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could not even be attempted in any former Edition, on Account of the complex and perplexing Mode of collecting the Customs, before the Consolidating Act took Place.

With Respect to ancient Documents of Authority, the Forms of which have not undergone any Alteration whatever, they are preserved as they stood in the Original, being testimonials of the Care and Attention of the deceased Author, and Memorials of the great Number of Years, that his Book has been held in deserved Esteem.

Some Pages of obsolete Matter, such for Instance, as the Ordinances regulating the old Banks of *France*, established during the Minority of *Louis XV*; and other Papers of a similar Nature, have been rejected, and in their Stead, new and interesting Subjects of the present Day have been introduced, which will be easily found in the general Contents, and in the Index. Unwilling, therefore, to descend to Particulars, we shall only mention the last Regulations of the Corn Trade, and the latest Decisions upon that most important Concern, the Circulation of *Accommodation Bills of Exchange*, with fictitious Endorsements.

To the List of modern commercial Writers, mentioned in the last Edition, as having afforded great Assistance to the Editor, he has now to add the new Edition of *Cooke's Bankrupt Laws*. *The Reports of Cases adjudged in the Court of Chancery by William Brown, Esq*; down to last Trinity Term 1791. *Kyd's Treatise on the Law of Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes*. *The Term Reports*, &c. From all these Compilations, he has extracted whatever was essential to complete his own; and always with a candid Acknowledgement of the Obligation; a fair Practice, which he takes this Opportunity to recommend to those, who have most copiously borrowed from the every Edition of *Lex Mercatoria*, without any Restriction on the Part of its respectable Proprietors.

A new Arrangement was judged necessary with Respect to the *Customs*, which transposed to the Close of the Work, with a View to annex further Regulations and Government, which have been daily expected.

Finally, as the public Funds are now generally considered to be the Barometer of our national Prosperity, which is reputed to increase or decrease, as they rise or fall in any great Degree; and most of our Merchants are deeply interested in them, for themselves, and their foreign Correspondents, the last general Statement of them, as delivered into Parliament, forms one very important Article of the Appendix.

London, January 1st, 1792.

T. M.

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