

terest of the Planter, and Country in general, and to those who enjoy Publick Offices, and have large Publick Revenues. By what has been already said, it seems evident, that such a Law would be very advantageous to all concern'd in Tobacco; but if this Objection be not remov'd, the Planter will really be injur'd, for it is of no Advantage to him to raise the Value of Tobacco to ever so great a Height, if he must make but little. and that little must go to discharge his Publick Dues.

The Country has already clipp'd and lessen'd the Officers Fees so often, that it is to be apprehended they'll not agree, nor is it perhaps equitable to dock them more: What remains then to be done? The First Thing that appears necessary in this Case, is, To consider the Nature of these Fees, and the Services done for them, in the several Publick Offices in the Province; and where the Fee is more valuable than the Service for that particular Fee requires, there it ought to be reduc'd, so as to render it adequate to the Service: And altho' the Officers wou'd not agree to lessen their Fees promiscuously, one Third, one Fourth, or any other Proportion, which has always hitherto been the Method, whereby many Fees which are already too small for the Service for which they are perform'd, are reduc'd so much less, and others, perhaps, not near enough reduc'd by that Proportion; yet I believe, none of them would refuse this Method of Entering into the Method of the Services they do the Country, and consider the Rewards that justly attend such Services; and it on this Scrutiny, it be apparent in particular Instances, that the Reward exceeds the Value of the Service, they would readily agree to such a Reduction as might be reasonable: By this Means a great Part of the publick Dues would be lessened, and that with the Officers Consent. When this is adjusted, the next Thing to be consider'd, is, What a Proportion of
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