

ment of Seamen to enter into his Majesty's Service, yet the great Difference of the Pay of Merchant Ships in time of War, from 3 or 4^l. per Month to that of the Navy, being only 22s. per Month, makes them very backward to enter, and even when on board to perform their Duty with great Reluctance. Now I would humbly propose that a Tax be laid upon every Seaman in the Merchant Service in time of War only, at so much per Month, as will be a Mean between the Pay in the Navy and the Merchantmen. This may be done by getting the Knowledge of the Wages paid by the Merchants in time of this and the two last Wars; and whatever the general Wages appear to have been more than the Pay in the Navy, the half of it should be the Tax laid on these in the Merchant Service, to raise a Fund for the Increase of these Seaman's Pay which serve in the Navy.

Suppose the Difference be 30s. only the half 15s. for the Tax to be paid by the Seamen in the Merchants Service, and carried to the general Fund; out of which should be paid 5, 6, 8 or 10s. per Month, as it would raise to every able Seaman in the Navy, and in Proportion to the rated ordinary, the Masters, Commanders, Apprentices, not liable to be impressed, excepted from paying any Tax, for the better Encouragement of raising Seamen by Indenture for three Years. For Example, Suppose fifteen Thousand Seamen liable to be impressed in constant Pay in the Merchant Service, and home Trade, their Tax at 15s. per Month, would raise 11250^l. per Month, the yearly Amount will be 135,000^l. which would give to 45,000 Men, employed in the Navy, 5s. a Calendar Month, over and above their common Wages. And if 8s. a Month, more or less, according to the Seaman's Will, out of their common Pay were added to that Sum, and supposing