County of Cornwall for the Term of Seven Years from next are as follows, viz.

[twenty names – including William Lemon, the original "Warleggan" – are recorded]

This Committee, having considered the Proposals of the Merchants, are come to the following Resolutions:

This Committee, having considered the Proposals of the Merchants, are come to the following Resolutions:

As to the Price of Common Tin, Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this Committee, that Three Pounds & Five Shillings for every Hundred Weight of Such Tin, Merchants Weight, is the lowest Price for wh: such Tin will be sold to the Contractors, exclusive of all Coinage - Duties & Fees.

As to the Price of Grain Tin, it is their Opinion, that Three Pounds & Nine Shillings for every Hundred Weight of such Tin, Merchants weight, is the lowest Price for wh: such Tin will be sold

With respect to the Quantity of Tin that the Contractors shall be obliged to take, it is

As to the Price of Common Tin ... That Three Pounds and Five Shillings for every Hundred Weight of Such Tin, Merchant's Weight, is the lowest Price for which such Tin will be sold to the Contractors, exclusive of all Coinage-Duties and Fees.

As to the Price of Grain Tin ... That Three Pounds and Nine Shillings for

The Committee's Opinion, That, altho: the whole quantity of Tin raised yearly in Cornwall at an Average for many Year past hath been only about Twenty One Hundred Tons, the Contractor shall nevertheless oblige themselves to take all the Tin that shall be raised, so as the same doth not exceed Twenty Four Hundred Tons yearly, of wh: not more than One Hundred & Seventy Tons shall be Grain Tin.

With respect to the Payments by the Contractor for the Tin, it is the Committee's Opinion, That the same shall be weighed off & paid for at the respective Coinage Towns where the Tin is coined within Thirty Days next after the Expiration of the Coinage

With respect to the Security for the Performance of these Engagements, the Nature &

every Hundred Weight of such Tin, Merchant's Weight, is the lowest Price for which such Tin will be sold ...

With respect to the quantity of the Tin that the Contractor shall be obliged to take ... That, although the whole quantity of Tin raised yearly in Cornwall at an Average for many years hath been only about Twenty One Hundred Tons,

Sufficiency of the Security shall be settled
by the Tinner in Convocation.

It is further the Committee's Opinion, that
as to any limitation (as ~~has~~ been formerly
made) of the Contractors Price for the Tin
sold within Great-Britain, such limitation
shall be negotiated in Convocation.

It is further their Opinion, that the Merchants
shall give their Answer to these Resolutions
before the Fifteenth Day of October next, or
the said Resolutions shall be void.

[Printed at Truro, by Andrew Brice.]

the Contractors shall nevertheless oblige themselves to take all the Tin that shall be raised, so as the same doth not exceed Twenty Four Hundred Tons yearly, of which not more than One Hundred and Seventy Tons shall be Grain Tin.

With respect to the Payments by the Contractors for the Tin ... [etc]

[Printed at Truro, by Andrew Brice]

* * * * *

[Brot. 9. A. C. U. 6. 2]. [c. 1711].

The Case of the Woollen Manufacturers of the Western Counties, particularly ~~Devon~~ Cornwall & Devon

As it Relates to the Trade to Africa.

One of the most improved Branches of our Woollen
Manufacture is that of course Perpetts usually
vended on the Coast of Africa wh: are made
of the coarsest Wooll, fit for no other Fabrick.
The Yarn is spun, & the Goods are woven
chiefly in the Counties of Cornwall & Devon, &
serve for Cloathing of the meaner sort of
People in Africa.

It appears by an Account of the African
Company's Exports given out in the Lobby two
year ago, called, "A Clear Remonstrance,
re", that 28 year before, when they had

The Case of the Woollen Manufacturers of the Western Counties, particularly Cornwall and Devon, as it Relates to the Trade in Africa.

One of the most improved Branches of our Woollen Manufacture is that of [coarse] Perpetts, usually vended on the coast of Africa ... The Goods ... serve for Cloathing for the meanest sort of People in Africa.

[When the African Company] had the Trade Exclusive, they exported between the Year 1683 and 1686 ... 15595 Perpetts, being 3900 pieces per Annum, which were sold at 9 and 10 Ackys the Piece; and 'tis well known, the Dutch then

the Trade Exclusive, they exported between
the Year 1683 & 1686, but 15595 Perpetts,
being 3900 Pieces per Annum, wh: were
sold at 9 & 10 Ackys the Piece; & 'tis
well known, the Dutch then carried a
worse sort, made in Holland, called
Half Perpetts, of a low Price, whereof they
vended 40000 Pieces a Year, at the same
time: But no sooner was the Trade laid
open, but the private Traders to Africa,
by selling our Perpetts near as cheap as
the Dutch, did their Half Perpetts, beat
those out of the Trade; so that the
Exports now amount to 70000 Pieces
a Year, whereof 35000 were exported
by the City of Bristol this last Year
on 22 Ships, wh: City never exported
one Piece till since the Trade was
opened by Act of Parliament in 1698.
Whereby it appears the Export

carried a worse sort, made in Holland, called Half Perpetts, of a low Price, where-
of they vended 40000 Pieces a Year, at the same time. But no sooner was the
Trade laid open, but the private Traders of Africa, by selling our Perpetts near as

That Branch of our Woollen Manufacture is increased twenty times more by the private Traders in 13 years, since the Trade was open, than it was by the Company in 38 years before, when 'twas Exclusive.

Now the African Company press for an Exclusive Trade again, & to support their Pretences thereto, among other Arguments 'twas urged by their Council at the Bar of the House two Year since, that by being the sole seller of Goods in Africa, they co. make the Natives there pay what they pleased for them; that then 'twas no Matter for these large Exports at the low Rates we sold them at; 'twould be better to burn one half of them than carry them out.

Upon which Maxim, under an Exclusive Trade, 'tis humbly offered, this gr. Branch of Woollen Manufacture must needs be ruined for the following Reasons, viz:

cheap as the Dutch did their Half Perpetts, beat those out of the Trade; so that the Exports now amount to 70000 Pieces a Year, whereof 35000 were exported by the City of Bristol this last year on 22 ships ...

1. All Other European Nations trading in Africa will prevent any English Exclusive Company fr: being the sole Seller; & wh: of them sells cheapest will naturally beat the other out of the Trade.
2. By an Exclusive Trade, provided 'twas even carried on as high by the Company as by the National Traders, there will be but one buyer of 70000 Pieces of these Goods a Year, but one Truck, & but one of each other sort of Manufacturers employ'd by the Company.
3. This Factor of the Company will employ but one Maker, & all the other Makers must become Servants to them.
4. Each Maker wd. employ but one Buyer of the Yarn used by the Spinners.
5. The Buyer of Yarn will give just what he pleases to the Spinner, thereby set his own Price on the Labour of many

Now the African Company press for an Exclusive Trade again, [arguing] that by being the sole seller of Goods in Africa, they could make the Natives there pay what they pleased ... that then 'twas no Matter for these large Exports at the low Rates we sold them at; 'twould be better to burn one half of them than carry them out ... [but] ...

Thousand poor Families, & consequently on the Gentlemen's Wooll also.

