

Tobacco usually made in the Province, may be lessen'd by this Law: When that is agreed on, let the same proportionable Part of all Publick Dues, be paid in *Grain* of any sort, Hemp, Flax, &c. at stated, fix'd Prices; which wou'd both be an Ease to the Planter, and an Encouragement to go on those Sorts of Manufactures.

Objection the Tenth. Still the remaining Part of our publick Dues will take away great Part of that little, we are permitted to make, which we should be very unwilling to part with, when it is the chiefest Thing we have to depend on, to raise Money by; and if we would buy it of the Officers, they will hold it up at such an exorbitant Rate, that it will take the Produce of what we make, to pay for it, so that still we must either part with that little Tobacco we make, or its full Value to the Officers.

Answer. It is to be hoped, when such a Reduction of the Officers Fees, as was proposed in the foregoing Answer, is made, and such a Proportion of them that are allowed, and all other publick Dues, are to be paid in the Manner there proposed, that the remaining Part will not be so burthensome to the Country: However, if it appears to be so, the Legislature may settle all publick Dues of what Nature soever, at a certain fixed Rate in Money, to be paid to the Sheriff of each County, by such a Day, if the Debtor pleases; so that it may be left to his Choice to pay the Money or Tobacco. If this Method be agreed on, it solves all the Objections I can think of, that can arise on the *Second* Part of this Law, reconciles the Interest of the Officer and Planter together, and will certainly render it very advantageous to the whole Province.

We will now take a View of the Objections that may be made against the *Third* Part of such a Law (wherein the
Freighter