

in gold L128,229, total L3,299,633 : 17 : 8 ; being on an average, per annum L549,938 : 19 : 7 $\frac{2}{3}$ *.

1704.—By a law, made about the beginning of this year, for the public registering of all deeds, conveyances, and wills, in any honours, manors, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, within the west riding of the county of York, a memorial of all deeds and conveyances, and of all wills and devises in writing, whereby any honours, manors, &c. in the said west riding, may be in any way affected in law or equity, may, at the election of the party or parties concerned, be registered, as is herein after directed. And that, after such register, every subsequent deed or conveyance of the honours, manors, &c. so registered, or any part thereof, shall be adjudged fraudulent and void, unless a memorial thereof shall also be registered; and the like of wills, &c. The register's office is to be kept at Wakefield. This act not to extend to copy-hold estates, nor to leases at rack-rent, nor to any lease not exceeding 21 years.

The very good reasons assigned for this law, in its preamble, were, that this west riding is the principal place in the north for the cloth manufacture : and that most of the traders therein are freeholders, and have frequent occasions to borrow money upon their estates for managing their trade ; but, for want of a register, find it difficult to give security to the satisfaction of the lenders, although the security they offer be really good, by means whereof their trade is very much obstructed, and many families ruined. [2, 3 *Ann. c. 4.*]

What pity it is, that such a register could not be rendered practicable all over England, since thereby undoubtedly many frauds might effectually be prevented, and this too, without exposing gentlemen's circumstances farther than the nature of such registers absolutely require.

N. B. By an act [5 *Ann. c. 18*] for enrolment of bargains and sales in the west riding, several additional provisions were made for enrolling all bargains, sales, &c. needless herein to be particularized.

The former part of the year 1704 seemed at first to portend much hazard to the liberties and commerce of the greatest part of Christendom : France was in actual possession of the whole Spanish monarchy ; the German empire powerfully invaded on the side of Bavaria by the French, where, as well as in Italy, their superiority gave them great

* Along with the account given by Mr. Anderson, I here lay before the reader the following official accounts.

According to the account made up by the accountant of the East-India company for the house of commons, the bullion carried to India (partly from Cadiz) from 25th December 1698 to 25th December 1703, being five years, was,

In silver, 5,160,225 ounces,
at 5/ per ounce, L1,290,056 5 0
In gold almost 19,170 ounces
at L4 per ounce, 76,680 0 0

Total value at the prices of bullion rated by Davenant L1,366,730 : 5 : 0.

Agreeable to the account made up by Doctor Davenant, inspector-general of the customs, also for the house of commons, the East-India goods, re-exported from England in the four years from Christmas 1698 to Christmas 1702, amounted to L2,538,933 : 11 : 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. If the re-exportation of the year 1703 was in the same proportion, it was more than double the value of the bullion exported by the company, and strongly supports what is urged by the advocates for the India trade. *M.*