

public spirit, might exist in some individuals, to pay a less sum than they ought. And such a mode, I imagine, might be devised, for rendering the aid effectual, without exposing the amount of any man's fortune, contrary to his inclination; but I apprehend it would be essential, in order to avoid jealousy, as well as oppression, to place the power of collecting the money, as is now done with respect to the land-tax, in the hands of persons chosen by the people themselves, and not named by the Ministers of the Crown.—Honour and distinction, ought ever to attend, remarkable instances of zeal for the commonwealth, and some mark of honour, might be annexed, to every instance of uncommon zeal, in contributing, on this occasion, to the public support; which arrangement would probably produce the happiest effects.

But it would be presumption, to offer any plan, that may have occurred to me, in a matter of so much consequence.—If the general idea is approved, men of better information, and happier talents, will readily point out, the best mode of effectuating the purpose intended; and I have no doubt, that the measure will be found extremely practicable, if the voice of the nation gives encouragement to the general plan.

In order, that money might be more easily found, by every one, for answering the successive payments, to the public, it would be proper, that the advances should be made, by many different instalments; and that the times of these instalments, should