6. And what is much worse, the Company own they wd. export but a small Quantity in comparison of what is exported now; because (say they) we will make the Natives give as much for half the Quantity as the whole; so the other Half may be burnt, according to the fore-going Maxim.

7. But then what must become of Half the poor Manufacturers of all sorts? must Half of them be burnt? or must half the Gentlemen's Wooll be burnt, or must they be maintained out of the Gentlemen's hands by an Increase of the Poor's Tax? And all this, that by an Exclusive Trade the Company may get double the Profit as Private Traders do.

Now wd. the Evil end here; for by selling these Goods at double the Value in

1. All other European Nations trading in Africa will prevent any English Exclusive Company from being the sole Seller; and which of them sells cheapest will naturally beat the others out of the Trade.

2. By an Exclusive Trade ... there will be but one buyer of 70000 Pieces ...

Africa, the meaner People who wear them there, & will go 60 or 70 miles in a Boat to get or save half a crown, will go to the Dutch Interlopers, & buy their Perpetts as they used to do, & the Trade will fall into their Hands again, by their selling cheaper than our Company, as was the case in 1686.

So that the Question is, Whether 'tis best for the Woollen Manufacture that 3900 Pieces of Perpetts be sold at 10 Rixys or Crowns each Piece, as was by the Exclusive Company in 1686, or that 70000 Pieces of Perpetts a Year be sold in an open Trade as 'tis now, at 6 Rixys or Crowns each Piece, the one amounting to 9750 £ per annum, the other to 105000 £ per annum, by the difference whereof the Nation gains 95000 £ per Annum, besides keeping the Poor from starving; who wd. be more

but one Tucker, and but one of each other sort of Manufacturers employed by the Company.

3. This Factor of the Company will employ but one Maker, and all the other Makers must become Servants to them.

affected in this case than they are, by the
Importation of Irish Yarn

Wherefore 'tis humbly hoped this
Honourable House will not suffer the African
Trade to be monopolized; whereby the
woollen Manufacture wd. receive so gr. a
Prejudice, & many poor Families be forced to
come to the Parish for Bread.

4. Such Maker would employ but one Buyer of ... Yarn ...

5. The Buyer of Yarn will give just what he pleases to the Spinner, and thereby set his own Price on the Labour of many Thousand poor Families, and consequently on the Gentlemen's Wooll also.

6. And what is much worse, the Company own they would export but a small Quantity in comparison of what is exported now; because (say they) we will make the Natives give as much for half the Quantity as the whole; so the other half may be burnt ...

7. But then what must become of Half the poor Manufacturers of all sorts? Must Half of them be burnt? and must half the Gentlemen's Wool be burnt, or must they be maintained out of the Gentlemen's Lands by an Increase of the Poor's Tax? And all this, that by an Exclusive Trade the Company may get double the Profit as Private Traders do.

Nor would the Evil end here, for by selling the Goods at double the Value in Africa, the meaner People who wear them will go to the Dutch interlopers ... whereby the Woollen Manufacture would receive so great a Prejudice, and many poor Families be forced to come to the Parish for Bread.

[Perpetts is an abbreviation of *perpetua*, a coarse woollen cloth.]

* * * * *

To the Proprietors of the Tin Mines in Cornwall
Letters etc. Collected & Arranged by their
Faithful Friend & Obedient Servant
George Unwin
(Purser in H.M. Navy, & late in the East India
Company's Service).

Letter fr. Mr. Geo. Unwin to David Scott, Esq.,
a Capital Asiatic Merchant, & a Director of
the E.I.C. - March 12, 1789.

Sir,
.....

The v. extensive Tin Trade carried on by the
Dutch fr. the Island of Banca in the E-Indies
to China, to the amt. of abt. 2⁵00 tons a

To the Proprietors of Tin Mines in Cornwall; Letters etc. [Collected] and Arranged by their Faithful Friend and Obedient Servant George Unwin (Purser in H. M. Navy, and late in the East India Company's Service.)

Letter from Mr. George Unwin to David Scott, Esquire, a Capital Asiatic Merchant, and a Director of the E.I.C. – March 12, 1789.

Sir ... The very extensive Tin Trade carried on by the Dutch from the Island of Banca in the East Indies to China, to the amount of about 2500 tons a year, by which they are enabled to load six ships annually for Europe, induced me, when I was collecting Tin from that Island, to bring home a Sample, which I have had assayed ... and ... the Cornish Tin is of the same quality in every respect.

yr., by wh: they are enabled to load six ships annually for Europe, induced me, when I was collecting tin fr: that Island, to bring home a Sample, wh: I have had assayed, ... & .. the Cornish tin is of the same quality in every respect.

In .. 1787, I collected fr: the inhab^s of the Island of Banca ... abt 200 tons, & carried it to China in the hands down East-Indiamen, wh: sold at 101 £. per Ton, & produced a profit of 50% .. Notwithstanding the quantity annually carried by the Dutch, & what is collected by our E. India Company ships, & Indiamen fr: Prince of Wales's Island in the Straights of Malacca, the market at [s] China has increased of late yr. fr: 68 £. 13s. 6d. to 101 £ per ton, by wh: means a sum fr: 3 to 400,000 £ in this article is annually exported to China.

In 1787, I collected from the inhabitants of the Island of Banca ... about 200 tons, and carried it to China ... which sold at £101 per Ton, and produced a profit of 50%. Notwithstanding the quantity annually carried by the Dutch, and what is collected by our East India [Company] ships, and Indiamen from Prince of Wales's Island in the Straights of Malacca, the market at ... China has increased of late

[Much specie going fr: Engh. to China] —

If the Tin Trade was carried on fr: this country to China, not only the E.I.C. wd. receive a gd. profit, but, what is more material, the nation wd. v. much benefit in the increase of its revenue, by the materials, such as hemp, tar, iron, deals, baulk, candles, leather, gunpowder, used in raising Tin fr: the Mines, wh: artells pay a heavy duty to govt., & a duty also of 5% wd. be recd. fr: the export.

... New mines will be opened, & above every other consideration, some thousands of distressed Tinners, who are hourly expected to rise in that county, for want of the common necessaries of life, will find constant employment. [Assayer's certificate copied].

This letter was presented by P. Scott, Esq. to the Court of Directors, who were pleased to order 50. Tons to be shipped that season for

years from £68 13s. 6d. to £101 per ton, by which means a sum of £3 to 400,000 in this article is annually exported to China [with ... Much specie going from England to China].

If the Tin Trade was carried on from this country to China, not only [would the E.I.C.] receive a good profit, but, what is more material, the nation would very much benefit in the increase of its revenue, by the materials, such as hemp,

China by way of trial.

A copy of the above letter presented by Messrs. Unwin & Southorne to H.R.H. The Prince of Wales's Council, requesting the matter to be laid before the Hon. E.I.C., & the Board of Control. [Ratio Mar. 18. 1789].

At the instance of the Rt. Hon. Lord Viscount Falmouth, & supported by

The Rt. Hon. W. Viscount Craigs Elliot

" " " " " Mount Edgcumbe,

Sir Francis Bassett, Bart.

" William Lemon, "

" John St. Aubyn, "

" William Molesworth, "

W. A. S. Boscawen, Esq.

Philip Rashleigh, "

Rand Howell, "

John Call, "

tar, deals, baulk, candles, leather, gunpowder, used in raising Tin from the Mines, which articles pay a heavy duty to government, and a duty also of 5% would be received from the export.

