

house books of the *King's revenue* ; with the quantity of the same article, in the same ports, brought to account in the impost-books of the *Colony revenue*, for six years together ; I could, with some precision, mark the extent of it. I own I did always apprehend that two-pence *per* gallon on foreign molasses imported into any British plantation, (and so in proportion of sugars,) was the best rate at which to fix this duty ; that being thus *moderate*, it might be easier and with less alarm and opposition collected, and might therefore the sooner introduce the practice of fair trade, and the sooner become an *effective revenue* : But when I see a groundless clamour raised, which represents the rate fixed by the late revenue-act, as destructive of the American distillery ; as ruinous to the American fishery ; as a prohibition of the returns made from the foreign islands for the North American fish ; I must own that I have never seen any fact stated, or calculation fairly made, on which such assertions found themselves.

The French isles, since the surrender of Canada and Louisiana, must depend entirely for their supplies of lumber, staves, heads, provisions, live stock, horses, &c. on the British Colonies, immediately exported from thence to those isles ; unless by some means
supplied