

Families, according to Appearance of Expences or Circumstances; and they have lately rais'd in this Manner to the Value of about three Millions Sterling towards answering the Emergencies of the present Year, *without running in Debt on long Mortgages, secur'd by Taxes on Trade or Plantation Products.*

It has been already observ'd that the *French* have laid little or no Duty on the Importation of their Sugar since the Year 1698, however pressing the Exigencies of their Government might have been since that Time: But the *English* who paid 18 *d.* per Hundred Weight on the Importation of Sugar into *Great Britain*, and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent in *Barbados* and the *Leeward* Islands before that Time, have since been charg'd with an additional Duty of 18 *d.* per Hundred Weight in 1699, and 6 *d.* per Hundred more in 1703-4, besides an additional Duty on Spirits extracted from Molasses of the Growth of our Plantations, in the Year 1732; and * this Duty was doubled in 1743, which is equal at least to 2*s.* 6 *d.* per Hundred Weight on the whole Importation of Sugar into *Great Britain*: This makes in all, *five or six several Duties that still remain on this § valuable Commodity to this Nation.*

SURELY then no one can so much as think of another Duty on this Commodity; but lest it should be so, I have stated the following Queries, in order to shew THE DANGER OF SUCH AN EXPERIMENT, and the Necessity there is for immediate Succours in regard to our Plantations, rather than additional Hardships.

1st. Q. Whether an additional Duty on a Commodity, which is already over-loaded with Duties, can be thought *just or reasonable?*

2^d Q.

* *Vide* Appendix. C. — No. I.

§ *Vide* Page 43. * 145.