... New mines will be opened, and, above every other consideration, some thousands of distressed Tinnors, who are hourly expected to rise ... for want of

Hon. Richard Edgcumbe
Nicholas Bonnington, Esq.

A Copy of Mr. Unwin's letter was sent to ...
Mr. Pitt, requesting him to give every encouragement
& protection in extending the Tin Trade of ... Cornwall.

Letter fr: Under Sec. of Board of Control (Sir Wm.
Broderick) to Clerk to Pr. of Wales Council, Mar. 19. 1789.

... "The Commissioners will give every
encouragement to the Plan ..."

Letter fr: Sec. to E.I.C. to Pr. of W.'s Council. May 15. 1789

... "It appears fr: the Company's Records,
that abt. 1761 or 2, efforts were made to
introduce the article in the several markets of

the common necessaries of life, will find constant employment. [Assayer's Certificate copies.]

This letter was presented by D. Scott, Esq. to the Court of Directors [of the E.I.C.], who were pleased to order 50 Tons to be shipped that season for China by way of trial.

India, as well as China, all of wh: proved unsuccessful, owing to the high rate of its first cost. In China particular [s] it sold at a loss of 23.00

* That the supracargoes at that time represented, in regard to its quality, that the merchants allowed it to be something finer than that of the Dutch, but that it was not so proper for beating into leaf, the use to wh: it is chiefly applied for the purpose of tinning paper, wh: the people burn morning & evening, as an offering to their idols, & wh: causes a gr. consumption of the article'.

The supracargoes further represent, that unless it wd. be purchased at fr: 66s to 70s per cwt. it wd. not answer. As its first cost at that time was from 4l. 5s. to 4l. 10s. per cwt. no further measures were taken. But as it now

Letter from E.I.C. Secretary to Prince of Wales's Council, May 15, 1789:

... It appears from the Company's Records, that about 1761 or 2, efforts were made to introduce [Tin] in the several markets of India, as well as China, all of which proved unsuccessful, owing to the high rate of its first cost ...

appear that the article bears a better price at China than at the period alluded to, & is also consid^y. fallen here, the Company, as well as in compliance w. the wishes of H.R.H., as fr: a desire of affording every assistance to the interest of British manufacturers, have determined upon another trial, & have accordingly consigned to China on the ships of this season a quantity of 50. Tons, w. strong injunctions to their supracargoes to encourage & promote its sale

(pp. 8-9).

A Plan proposed by Mr. Geo. Unwin for the Relief of the present distressed Tin Trade of Cornwall, in case the Hon. E.I.C. Individuals trading to China, do not export the Surplus Tin raised more than the regular consumption of the European Markets; by wh: means . . . not less than 40,000 £. p.a. will be

The supracargoes ... represent that, unless it could be purchased at from 66s to 70s per cwt. it would not answer. As its first cost at that time was from [85s to 90s] per cwt. no further measures were taken. But as it now appears that the article bears a better price at China than at the period alluded to, and is also considerably fallen here, the Company ... have determined upon another trial ... [involving the shipment of a further 50 Tons to China].

brought into the County ...

∴ Cornwall is said to produce 21,000 Blocks p. a. , say at seven per Ton, is 3000 Tons at * 58 l. in C'wall, or 66 l. per Ton in London, produces 198,000 l. ∴

[He suggests raising price of 2,400 Tons to 72 l. in C'wall or 80 l. in London - to produce 192,000 l. The rest, $\frac{1}{5}$ or 600 Tons,

'the Proprietors of Stocked Tin to get EIC to send to China, to be sold on account of the County, allowing a commission of 5% on gross sales

Statements given in next pages.

This signed by ~~Unwin~~ & ~~Nicholas~~
Donnithorne, addressed to Nicholas
Donnithorne, Esq. Chairman of the Quarterly
Tin Meeting, in C'wall.

dated Sept. 16. 1789]

* [qvis this at price in Lond. March 1789. - p. 12].

[Letter of N. Donnithorne to E.I.C. London. September 23. 1789:](#)

Hon. Sirs ... I am lately returned ... from the mining parishes in Cornwall, where I have been witness to the greatest imaginable poverty and distress, insomuch, that I have seen women gathering snails in order to make a broth for the support of their families.

[In Statement given "Hark of
588
to Amt. of Stocked Tin - 600 Tons - Lond. 72 l. - 43,200.

" Insurance to China on £43,200 at
3½% . 1,512.

To interest on 15 months (3 allowed) - the
time the ship will be out of home - 5% . 75.

Boat Hire & other charges to Canton. 150.

Reckons Profit 3,600 l. J.

Letter of Mr. Dounthorne, to E.I.C. Lond. Sept 23. 1789

Hon. Sirs

I am lately returned, Sirs, fr:
the mining parishes in Cornwall, where I have
been witness to the gtest. unimagivable poverty
& distress, inasmuch, that I have seen
women gathering snails in order to make a
broth for the support of their families.

It is true, the Cornish miners have, of late, been very riotous, and that the Gentlemen of the County have been obliged to call in the aid of the military, but, when the extremely low price of Tin, and the very high price of Corn, are considered, much may be said in defence of these poor industrious labourers.

For the last 3 or 4 years, Sirs, the quantity of Tin annually risen, upon an average, has been rather better than 21,000 blocks, and the European markets scarce equal to the consumption of 17,000 blocks, consequently the surplus, or

It is true, the Cornish miners have, of late, been v. riotous, & that the Gentlemen of the County have been obliged to call in the aid of the military, but, when the extremely low price of Tin, & the v. high price of Corn, are considered, much may be said in defence of these poor industrious labourers.

For the last 3. or 4. yrs., Sirs, the quantity of Tin annually risen, upon an aver., has been rather better than 21,000 blocks, & the European markets scarce equal to the consumption of 17,000 blocks, consequently the surplus, or one-fifth part ... being afloat in the markets at home, & all men being eager to make sales, has reduced the price fr: 84 l. to 72 l. per ton, & I do solemnly aver, Gentlemen, that unless some plan can be adopted for almost instant relief, the consequences will

one-fifth part ... being afloat in the markets at home, and all men being eager to make sales, has reduced the price from £84 to £72 per ton, and I do solemnly aver, Gentlemen, that unless some plan can be adopted for almost instant relief, the consequences will be dreadful.

[Asks E.I.C. to take the 600 tons surplus – which could be sold at profit. If not, would EIC send it out on account and risk of the County ...]

be dreadful.

[Asks E.I.C. to take the 600 tons surplus - wh: cd be sold at profit. If not wd. EIC send it out on account of the County Proposed Munro's plan.

Letter fr. E.I.C to Donnithorne Sept. 28. 1789

[E.I.C. agrees to buy 5 to 600 Tons at 72^l on board - "to be exported on ships of ensuing season".]

p. 21. Gold-Beater's Certificate saying
Tin from Cornwall more malleable.
(dated Nov. 6. 1789.)

Letter from E.I.C. to Donnithorne, dated September 28, 1789, in which the E.I.C. agrees to buy 5 to 600 Tons at £72 on board, "to be exported on ships of ensuing season."

