

judge of them. We too have made estimates, and are well satisfied, that with the deduction of the national debt, made by congress in their plan, which in our opinion ought to be adopted and carried into full effect in the best manner; and proper attention be paid to œconomy in the expenditure of public money, the people of this state will be able and willing to support the glorious cause of liberty and independence, to the chagrin and disappointment of all our secret and avowed enemies. We wish not to lay burthens upon any part of the people of this state which may be grievous; none can be laid but such as we share equally with them, and we esteem it the highest honour, that our fate in every respect is so closely connected with that of our countrymen, that with them we shall succeed in our virtuous struggle, or nobly perish in the attempt. The tax of forty-five pounds four shillings on every hundred pounds real and personal property, payable in the present circulating currency, to be raised in eight months, sounds high; but when we consider what property it will take to pay this tax, it cannot be esteemed burthenfome by a people sensible of the important occasion upon which it is to be advanced. If we refer to the produce of an hundred pounds real property, we shall find it takes but a small part of such produce to pay this tax.

A man is possessed of a negro, valued at seventy-five pounds, who will hire for eight hundred pounds of crop tobacco for eight months; his tax will be, according to the estimated price, fifty pounds of tobacco, which is only one eighth part of his income; so of land and other property. An additional tax of seven shillings and six-pence new money, to be collected by the first of January, seventeen hundred and eighty-two, for sinking the new money, will, at the estimated price, be only seventeen pounds of tobacco for every hundred pounds real property, and this will make the necessary taxes only sixty-seven pounds of tobacco on every hundred pounds real property, for the purposes aforesaid; and suppose all our expences hereafter should be as great as they are this year, we are satisfied a rate necessary to carry us through the war, will not exceed one fourth part of the income on the property of this state.

Under these impressions we give you all due credit for embracing the alternative of supporting our cause by taxes and