

when their own falls off, in refusing to betake themselves to other Business, that they might be employed in, than to the War; so that upon the Whole, in respect to the *Shopkeepers*, the Taxes certainly are not so hurtful to them as to deter us from entering into a just War: On the contrary, I rather believe that all the principal *Shopkeepers* in these Kingdoms would rather we should enter into one, and contribute as largely towards the Support of it as any of his Majesty's Subjects, than abate one Jot of our just Rights, wisely considering, that it is much better to contribute a Part, than stand by and see the Whole swallowed up thro' our Negligence and Inactivity.

There is one Matter which I have omitted to mention, The Complaints in respect to Bankruptcies in Time of War; that if the War is concerned in respect to Bankrupts, it is but obliquely; for the Losses at Sea are the Reasons for very few of them, and those often owing to the Hardiness and Temerity of unskilful Traders who make too much haste to grow rich. As to the wealthy *Merchants* who carry on Foreign Trade, they in Time of War act very cautiously, contenting themselves with small Profits with Safety, rather than run too great Hazards; nor do they forget to assist in the Manner I have before mentioned: add to that, every one knows how readily they contributed in the last War towards