

the Supernumerary 10,000 only, but likewise upon the 10,000; so that, if there was an Establishment of 50,000, the very saving which might with proper Economy be made, would amount to near as much as the Charge of the additional 10,000. And the present augmented Account must in some little Time be made up if the Publick intend to maintain any Credit; and the Difference of To-day or To-morrow is not so considerable, for I suppose we don't imagine to find Credit given us to be accounted for in the next Age. So that we lazily sit Abroad to hatch Mischief for ourselves. But the Publick I think has a Right to be informed on this Head, by what Authority this is done? Unforeseen Accidents, Contingencies unexpected may plead the Excuse of Expenses incurred, tho' not provided for. But a Sett avowed and designed Purpose of running the Nation * in Debt without consent of Parliament, is a Measure that ought to be answered for, especially when it distresses and cramps the publick Service so much, as in the Case of the Navy. Add to this, that a strange Supineness or unfortunate Attention to establishing personal Interest by personal Gratifications, prevails in all our Affairs. For Instance, instead of supplying *Portmahon* with Sulphur directly from *Italy*, we purchase it here in *England* in order to send there, by which we unnecessarily pay the Profit of the Merchant here, and the Freight back to the *Mediterranean*. But Ministers have their Conveniency in the Increase of the publick Debts, in the same Proportion as the Publick its Inconveniency their Power encreases together with it, and a great many other Purposes are served, Discount on Navy Bills will sometimes produce more Interest in a few Days than

* This has been declared heretofore an illegal Practice, and dangerous Invasion of the Rights of Parliament, and an Attempt which differs very little from levying Money without Consent of Parliament.