

*Dutch* had gotten there, as also to reestablish things so well there, in fortifying the Garrisons, and in Arming them better than they had yet been in time past, that for the Future they might be in a condition to resist Forreigners, and to hinder their Descent and Communication in the Country. Soon after our Arrival, *Ignatio Maleo* the Captain of our Ship, receiv'd an Order from the Court of *Spain* to come to *Madrid*, to inform the Council for the *Indies* of the Condition in which he found and left things at *Buenos Ayres*: He was desirous that I would accompany him thither, which I did. As soon as we arriv'd at *Madrid*, he gave in the Memoires, not only of all he had observ'd in the River of *Plata*, but also of the means that might be us'd to hinder Strangers from having the least thoughts of Trading there, and that first by keeping Two good Men of War at the Mouth of the River, to dispute and hinder the Passage of such Merchant Ships as should attempt to go up to *Buenos Ayres*; in the second place by sending every Year Two Ships Loaded with all things the People of those parts have occasion for. That being this way sufficiently supply'd, they might have no thoughts of favouring the descent and entrance of Strangers, when they should come thither. He moreover made a propo-