P.21: Gold-Beater's Certificate saying Tin from Cornwall more malleable (dated Nov. 6 1789).

Letter fr.

Geo. Unwin to Pr. of W's Council - Nov. 12. 1792
[mentioning ^{above} quality of the tin - & sending
book containing leaves "wh: I have had
beat for experiment"].

p. 27. An Account of Tin shipped from Cornwall, by the
Hon. E.I.C. for China.

<u>Anno.</u>		c.	qr.	lb.
1749	The quantity not ascertained			
1762.	401 Boxes of Cornish Grain Tin, in Caps.	1920.	3	27.
	187 Ditto Common Tin	599	1	2
1763.	141 " Cornish Grain Tin, in Caps	712	2	9
1766	40 Ditto Common Tin,	206	1	24
1768	200 " Ditto in Caps,	1014	3	4
	Tons 222. 14. 0. 20	<u>C. 4454</u>	0	<u>20</u>

Letter from George Unwin to Prince of Wales's Council, dated Nov. 12, 1792, in which he mentions the above quality [i.e. malleability] of the tin, and sends a book containing leaves "which I have had beat for experiment".

P.27: An Account of Tin shipped from Cornwall, by the Hon. E.I.C.* for China

comprising statistics recording the type and weight of Tin exported in the years 1762, 1763, 1766, 1768, 1789 and 1790.

	Tons
1789. In Blocks, Ingots, Slabs, shipped by the Coy.	50
Price 68l. to 69l. 10s per Ton.	
In Private Trade	38
Price 66l to 69l. per Ton.	
1790 Shipped by the Hon. E.I.C. in Ingots for China	775
Ditto for Madras	5
" " Bengal } by way of India.	10
" " Bombay }	10
Price 68l. 13s. 4d. per Ton	<hr/>
	888.

Shipped upon Mr. Anwin's Plan in the Course
of a Year from Cornwall 5770 Blocks.

* References throughout these pages to the E.I.C. refer to the East India Company, also known (see previous page) as the Honourable East India Company or the British East India Company and informally as John Company, Company Bahadur or simply the Company. EIC was an English and later British joint-stock company formed to trade in the Indian Ocean region, initially with Mughal India and the East Indies, and later with Qing China. After receiving a Royal Charter from Queen Elizabeth I on 31 December 1600, it quickly rose to account for a significant share of world trade, particularly in basic commodities such as cotton, silk, indigo dye, salt, spices, saltpetre,

(pp. 8-9) Account of Annual Produce of the Tin of Cornwall, with the Prices sold at in the County from Lady-Day 1750 to Christmas 1789.

Year.	No. of Blocks raised at all $\frac{1}{2}$ a Ton.	Prices in Cornwall at per Cwt.				Aver. Price per Ann.
		Lady Day	Midsum.	Michael's	Christm.	
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1750	18,698	3. 4. 0	3. 4. 0	3. 6. 0	3. 5. 6	3. 4. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
51	14,776	3. 5. 6	3. 5. 0	3. 5. 0	3. 5. 0	3. 5. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
52	16,574	3. 5. 6	3. 7. 0	3. 8. 0	3. 8. 0	3. 7. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
53	16,358	3. 8. 0	3. 8. 0	3. 8. 0	3. 8. 0	3. 8. 0
54	17,708	3. 8. 0	3. 7. 6	3. 8. 0	3. 8. 0	3. 7. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
55	17,924	3. 8. 0	3. 8. 0	3. 7. 0	3. 5. 0	3. 7. 0
56	18,033	3. 5. 0	3. 3. 6	3. 2. 0	3. 0. 0	3. 2. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
57	17,887	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 6	2. 19. 0	2. 18. 0	2. 19. 3
58	17,681	2. 17. 6	2. 16. 0	2. 16. 0	2. 16. 0	2. 16. 3
59	17,140	2. 16. 0	2. 16. 0	2. 16. 0	2. 16. 0	2. 16. 0
1760	17,662	2. 16. 0	2. 16. 0	2. 16. 0	2. 16. 0	2. 16. 0
61	15,571	2. 16. 6	3. 0. 0	3. 2. 0	3. 1. 0	2. 19. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
62	16,801	3. 3. 0	3. 4. 0	3. 5. 0	3. 7. 0	3. 4. 9
63	17,786	3. 8. 6	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 8. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$

tea and opium. The company eventually seized control of large parts of the Indian subcontinent – paving the way for the British Empire in India – and colonised parts of Southeast Asia, including Hong Kong after a war with Qing China. In a speech to the House of Commons in July 1833, Lord Macaulay explained that since the beginning, the East India Company had always been involved in both trade and politics, just as its French and Dutch counterparts had been.

The company was dissolved in 1874.

Years.	No. Blocks.	Lady Day	Midsum.	Mich ^{as} .	Xmas.	Aver. P.A.
1764	16,997	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0.
65	17,923.	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0
66	19,861	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0
67	18,529	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0
68	17,334	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0
69	18,838	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0	3. 9. 0
1770	19,355	3. 8. 0	3. 8. 0	3. 5. 0	3. 5. 0	3. 6. 6
71	18,349	3. 5. 0	3. 5. 0	3. 5. 0	3. 5. 0	3. 5. 0.
72	20,531	3. 5. 0	3. 4. 0	3. 4. 0	3. 0. 0.	3. 3. 3.
73	18,540	2. 18. 0	2. 14. 0	2. 12. 0	2. 12. 0	2. 14. 0
74	15,975	2. 12. 0	2. 12. 0	2. 12. 0	2. 14. 0	2. 12. 6
75	17,024	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0.
76	17,240	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0	2. 19. 0	2. 19. 9.
77	18,010	2. 19. 0	2. 19. 0	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0.	2. 19. 6
78	16,302	3. 1. 0	3. 10. 0	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0.	3. 0. 6
79	17,411	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0
1780	19,052	3. 0. 0	3. 1. 0	3. 2. 0.	3. 2. 0	3. 1. 3.
81	16,969	3. 2. 0	3. 3. 0.	3. 5. 0	3. 7. 0	3. 4. 3.
82	16,548	3. 10. 0	3. 10. 0	3. 10. 0	3. 10. 0	3. 10. 0

Effect of the Tin Trade in Cornwall in Peace and War Years

A table (see page below) showing that in the seven years of war 1756-62 and the nine years of war 1773-81, the price of tin fell to an average £2 19s 2d, compared to an average 1750 to 1789 peacetime price of £3 7s 11d – in other words, that war drives down the tin price.

