

*chiefly* paid by Ships *not* owned in the Provinces; but the amount levied on our Coasting Trade proved so burthensome, that repeated and strenuous exertions for their reduction were made by the Assembly, on the ground of their being far beyond the legal allowances.

Yet, however just and urgent their representations, and notwithstanding the manifest inutility of the Naval Office as constituted, whose continuance was always complained of no satisfactory result could be obtained until, by the New System, not only the Naval Office with its exactions, but Custom House Fees of every kind, were entirely abolished. That this House may know the extent of the charge then removed, the Committee refer to the statement B. for the years 1823, 1824 and 1825, which shows that the average yearly amount received at the Customs was £5576 12s 10<sup>d</sup>. currency: to which must be added at least £900, currency for the sums collected by the several Naval Officers: making together an average yearly expense of about £6476 12s 10<sup>d</sup>. currency, or £5828 19s. 7d. sterling. However, the precise sums then received by the Naval Officers, the Committee have no means of ascertaining.

The new Acts took effect on the 5th January 1826, and were followed by the discriminating duty of 10 per cent directed by an Order of His Majesty in Council of the 27th July 1826,—and by the repeal of 4th Geo. IV. chapter 77. The Tonnage Duty still continued; and in August 1827, the Acts 7 and 8 George IV. chap. 56 made a material increase of the Duties on various Foreign Manufactures. Other regulations accompanied by some privileges to the Shipping interests were introduced by the 9th Geo. IV, chapter 76. Under these various enactments, the Officers of the Customs have collected for the three years ending on the 5th January, 1829, the sum of £66,007 1s. 5<sup>d</sup>. sterling of which they have paid into the Treasury £40,149 19 6d retaining a balance of £25,857 1s. 11<sup>d</sup> sterling, for the purpose of defraying, under the alleged order and direction of the Right Honourable the Lords of the Treasury, the Salaries and Expenses of the whole Establishment.