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ingly distressed by the Applications and Complaints of the Creditors of the State, and greatly embarrassed by the Resolution of the 3^d Instant, and the Act to adjust the Debts due from this State. The Act directs that all Claims against the State for Debts or Contracts since the 1st Day of December seventeen hundred and seventy seven shall be reduced to Specie, according to the true Value, observing the Rule prescribed, and that a Certificate shall be given by the Treasurer, on our Order, for that Sum in Specie but does not direct that when the Contract is in Specie that a Certificate shall be given for the Amount, to be discharged in the same Manner and when Certificates given on Contracts for paper Money or Produce seized &^{ca} are to be paid, which makes the Person who has contracted in Specie insist that he ought to be immediately paid specie or an Equivalent in Tobacco or Flour. With Deference we presume it was not the Intention of the Legislature to make any Distinction between Debts and Contracts in Paper or Produce, and Debts and Contracts in Specie as to the Time and Manner of payment, because it appears to be inequitable and would create much Dissatisfaction and uneasiness among those who have been so unfortunate as to contract in Paper; and be a Means of giving the People a greater Disgust to paper Money, and restraining them from contracting in it in Future. We wish for the Sake of the public Interest and to avoid the Censure of the people (some of whom being unacquainted with our Resources and others from different Motives, impute every Failure in the Executive to Causes very different from those which actuate their Conduct) for the Direction of the general Assembly whether any Preference is to be given to specie Contracts? whether public Flour and Tobacco are to be made use of to Satisfy the Certificates to be given under the Act? whether the Money in the Treasury and to be collected is to be so applied and at what rate? If it is the opinion of the general Assembly that the Tobacco, Flour, and Money should be thus appropriated, it would not be consistent with Justice and good Policy, that the Auditor should make an Estimate of the Public Property, and each Creditor paid in Proportion to his Demand? for if they are paid as they apply, til the whole is exhausted those only who are most convenient will be paid and the rest much dissatisfied, and full of Complaints and Murmers against the Assembly and this Board.

Ibid.
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[Council to Capt. Joseph Ford.]

Yours of the 19th we have received and as we are not acquainted with the Circumstances of the Goods must refer you to the Law for your Guide, we are pleased to hear that the Inhabitants of your County, part with their Cattle with Chearfulness we do not think it proper at this Time to enlarge the order. In Case of Invasion the Lieutenant of the County has full Powers to remove all the Stock exposed to the Enemy