Date	Colonial Marker 5: *Colonial Exploitation*	Description	References
1706	**Defoe's Essay on Scotland's "Inexhaustible Treasure of Men"** Daniel Defoe, close to English government and Union structuring explained in clear terms to English parliamentarians the intent to profit from Scotland's soldiery's prowess obtained over 1400 years of repelling its country's aggressive neighbour. This is an intimation of an exploitable source of imperial cannon fodder.	**CANNON FODDER AND IMPERIAL MANPOWER** "The greatest resource of this country is its people." The most extraordinary of statements of intent came in an essay by Union architect Daniel Defoe in 1706: *"**Scotland is an inexhaustible Treasure of Men**, as may be demonstrated by the vast Numbers they have in our Armies and Navy, and in the Armies of the Swede, the Pole, the Muscovite, the Emperor, Holland, and France, what might not England now do, had she in her Pay all the Scots, actually in the Service of these Princes, where they are daily cutting one anothers Throats; and at the Expence of their Country's Impoverishment, gain the empty Reputation of being the best Soldiers in the World.* *This is a **Treasure beyond the Indies**, and what few People know how to value; and it has hitherto been our Happiness, that the Scots are thus dispeopled and impoverish'd"* – Daniel Defoe (1) Emeritus Professor of History at St Andrews University Bruce Lenman assessed: "*the military purpose of the Scottish regiments was initially to **have potential subversives 'slaughtered fighting the French'*** (2). A measure of the importance of Scots fighters, particularly	(1) Defoe D., An essay at removing national prejudices against a Union with Scotland. Part 1, London 1706, p28 (2) Bruce Lenman, The Jacobite Clans of the Great Glen 1650-1784, London Methuen 1984, p. 65-66

[5] Baird, A. J. (2024) The Real Economic Price of the UK Union for Scots. https://yoursforscotlandcom.wordpress.com/2024/03/19/the-real-economic-price-of-the-uk-union-for-scots/

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		Highlanders, can be glimpsed from historian T. M. Devine's remark that, as emigration burgeoned following Scotland's defeat in the 1745 war of independence, *"Fears were voiced especially about the loss of Highlanders now regarded as vital both to the 'nation's [England-as-Britain] prosperity and military power" (3)*. Prosperity and military power should be understood as interdependent central drivers of English-as-British imperial ambitions.	(3) T. M. Devine, Scotland's Empire: the Origins of the Global Diaspora, Penguin Books 2004, p. 108
		English military historian Patrick Mileham went further than Bruce Lenman in his assessment to say that, ***of the 3 million men who served in the Scottish regiments, half were killed or wounded on active service***. The casualty figures he quotes are horrifying. In the American war of 1756-63 Scots lost men at four times the American or English rate. At Ticonderoga in New York State, the Scots regiment The Black Watch "lost half its men, a rate they almost repeated at Magesfontein in the Boer War."(4)	(4) Patrick Mileham, The Scottish Regiments 1633-1996, Staplehurst: Spelmount,1996 (1988), p. 7
		Scottish historian Murray Pittock compares ***"the valour of Scotland's heroic past with her current role as a supplier of the imperial troops"***. Of the casualty toll he notes this as *"a colossal global figure which conceals numerous instances of* ***Scottish troops proving themselves worthy partners in Empire through heroism or alternatively being used as cannon fodder***." (5)	
		Which of those alternatives is fact? ***No nation under the control of a foreign Crown is a "partner in Empire"***. There is little doubt about the fate, future and status of Scots soldiers – the "inexhaustible Treasure of Men" as a pre-union Daniel Defoe cast them in his mind's eye.	(5) Murray Pittock, Scottish Nationality, Palgrave London 2001, p. 84

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1706	**Defoe Revelations of Intent – Exploitation and Colonial Leverage** Daniel Defoe was a propagandist, spy, novelist[1] and strategic architect of the Union. He wrote a six-part essay to promote it in both Scotland and England. The first two of these were privately communicated to the English political and commercial classes. They contain much that is disparaging about Scotland, and passages that are deeply revealing about England's motivations for Union. Security of its northern border, often cited as the principle reason, is seen here to be only a single facet of England's imperial ambitions.	*"Historians have no option but to begin by assuming that what people actually talk about provides us with the most reliable guide to their beliefs."* – *Quentin Skinner, historian of political thought* Below are some passages from Defoe's extended essay on the Union; first from Parts I and 2, which were addressed to the English political and commercial class, and then from Part 3 addressed to the Scots. The passages addressed to the English speak for themselves. ***The intention of England's ruling core are to exploit Scotland by means of "colonial leverage", in particular its people who, with their valuable broadly-based Scots education, ingenuity and diligence, were coveted as an exploitable asset for England's imperial ambitions***. The same is true of Scotland's ***Europe-wide recognised military prowess; the accumulation of hundreds of years repelling an aggressive, acquisitive and colonializing neighbour*.** **The importance of these essays cannot be over-emphasised. They map out the colonising mindset in England at the time of this coercive Treaty and set the background to all that followed in the brutal subjugation – cultural, political and economic – of the nation of Scots, and the exploitation of their human and natural resources that has continued to this day.**	

[1] Writing in his book Culture and Imperialism of the role of fiction in the development of imperial attitudes, Edward Said says of Defoe's famous novel, Robinson Crusoe, "The prototypical modern realistic novel is Robinson Crusoe, and certain not accidentally it is about a European who creates a fiefdom for himself on a distant, non-European island."