The annual Consumption of the European Markets is estimated at 17,000 Blocks ... It will appear that the quantity raised has increased, from 1785 to the present

Year.	No. Blocks.	Lucy Day.	Midsum.	Mich ^{as} .	Xmas.	Aver. p. a.
1783	16,705	3. 16. 0	3. 10. 0	3. 10. 0	3. 10. 0	3. 10. 0.
84	17,456	3. 10. 0	3. 10. 0	3. 10. 0	3. 12. 0	3. 10. 6
85	18,753	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0
86	22,096	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0
87	20,824	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0	3. 12. 0
88	21,790	3. 12. 0	3. 10. 0	3. 6. 0	2. 18. 0	3. 6. 6
89	22,132	3. 0. 0	3. 0. 0	3. 5. 0	3. 5. 0	3. 2. 6

Effect of The Tin Trade in Cornwall in Peace & War

<u>Year.</u>		<u>Aver. No. Blocks. Annually.</u>	<u>Aver. Price p. lb.</u>
1750 - 55	6th includes - 6 Years Peace	17,006	3. 6. 8
1756 - 62	- 7 " War	17,250	2. 19. 3
1763 - 72	- 10 " Peace	18,550	3. 7. 9
1773 - 81	9 " War	17,391	2. 19. 1
1782 - 89	- 8 " Peace	19,588	3. 9. 5

The annual consumption of the European Markets is estimated at 17,000 blocks.

time [i.e. 1792], from 4 to 5000 blocks more than the annual consumption, by means of several extensive copper-mines in Cornwall having ceased to work, and some hundreds of those unfortunate miners, being driven out, have employed themselves in the Tin mines, which has been the cause of all the present misfortunes of the Tin trade of Cornwall, which would have been ruined had not the trade to China been opened, which has been shut up 21 years, through misrepresentations and inattention to the rise and fall of the China market.

... It will appear that the quantity raised has increased, fr. 1785 to the present time, fr: 4 to 5000 blocks more than the annual consumption, by means of several extensive copper-mines in Cornwall. having ceased to work, & some hundreds of those unfortunate miners being driven out, have employed themselves in the Tin mines, wh: has been the cause of all the present misfortunes of the Tin trade of Cornwall, wh: wd. have been ruined had not the trade to China been opened, wh: has been shut up 21 years, thro' misrepresentations & inattention to the rise & fall of the China market.

[MS. note in the table - pp 28-29.
Prince of Wales's Duty, Freight & Insurance from Cornwall, Commission, re smelting the large Blocks into Slabs, Wharfage & waterside ^{wt.} charges in Town & Country amount in the whole to 8^s/3 ~~hundred~~ which being added to the foregoing prices will shew what one hundred weight of Tin can be shipped for in London to all places beyond the Cape of Good Hope].

[MS. note referring to the tables reproduced on pp. 79 and 80 above:](#)

[Prince of Wales's Duty, Freight and Insurance from Cornwall, Commission re smelting the large Blocks into Slabs, Wharfage and waterside charges in Town and Country amount in the whole to 8s 3d per hundredweight which being added to the foregoing prices will show what one hundred weight of Tin can be shipped for in London to all places beyond the Cape of Good Hope.]

(p.30)

Account of Tin imported from E. Indies into Holland for
thirty Years Past ; & aver. Prices at Canton -

Year.	Tons import'd fr. India to Holland.	No. Blocks raised in Cornwall.	No. Blocks exported	Remain'd for home.	Aver. Prices per Ton at Canton
1760	324				
61	184				
62	325				
63	369				
64	59				
65	279				
66	145				
67	167				
68	311				
69	457				
1770	210				
71	311				
72	391				
73	255				
74	250				
75	262				

[After a table recording the tonnage of Tin imported from the East Indies into Holland from 1760 to 1789 plus sundry other data relating to Cornish production and the commodity's price in Canton] ...

The consumption of Tin in China is from 3 to 4000 Tons a year, equal to the annual Produce of Cornwall, exclusive of the great demand in ... India and Persia, where the inhabitants make use of this article in different ways.

Years.	India to HSH.	Stocks in C'wall.	Stocks Export.	for home.	Av. P. Canton
1776	409				
77	256				
78	257				
79	337				
17 80.	310				
81	None				87. 10. 0
82	44				105. 0. 0
83	136	16705	11000	5705	87. 10. 0
84	370	17456	10170	7386	84. 10. 0
85	310	18753	13000	5753	93. 6. 8
86	195	22096	15265	6831	87. 10. 0
87	543	20824	14500	5404	98. 12. 6
88	80	21790	15400	7290	93. 6. 8
89		22132	13240	8892	[^{ms.} 96. 10. 0]

The consumption of Tin in China is fr. 3 to 4000 Tons a yr., equal to the annual Produce of C'wall. exclusive of the gr. demand in India & Persia, where the inhab^s. make use of this article in different ways.

The Tin imported in 1785 sold in Holland at £74 per Ton, and in 1788 at £69 per Ton, when the English sold there at £84 per Ton.

So much is English Tin in estimation in Holland, that it always sells for more than the Molacca and Banca Tin. It is very extraordinary that the Dutch should import any Tin from India into Holland to sell for £74 per Ton, when the price has not been less than £84 and as high as £98 in China for these ten years past; and in 1787 the quantity imported amounted to 534 Tons, when the price that season in China was £98 per Ton, and the preceding year at £93. At that time

The Tin imported in 1785 sold in Holland at 74 £ per Ton, & in 1788 at 69 £ per Ton, when the English sold there at 84 £ per Ton.

So much is English Tin in estimation in Holland, that it always sells for more than the Malacca & Banca Tin. It is v. extraordinary that the Dutch shd. import any Tin fr: India into Holl. to sell for 74 £ per Ton, when the price has not been less than 84 £. & as high as 98 £. in China for these ten yrs. past; & in 1787, the quantity imported amt^d. to 543 Tons, when ^{the} price that season in China was 98 £ per Ton, & the preceding yr. at 93 £. At that time I offered to purchase fr: them at Malacca, Banca, & Batavia, ten thousand pounds worth, at 75 £ per Ton, wh: c^d. not be procured.

The only way I can account for this annual importation is, that the Pepper ships require v. heavy ballast, & that they take those quantities of Tin on board for that

I offered to purchase from them at Molacca, Banca and Batavia, ten thousand pounds worth, at £75 per Ton, which could not be procured.

The only way I can account for this annual importation is, that the Pepper ships require very heavy ballast, and that they take those quantities of Tin on board for that purpose, or being too late in the season to carry it to China. I am

purpose, or being too late in the season to
carry it to China. I am informed that the Dutch
are in debt to the Chinese — if so, it is beyond
my comprehension, their reason for importing in
1787 the above quantity, value sold for in
Holland abt. 40,000 l. wh. wd. have
produced them 50,000 l. in China

GEORGE UNWIN

Lambeth, Surry.

informed that the Dutch are in debt to the Chinese – if so, it is beyond my comprehension, their reason for importing in 1787 the above quantity, value sold for in Holland about £40,000 which would have produced them £50,000 in China.

GEORGE UNWIN

Lambeth, Surry.

* * * * *

Tin Exported from Great Britain in 1788.

	C.	qr.	lb.
Denmark	372	1	15
Russia	8,028	1	16
Sweden	986	3	20
E. Country	725	3	7
Germany	2,719	3	0
Holland	5,217	1	20
Austrian Flanders	1,662	1	12
France Fr. "	13,339	2	10
Portugal Madeira	1,019	0	0
Spain Canaries	2,555	0	18
Streights of Gibraltar	9	2	14
Italy	5,965	0	10
Turkey	2,368	0	10
Ireland	739	1	10
Guernsey	0	2	0
<u>Total Europe</u>	<u>45,709</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>22</u>

[After a table (this page and next) recording in detail the destination and weight of Tin exported from Great Britain in 1788]...

