

this Practice in Times past not to think a little for the future. But the Plate Tax does not affect this Consideration. That cannot be of any Importance otherwise than as a Fund to mortgage, for the Produce of it especially as now modelled, would be as a Drop of Water thrown into the Sea.

I say, therefore, in the first Place, that the Tax on Plate is unnecessary. The Interest of the two Millions borrowed amounts to 70,000*l. per Ann.* the additional Duty on Cards and Dice it is agreed will produce 10,000*l.* and thus much we owe to the Skill of the Minister. The factious have suggested, and the Proposal is approved, to lay a Duty of twenty Shillings by Way of Stamp on the License of every publick House in *Great-Britain*. This will produce 80,000*l. per Ann.* so that there will be a Surplus of 20,000*l.* to go by Way of Addition to the sinking Fund. What need then is there of any more Funds to mortgage?

It has been objected, that this may perhaps prove a deficient Fund. When Calculations are made beforehand of the Produce of Funds, they are generally made at Random.

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