

subsequent Treaties, and our Agreements subsisting therein. The Case, in short, is this; the Old Duties, paid under different Denominations, after Allowances of *Gratias*, &c. amounted on some Goods to Eight and a half, on others to Nine and a half *per Cent.* in the Kingdom of *Castile*, where they were higher than in *Valencia*, *Arragon* and *Catalonia*; but by an explanatory Article of the Treaty of *Utrecht* we made a Composition, agreeing to pay 10 *per Cent.* in general, on all Goods in Lieu of the Old Duties, exclusive of the Rights of *Alcavalas*, *Cientos*, &c. which are expressly excepted, and for which we lie entirely at the Mercy of the King of *Spain*. Why then what have we to complain of? If other Nations continue to pay the Old Duties can we raise an Outcry, because our own foolish Composition amounts to more? If *Spain* had lowered the Old Duties on the Goods of other Nations, we might have laid in some Claim with a better Grace; but *Spain* making no Alteration in the Old Duties, and doing nothing more than holding us to our Composition for those Old Duties, what can we complain of but our own Indiscretion? And that you may