To the Right Hon. the Lords of the Committee of Council ... for the Consideration of ... Trade and Foreign Plantations

January 29, 1790

The humble Memorial of the Undersigned in behalf of the Tinnors at large of the County of Cornwall.

... your Memorialists beg leave to represent to your Lordships, that the County of Cornwall, for a long time past, has been labouring under very alarming dis-

States of America	55.	1.	18
British Colonies	139.	1.	0
West. Indies	155	1.	8
<hr/>			
Total America	349.	3.	26.
Asia	* 300	0.	0
Africa	77.	0.	0
<hr/>			
Grand Total.	46,436.	1.	20
<hr/>			
No. of Tons.	2321.	16.	1. 20.
<hr/>			
(* lost in the Hartwell East-Indiaman).			

tresses, owing to a greater quantity of Tin being risen than the European markets could consume, and consequently the very low price to which that staple commodity has fallen: - To such a State, my Lords, was this trade reduced about six months since, that some of the deep mines were obliged to stop working, and it was feared that many others would shortly have shared the same fate.

[We laid] their case before the Hon. Directors of the E.I.C., who were graciously pleased to contract with the County for six hundred tons, at £72 per Ton (£5 per Ton under the present price in Cornwall) to be exported to China by the ships of this season.

... sundry small quantities of Tin were sent to China, between 20 and 30 years since, but, on account of the high price here, the Directors were obliged to discontinue their orders.

Your Memorialists being aware that it will not be in the power of the Directors of the E.I.C. to continue this trade open to China, for the surplus quantity of Tin in Cornwall, but at a very low price, feel it incumbent on them to share to your Lordships, that the duty of 3/4 per hundredweight payable to Government, on exportation, is a very heavy charge, and will probably be the means of preventing an annual export of Tin from this Country to the China market, which is now entirely supplied by the Dutch, and which alone can give effectual relief to the accumulating distresses of the County of Cornwall.

To the Right Hon. the Lords of the Committee of Council
... for the Consideration of ... Trade & Foreign Plantations

Jan 29. , 1790.

The humble Memorial of the undersigned in behalf
of the Turners at large of the County of Cornwall

With --- your Memorialists beg leave to
represent to yr. Lordships, that the County of Cornwall,
for a long time past, has been labouring under v.
alarming distresses, owing to a greater quantity
of Tin being risen than the European markets
c. consume, & consequently the v. low price
to wh. that staple commodity has fallen. —
To such a state, my Lords, was this trade
reduced abt. six months since, that some
of the deep mines were obliged to stop
working, & it was feared that many others
wt. shortly have shared the same fate.

Your Memorialists, therefore, humbly hope for your Lordships kind inter-
ference with Government for the remission of this duty of $\frac{3}{4}$ on all Tin exported
to China and the East Indies, which may be an inducement to the Hon. Court of
Directors not only to take off the present remaining surplus, but likewise what
may accrue from year to year, and thereby render a blessing to ... Cornwall, and
be of great national advantage in the consumption of many articles which are
made use of in raising Tin from the Mines ...

FALMOUTH, JOHN THOMAS, JOHN CREGO, N, DONNITHORNE, GEORGE UNWIN

[Welan] Their case before the Hon. Directors of the E.I.C., who were graciously pleased to contract w. the County for six hundred tons, at ... 72 £ per ton / 58 per ton under the present price in C'wall) to be exported to China by the ships of this season.

... sundry small quantities of Tin were sent to China, between 20 & 30 yrs. since, but, on account of the high price here, the Directors were obliged to discontinue their orders.

Your Memorialists being aware that it will not be in the power of the Directors of the E.I.C. to continue this trade open to China, for the surplus quantity of Tin in C'wall, but at a v. low price, feel it incumbent ^{without} to shew to yr. Honors, that the duty of 3/4 per Cent. payable to Govt. on exportation, is a v. heavy charge, & will prob^{ly} be the means of preventing an annual export of

Unwin's letter to the Lords of the Committee of the Council of Trade and Plantations:

[Encloses letter from the E.I.C. to Prince of Wales's Council – previously quoted – in which it will appear] that the unsuccessful efforts to introduce the article of Tin from this country into the India and China markets, in the years 1762, 1763,

Tin fr: This County to the China market, wh: is now entirely supplied by the Dutch, wh: alone can give effectual relief to the accumulating distresses of the County of Cornwall.

Yr. Memorialists, therefore, humbly hope for yr. Lordships kind interference w. govt. for the remission of this duty of 3/4 on all Tin exported to China & the E-Indies, wh: may be an inducement to the Hon. Court of Directors not only to take off the present remaining surplus, but likewise what may accrue fr: yr. to yr., thereby render a blessing to... Cornwall, & be of gr. national advantage in the consumption of many articles wh: are made use of in raising Tin fr. the Mines

FALMOUTH

JOHN THOMAS

— EREGO

N. DONNITHORPE

— GEORGE VAWIN.

1766, and 1768, did not proceed from any objections the Chinese had ... who gave equally the same price for the English as for the Dutch; it was in consequence of the prosperity of the Tin Trade in ... Cornwall at that time, when the consumption of the European and Home markets, were equal to the annual produce of the county, and afforded a tolerable fair price to the adventurers

Union's letter to Lds. of Lttee of Council of Trade & Plant^s.

[Encloses letter fr. E.I.C. to Pr. of Wales's Council - previously quoted - in wh: it will appear] - "that the unsuccessful efforts to introduce the article of tin fr. this country into the India & China markets, in the years 1762, 1763, 1766, & 1768, did not proceed fr. any objections the Chinese had ... who gave equally the same price for the English as for the Dutch; it was in consequence of the prosperity of the Tin Trade of Cornwall at that time, when the consumption of the European & Home markets, were equal to the annual produce of the county, & afforded a tolerable fair price to the adventurers fr. 65 l. to 70 l. per ton in Cornwall for common ~~Block~~ Block Tin, that the E.I.C. cd. not be supplied w. it, adding the duties & other charges, for less than fr. 76 l. to 80 l.

from £65 to £70 per Ton in Cornwall for common Block Tin, that the E.I.C. could not be supplied with it, adding the duties and other charges, for less than from £76 to £80 per Ton on board; as the price of Tin at that time, in the China and other markets, was not more than from £67 to £70 per Ton, the E.I.C. discontinued that Trade. I beg leave further to observe that, about 1761 or 1762, the E.I.C. sent out a large quantity of Grain Tin, which bore a higher price in this

per Ton on board; as the price of Tin at that time, in the China & other Markets, was not more than fr: 67^{l.} to 70^{l.} per Ton, the E.I.C. discount that Trade. I beg leave further to observe that, ~~the~~ abt. 1761 or 1762, the E.I.C. sent out a large quantity of Grain Tin, wh: bore a higher price in this country than the common Block Tin, & did not sell for more in China than the latter, wh: will account for the loss the Coy. sustained in their Tin sales of 23%.

Notwithstanding, my Lds., the article of Pewter, wh: consumed a large quantity of Tin, is now v. little used in this country, (Earthen-ware being substituted in its stead) Cornwall has had no reason to complain of its Tin Trade, till within these few y^rs., since the copper-mines in Anglesey, have turned out so v. productive, & can be worked

country than the common Block Tin, and did not sell for more in China than the latter, which will account for the loss the Company sustained in their Tin sales of 23%.

