

ture; especially if any Regard is to be had to the Distresses of the People, that are but too evident to admit a Thought of any additional Burdens; wherefore, however plausible such a Project may at first View appear, upon a second, I am persuaded, it must be esteemed very ill timed to talk of new Taxes upon a People whose Country is invaded by enterprising cruel Enemies, and for whose immediate Assistance, the united Prayers of the Nation surround the Throne, is whimsical enough: No, let us rather exert our utmost Efforts to rid them of their troublesome Enemies; *for the present Question is not about Taxes, but it is whether England or France shall be Master of North America.* And as this is the Case, I cannot think we can be at any Loss to determine which is most probable to decide it, new Taxes, or repealing an old one that has been so long grievous to the People; for, if I am rightly informed, the Sixpence a Gallon Duty on foreign Melasses (seldom or ever paid) is to be reduced to one Penny, and therewith the Custom-House Officers, &c. (now paid at home) are to be paid in the Plantations, and the Drawback on Exportation of