

be either obliged to prepare for, or be engaged in a new war.

To constitute a proper and permanent System of Finance with absolute security for the present, and good and reasonable prospects for the future, there is no doubt but the statement I have made of Eighteen Millions net yearly, is a fair and just (and I wish I could say practicable to be complied with) demand on the Public, things continuing in the situation they are in.

But it being quite wild and absurd (at least it appearing so to me) to imagine that so large an addition as nearly Six Millions net yearly, over and above what they at present pay, can be wrung from the hands of the people of this Island ; there seems to be a necessity of deviating from the paths of Certainty into those of Probability, of Speculation, of Hope, and even I fear of Possibility. In what follows of Estimate-kind,

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