Notwithstanding, my Lords, the article of Pewter, which consumed a large quantity of Tin, is now very little used in this country (Earthen-ware being substi-

much cheaper than those in Cornwall; in order to prevent the ruin of that trade in both countries, they have formed themselves into a company, to furnish equally a supply necessary for all the markets; in consequence of wh.: Cornwall has ceased to raise the usual quantity of Copper, & the unfortunate miners, who were turned out of employment, distributed themselves in the Tin-mines, & fr: the yr. 1785, abt. the time that company was formed, to the present time... The county has raise one fifth more tin than the annual consumption of the European markets, wh... has reduced the price fr: 72 l. to 58 l. per ton in the course of the last yr.; & fr: the apprehension that the markets, in consequence of the low price, are glutted w. that article, I am sure it wd. have fallen, by this time, to 55 l. per ton, a loss to the county of 60,000. l.

tuted in its stead) Cornwall has had no reason to complain of its Tin Trade, till within these [last] few years, since the copper-mines in Anglesey have turned out so very productive, and can be worked much cheaper than those in Cornwall; in order to prevent the ruin of that trade in both countries, they have formed themselves into a company, to furnish equally a supply necessary for all the markets; in consequence of which, Cornwall has ceased to raise the usual

p.a., had not the exportation of 600 tons
taken place w. the E.I.C.; w^od. also have
been the means of shutting up several
deep & expensive mines, & the unfortunate
miners in them turned above ground, to
suffer, ... the g^{re}at. poverty & distress. This is
the time when Cornish adventurers look up to
yr. Honors. for support

[Says David Scott's letter supports him ...
Asks for remission of duties etc. & gives
further figures to show hope of winning
Eastern markets, wh: sh^d. take all
the surplus - "in value abt. 60,000 £. a yr."
Signed George Huxwin

No. 6, Moore-Place,
Lambeth, Surrey

Feb. 4. 1790

quantity of Copper, and the unfortunate miners, who were turned out of employment, distributed themselves in the Tin-mines, and, from the year 1785, about the time that company was formed, to the present time ... the county has raised one-fifth more Tin than the annual consumption of the European markets, which has reduced the price from £72 to £58 per Ton in the course of the last year, and, from the apprehension that the markets, in consequence of the low price, are glutted with that article, I am sure it would have fallen, by this time, to £55 per Ton, a loss to the county of £60,000 per annum, had not the exportation of 600 tons taken place with the E.I.C.; and would also have been the means of shutting up several deep and expensive mines, and the unfortunate

p. 41. Letter fr: David Scott to Geo. Unwin, "one of
the E. India Directors" - Nov. 20. 1789.
[Unwin had sent him his book ^{Scott} - Congratulates
him - vis (optimistic)].

p. 42. A/c. of Prune lost of all cargoes purchased in
China & shipped for Europe - (1784-89).
[Table]

Prices of Japan Copper sold in China [1781-7].
[Table].

p. 43.) Copy of Act for taking off the Duties upon
unwrought Tin exported to any of the Countries
beyond the Cape of Good Hope.
Passed in 1790.

Whereas the taking off the Duty on Tin
exported fr: G. B. to the Countries beyond the

miners in them turned above ground, to suffer ... the greatest poverty and distress. This is the time when Cornish adventurers look up to your Lordships for support.

[Says David Scott's letter supports him ... Asks for remission of duties etc and gives further figures to show hope of wining Eastern markets, which should take all the surplus - "in value, about £60,000 a year".

Signed: George Unwin, No. 6, Moore Place, Lambeth, Surry, Feb. 4, 1790]

Cape of Good Hope, will encourage the raising
a gr. Quantity of Tin fr. the Mines of this
Km., & be thereby highly beneficial, as well
to all concerned in the said Mines, as to
the Commerce of this Km. in gen.: . . .
be it enacted . . . That, fr. & after the
First day of March, 1790, no Duty of
Customs whatever shall be charged or
paid or payable upon any Tin unwrought
wh. shall be exported . . . fr. G.B., to
any of the Countries beyond the Cape of
Good Hope . . . [Particulars of
certificates to be given]

Copy of Act for taking off the Duties upon unwrought Tin exported to any of the Countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope [passed in 1790].

Whereas the taking off the Duty on Tin exported from Great Britain to the Countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope, will encourage the raising [of] a great Quantity of Tin from the Mines of this Kingdom, and be thereby highly beneficial, as well to all concerned in the said Mines, as to the commerce of this Kingdom in general ... Be it enacted ... That, from and after the First day of March, 1790, no Duty of Customs whatever shall be charged or paid or payable upon any Tin unwrought which shall be exported ... from Great Britain to any of the Countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope ... [Particulars of Certificates to be given.]

* * * * *

The Proposal for Raising the Price of Tin &c.

[Gough e'le. 14.]
[Printed 1697].

Had we, in the four last Reigns, exemplified the Policy of the wise Venetians, to encourage & promote our Trade & Commerce, being posted by Nature on The Emporium of the World, & being a warlike People, what could we not have done?

A well-managed Trade is the Creator & Preserver of Money, & Money & Trade are the Sinews of War.

But it doth not become me to say much of the Trade of this Nation in gen. it being under the care of that Hon. Counsel, now, most reasonably, appointed to inspect the same.

Nevertheless, having a natural affection for C'wall, as it is my Native County, & having informed myself thereof, I take it to

The Proposal for Raising the Price of Tin and Copper

[Gough, Cornwall 14, Printed 1697]

Had we, in the four last Reigns, exemplified the Policy of the wise Venetians, to encourage and promote our Trade and Commerce, being posted by Nature on The Emporium of the World, and being a warlike People, what could we not have done?

A well-managed Trade is the Creator and Preserver of Money, and Money and Trade are the Sinews of War.

be so Rich in itself by Nature, that Art & Industry might make it exceed all that hath been said by any Author in praise of Lant, the place we have hitherto been speaking of.

Cornwall (by the Providence of God) doth naturally produce Tin: A Metall~~l~~, when fine, is, in its Nature, next to Silver

The County being Environed as it is by the Sea, & having the advan~~t~~. of good Harbors, Nature seems to have design'd it for a flourishing Trade; the more, because that land not only abounds w. the best Tin, in the World, & the g^{re}at Quantities thereof, but the Sea affords it the best Fish also.

And abounding w. Tin & Fish, as Lant doth w. Currants & Wine, as the Venetians have improved the Trade of Lant, so we sh^d. use our utmost Endeavour to Encourage & Revive the

But it doth not become me to say much of the Trade of this Nation in general, it being under the care of that Hon. Counsel, now, most seasonably, appointed to inspect the same.

Nevertheless, having a natural affection for Cornwall, as it is my native County, and having informed myself thereof, I take it to be so Rich in itself by

Trade of Cornwall

[... in Queen Elizabeth's time, when we had the absolute Empire of the Ocean, & a flourishing Trade, ...].

... Some yrs. before the Restauration, when we had again the Command of the Seas, that Commodity of Cornwall yielded to the Turners there 6 l. 5 s. a hundred Merchants Weight, clear of all Coinage Duties; & then the Income to that County (by that Commodity only) amt^d. to 200000 l. Sterling a Year & upwards.

