

and loss of time, which is thereby occasioned to individuals, especially by the custom-house laws, and the perquisites of officers; all which are grievous obstructions, to the trade and industry of the people.

In order to judge, however, whether it is practicable, to raise, in time of war, the necessary supplies, within the year, it is proper to form some calculation, of the national wealth.

The total wealth of Great Britain, has been computed, by different writers, at different sums. It has undoubtedly increased very much, since the latest of these computations; and I may safely venture to affirm, that it now exceeds very much, *one thousand millions*. In this I comprehend, the value of the land, the value of the houses, the value of stock of all kinds, and materials of manufacture, shipping, cash, money in the Funds due to inhabitants, and debts due to us by persons out of the Kingdom, but deducting the like debts due by us, to other countries; in short, I comprehend every thing which can be denominated wealth or property

It would be tedious to enter into the various modes, by which this computation may be made; it does not rest upon one mode, for various methods concur, to ascertain it as much, as any computation of this sort, can be ascertained. One or two modes may be mentioned, which will give some sort of idea, that the computation cannot be exaggerated.

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