

Which was read and referred to the committee on the coloured population.

And, delivered the following message:

By the Senate,
March 2d, 1833.

Gentlemen of the House of Delegates,

We have received your message proposing the appointment of a joint committee upon the subject of a State Bank, and urging the condition of the finances of the state, and its pecuniary engagements as a motive to some action for sustaining or improving its resources; and to a consultation as to the expediency of the institution, referred to for accomplishing a necessary or beneficial result in aid of our means or credit.

We are of opinion that conferences between the two branches of the legislature are on some occasions necessary and are then useful, as in the case of ascertained differences of opinion between the two houses on measures proposed; and which have been already tested by the vote of both branches. And they are proper also upon obvious emergencies which require instant action; and may also be allowed where a subject undoubtedly requires legislative provision, and details only are to be adjusted which might occasion much consumption of time if agitated upon the distinct and unconcerted views of each branch.

With such exceptions, we believe that the principle ought to be adhered to as salutary; and indeed essential in the view and genius of our constitution, that the action of the two branches of the legislature should be separate and independent.

The case presented by your message does not seem to be within any of these exceptions;—and we do not conceive that any crisis exists in our State concerns or that a necessity of any kind has occurred, demanding our joint action upon the matters submitted by the message.

We would respectfully add that the use of joint committees, is of recent origin, and has been discovered to be inconvenient in a body limited in numbers, as the senate is: For these reasons, we decline acceding to the proposition contained in your message.

By order,

J. H. Nicholson, Clk,

Which was read.

The house then adjourned, until to morrow morning nine o'clock.