

their Constituents, and because the Weight of Influence was not as yet grown strong enough to introduce such a Change, without plausible Pretences. In the first Place then, it was alledged, that this Method was in reality an Ease to the People, since it enabled them to carry on a necessary War, without levying upon them, immediately, more then they were able to pay. It was in the next Place said, that as the War would be but of a short Continuance, and great Advantages would accrue to the Nation by the Peace, it would be an easy Thing to discharge the Debts contracted during the War, when the Nation was least able to pay, by larger Impositions after the Peace, when by the Increase of Trade the People would be in a better Condition to bear them. Now that these Principles were mistaken, if not fallacious, I shall make appear in very few Words. Dr. *Davenant* in his Discourses on the publick Revenues and Trade of England, observes, that the Revenue of the Crown in 1688 was about two Millions. The House of Commons, in an Address to Queen *Anne*, presented February 12, 1702, inform her, that from November 5, 1688, to March 8, 1701, the Sum of 45,568,725*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.* $\frac{1}{4}$ *qr.* (a Sum never known to be raised in very many Reigns before) had been levied on the Subject, and issued out of the Exchequer for the Service of the late War, to Paymasters and Treasurers. But as it is certain, that a very large Part of this Expence was induced by the Manner of raising it, and by the Additions of Premiums and Discounts, it may very well be computed, that the whole Expence of the War, might have been carried on by an additional Levy of 4,000,000*l.* *per Annum*, and so the whole Expence on the People raised from two