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Comments are shown in blue.

<u>Defoe Essay Parts 1 & 2</u> (E1),(E2)
(addressed to the English political/commercial class)

(E1) Defoe Essay Pt 1 - Addressed to English Political/Commercial Class

(E2) Defoe Essay Pt 2 - Addressed to English Political/Commercial Class

"a *Freedom of Trade is our [England's] Advantage, more than the Scots, that the* ***Scots have been oppress by us in Trade****" (E1p17)*

"the Advantages of this Union shall be greater to the English than to the Scots*" (E1p22)*

"that these two Twin Nations may become one United ***English Empire****" (E2p4)*

"all the Wealth that Scotland shall accrue by Improvement, shall Circulate thro' the Capital *[London]" (E2p5)*

"In this Union here are ***Lands and People added to the English Empire****" (E2p5)*

"The numbers [of Scots] that go abroad ***shall People our Colonies,*** *and* ***extend our Borders on the Continent of America****, a part of that World which this Nation [Scotland] has room in, to grow equally populous and terrible [sic] to what they are at home and whole* ***growing Wealth is all our own, and can never be thought too great"*** *(E2p5-6)*

"I understand an entire Coallition or Incorporation of two different Bodies into one … ***to all Intents and Purposes as has been formerly settled between the Kingdom of England, and the Principalities of Wales"*** *(E2p7)*
[Wales was finally fully subjected to English sovereignty, i.e. fully

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colonized by England, in 1536.]*"The Religion and Civil Administration of Justice in Scotland, are* ***no more concern'd in this Matter, than*** *the Popish Religion and Methods of Justice reserv'd in* ***Lancashire and Durham, have been Obstructions to their being annex'd to the English Government, and made Provinces thereof"*** *(E2p7)*
[Annexation and provincial status strongly hinted at to Defoe's ruling patrons, and clearly in full prospect]

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*"Thus poor Scotland was bought and sold, and the Example is useful for our Observation a great many ways; for **thus shall every Nation be used**, that is divided into contending Parties, and **expos'd to an encroaching Government."** (E2p22)*
[strong indicator of predatory intent]

*"The **English are a rich Nation but greatly in Debt**, the **Scots are poor but free and clear from all manner of Incumbrance, Arrear, or any Claim of Debt whatsoever."** (E2p24)*

*"the Union is for the Advantage of the whole, **but more especially for England** ...even in all these things **we shall have the Advantage of Scotland**, and be Gainers by the Union." (E2p30)*

*"Why are not the Bowels of the Earth search'd in the vast Tracts of Land we possess there... In the **Mountains of America**? Answer: **WANT OF PEOPLE". This therefore is the Wealth the Union shall bring us; this the Treasure to be rais'd out of the Barren Mountains of Scotland; poor Scotland shall thus make rich England".** (E2p31)*

*"the Union shall be our Advantage; **whose shall the Wealth be; to whom the Encrease**? .. it will appear beyond contradiction, That **as London is the Emporium of Britain, it will be the Center of Wealth**". (E2p32)*

Defoe Essay Part 3 (E3)
(addressed to the Scots political/commercial class)

***" I was challeng'd often** [when addressing the English]**, to make out what the English should Gain by it. ... 'tis hard to determine which side shall be the greater Gainer."** (E3p5-6)* [reality:

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		"I have said elsewhere, to **breake the Treaty, is to Dissolve the Constitution and very Being of the Parliament, and Overthrow the Union; and to think England will Contribute to Breaking the Treaty, is too hard a Suggestion"** *(E3p26)* The final [reality: Treaty null ab initio; no intention of ever implementing its provisions other than in a perfunctory and selective fashion; annexation by Treaty.]word can be left to Defoe. From Essay Part 4, a reply to certain queries of a "Mr H..dges and some other Authors" he assures: "*The true meaning [of the Treaty of Union] is,* ***not that one should be Slaves to the other; should England, under the Shelter of a Majority of Voices, attempt the Enslaving Scotland, and assault the Articles of Stipulation, Invade the Treaty, and break in upon the Conditions by Violence. The Consequence is plain, the Partnerships is broke, the Union is dissolv'd of Course, and the Invaders become Tyrants and Oppressors***." (E4,14-15)	(E4) Defoe Essay Pt 4 – Replies to queries

[∂∂∂] The seeds of contempt for the principles of the "voluntary partnership" were sown right here, in this Essay of Parts, laid bare for all posterity to judge.