

thing fit for Cloathing: which as we were inform'd were proper commodities for those Parts. Now the Custom is, that as soon as a Licens'd Ship (that is to say which has the King of Spain's Permission) comes to *Buenos Ayres*. The Governor of the Place, or Captain of the Ship dispatches a Messenger to *Peru*, with the Letters from *Spain*, if he has any; or else to acquaint the Merchants with his Arrival, whereupon some of them immediately set out to *Buenos Ayres*, or else send Commissions to their Correspondents, to buy up what Wares they think convenient. 'Twas my fortune to be sent upon both these Errands, for among a great many Letters that we brought with us, was a large packet from his Catholick Majesty for *Peru*, enclos'd in a Leaden Box, as all the Dispatches from the *Spanish* Court to the *Indies* commonly are; to the end, that if the Ship that carries them should be in eminent peril of falling into an Enemies Hands, they might be flung over board and sunk. This Packet was entrusted to my care, wherein were many Letters to the Vice-Roy of *Peru*, and other Prime Officers in those Parts, signifying the Birth of the Prince
of