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P R E F A C E.

**T**HESE Letters were occasionally wrote for the Information of a Gentleman in the present House of Commons, and are made publick at his Instance, to shew the great Concern the Plantations (especially the Island of *Jamaica*) are to *Great-Britain* to encourage and preserve, and to undeceive many People, who are carried away with a Notion of great Advantages, never before enjoy'd, accruing to this Kingdom, by erecting the *South-Sea Company*, and their Trading on the foot of the *Assiento Contract*.

If upon Perusal, any Person should think the Service of the Island in *Jamaica*, is the View and Intent of writing them, he is not much mistaken, for it must be confess'd the dismal Consequences, unavoidably falling upon that Island from the *Assiento Contract*, and the *French* being left with the share they have these late Years possid'd of *Hispaniola*, with the Liberty they now enjoy of Trading in the *South-Seas*, were the first Motive that occasion'd the mention of some things thereupon in Discourse, which afterwards were thought proper to be set in a fuller light, and explain'd by the following Letters, not altogether for the Advantage and Interest of *Jamaica*, but for the general Advantage and Interest of *Great-Britain*, by

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