The Quantities of Tin are now almost the same as formerly, only that Trade hath been, of latter Year, mismanaged, ... the price of Tin being now brought down to 50s per Cent. or thereabouts.

For the Cornish Factors are less kind to Countrymen the Turners, than our English Factors are to the Lantists; &

Nature, that Art and Industry might make it exceed all that hath been said by any Author in praise of Zant, the place we have hitherto been speaking of.

Cornwall (by the Providence of God) doth naturally produce Tin – A Metal, [which], when fine, is, in its Nature, next to Silver ...

more faithful to the London-Pewterers, than those are to their English Principals. And (being no less careful for themselves) as our Factors employ their Merchants Capitals, to prevent & fore-stall those that employ them; so our Cornish Factors employ the Stock, remitted to them by the Pewterers, in necessary Materials for carrying on the Tin-Trade; wh. Materials they sell at extraordinary Rates to the labouring Turners, to be paid for the same in Tin, much under the Market-price.

And having once got those people into their Debt, they do by Interest & Extortion always keep them so poor, that (to gratify the London-Pewterers & Merchants that employ them, & for another Interest) they compel those poor Turners to sell at what price they please, by that means do govern the Market, not

The County being Environed as it is by the Sea, and having the advantage of good Harbors, Nature seems to have designed it for a flourishing Trade; and the more, because that Land not only abounds with the best Tin in the World, and the greatest Quantities thereof, but the Sea affords it the best Fish also.

only to the gr. Detourment of the County, but to the Disadvan. of the Kingdom.

Now the Tin-trade being divided into so many Peoples Hands, as those labouring, adventuring Tinner are, it will be difficult to do them good, but by a law enacted to redress their Grievances; & such a Law, as (~~being executed~~) [the Venetians employ'd....]

And we having so far lost our Western Trade of Tin, that the labouring Tinner can scarce get their Bread we may regain it if (after the . . . Example of the Venetians) a Novissima Imposta be laid upon all such as shall buy & sell Tin in the Counties of Cornwall & Devon, under three or four Pounds a hundred, [or such a Price as shall be fixed] [At. 4 l. per Cent..]

The Km. will gain (accor. to the present Rate of Tin) Three Parts in Eight

And abounding with Tin and Fish, as Zant [i.e. Zakynthos] doth with Currants and Wine, as the Venetians have improved the Trade of Zant, so we should use our utmost Endeavour to Encourage and Revive the Trade of Cornwall ...

... Some years before the Restauration, when we had again the Command of the Seas, That Commodity of Cornwall yielded to the Tinner there £6 5s a

of all that is Transported, because the same Quantity being Transported at that Price, will occasion the Importation of three eighth Parts more in return, either in Money or Merchandise; For all other Markets are governed by the first Market price.

The County in gen. will gain by it, because Land & Trade are in natural Sympathy; & the Turners . . . will have the more Money & Credit to support themselves . . .

The Cornish Factors will gain by it $\frac{3}{8}$ Parts in their Provision, if no more; & this will take away the Occasion of bounding the Poor to gratify the Principal re
[all others to benefit].

And that it may not be urged, That the advancing the Price of Tin will cause the less Quantity thereof to be Transported, I must here take notice, That there is no

hundred Merchant's Weight, clear of all Coinage Duties; and then the Income of that County (by [Tin] only) amounted to £200,000 Sterling a Year and upwards.

The Quantities of Tin are now almost the same as formerly, only that Trade hath been, of latter years, mismanaged ... the price of Tin being now brought down to 50s per Hundredweight or thereabouts.

Part of the known World, besides C'wall. & Rev. , that doth produce Tin, unless it be Germany & the E.-Indies; & the Tin wh: is made there, is not so go. as our Tin by 20s the Hundred

.. The Tin coined in C'wall in .. 1692 ... was by the Coinage - Books of that County 11174 Pieces, & the Coinage Duty thereof being 4s a Hundred in C'wall, amounted that Year to 5449 l. 17s. 00d. By wh: it doth appear, That there must have been 27249 hundred Weight of Tin made that Year in C'wall. only.

[Works out calculations to show how little Tinniers get after paying all charges. The figures look a little wild!]

[The Factors not the only Causes of the poor Tinniers' Misery. The Lawyers also

For the Cornish Factors are less kind to ... the Tinniers, than the English Factors are to the Zanteots, and more faithful to the London-Pewterers ... [They] employ the Stock, remitted to them by the Pewterers, in necessary materials for carrying on the Tin-Trade; which Materials they sell at extraordinary Rates to the labouring Tinniers, to be paid for the same in Tin, much under the Market-price.

make much out of Tinnis' ignorance in
questions of Bounds, Landlords, Fellow-
Adventurers, etc.]

[Gives list of all tin shipped from
Port of London in 1693 - month by
month, w. each Merchants name &
destination ports ... Total. 61413 cwt.]

And having once got those people into their Debt, they do by Interest and Extortion always keep them so Poor, that (to gratify the London-Pewterers and Merchants that imploy them ...) they compel those poor Tinnis to sell at what Price they please, and by that means do govern the Market, not only to the great Detriment of the County, but to the Disadvantage of the Kingdom.

Now the Tin-Trade being divided into so many Peoples Hands, as those labouring, adventuring Tinnis are, it will be difficult to do them good, but by a Law enacted to redress their Grievances ...

And we having so far lost our Western Trade of Tin, that the labouring Tinnis can scarce get their Bread ... we may regain it ... if (after the ... Example of the Venetians) a Novissima Imposta be laid upon all such as shall buy and sell Tin in the Counties of Cornwall and Devon under three or four Pounds a hundred, [or such a Price as shall be fixed] ...

The Kingdom will gain (according to the present Rate of Tin) Three Parts in Eight of all that is Transported, because the same Quantity being Transported at that Price, will occasion the Importation of three eighth parts more in return, either in Money or Merchandise; for all other Markets are governed by the first Market price.

The County in general will gain by it, because Land and Trade are in Natural Sympathy; and the Tinnis ... will have the more Mony and Credit to support themselves ...

The Cornish Factors will gain by it three-eighth Parts in their Provision, if no more; and this will take away the Occasion of Grinding the Poor to Gratifie the Principal etc ...

And that it may not be urged, That the advancing the Price of Tin will cause the less Quantity thereof to be Transported, I must here take notice, That there is no Part of the known World, besides Cornwall and Devon, that doth produce Tin, unless it be Germany and the East Indies; and the Tin which is made there, is not so good as our Tin by 20s the Hundred ...

... the Tin coined in Cornwall in ... 1692 ... was by the Coinage-Books of that County 11174 Pieces, and the Coinage Duty thereof being 4s a Hundred in Cornwall, amounted that year to £5449 17s 00d. By which it doth appear, That there must have been 27249 hundred Weight of Tin made that Year in Cornwall only.

[Works out calculations to show how little Tinnners get after paying all charges. The figures look a little wild!]

[The Factors [are] not the only Cause of the poor Tinnners' Misery. The lawyers also make much out of Tinnners' ignorance in questions of Bounds, Landlords, Fellow-Adventurers, etc.]

[Gives list of all tin shipped from Port of London in 1693 – month by month, with each Merchant's name and destination ports. Total 61413 cwt.]

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