

responsible. If therefore the Duty of Six-pence was encreased to Nine-pence an Ounce on wrought Plate, and collected from the Manufacturers on such a Plan, and under such Regulations as they are willing to submit to, a Revenue of 30,000*l.* might be raised annually without the least Danger to the Publick, or Disgust to Individuals. The Advocates for the present Measure have never calculated, that it could produce more than 35,000*l.* and as it is new modelled, not more than 25,000*l.* Why then will they not adopt the other Proposition. Let it be tried only as an Experiment, and if in a Year or two it does not answer, the Ministers may at last have Recourse to this disgustful and dangerous Method.

But they have, it seems, rejected this Alternative. Why they have done so I have never been able to learn, but their Tenaciousness on the Occasion has been peculiar. Perhaps it is thought right to take Advantage of the Distress of the Times, in order to induce every private Family in the Kingdom to submit to Excises. If this is the Reason, it is the strongest Reason against the Tax.

Or,