

authorises the United States to obtain money by three means. 1st. By requisition; 2d. By loan; and 3d. By emitting bills of credit. 1st. Of the success of that by requisition, we shall be enabled to form a judgment by a statement of those which have been made, and the compliance of the several states under them.

	Dollars.
October 30th, 1781, a requisition was made for	8,000,000
October, 1782, for	2,000,000
April 18, 1784, for	2,670,987
September 1785, for	3,000,000
Up to the first of February, 1786, the payments have been as follows:	
New-Hampshire, facilities	7,679. 8
Massachusetts, 28,864 12	342,677. 83
Rhode-Island,	75,609 43
Connecticut,	140,772. 15
New-York,	163,810. 51
New-Jersey,	153,738 52
Pennsylvania,	496,173. 11
Delaware, 8,368. 7	11,820. 82
Maryland,	167,286 26
Virginia, 29 910	533,096. 38
North-Carolina,	— —
South-Carolina,	374 339 53
Georgia,	— —

It is to be observed, that the two former requisitions were made during the existence and for support of the war: and therefore were not, after its termination, pressed in full on the states; the two latter, however, being a pressure of the former, in the degree, were made upon the estimate of the expenses of the government, and of the public debt, which must remain the same, or nearly so, subject only to the above incidental alterations, until the debt is paid. So disproportionate then, have the payments been, and inadequate to the above purposes, that even the interest upon the foreign loans, which had become due, would not have been paid, had it not been that a part of the said loans were as yet unappropriated; this money was therefore applied to this purpose; but this resource is now exhausted.

2d. Shall we then make further loans? in objection to this, it will obviously occur, that unless we can pay the interest due upon the money we have already borrowed, we shall not be able to borrow more, or upon such disadvantageous terms as to make it highly inexpedient: Add to this, that having in a great measure recovered from the calamities of the late war, being in possession of a free and extensive commerce, at peace with all nations, and the economy of our own government, thus circumstanced, only to attend to, it would add but little to its credit, to admit that it could not discharge those engagements without the aid of other nations.

In objection to the third plan, or emission of paper bills of credit, it may only be observed, that such bills would not even serve to pay off the domestic debt, since bearing no interest, they would in effect put the creditors in a worse condition than they are now in; much less would they avail to support the current expenses of the government of the United States, or discharge the interest due on the foreign debt. The United States, are, however, in possession of another fund, arising from the cession of vacant and unappropriated lands by individual states; but this it is apprehended, as public securities are received in payment, will bring but little specie, into the treasury. Being depreciated considerably below and received at par with specie, it is to be presumed the purchasers, whether citizens or foreigners, not possessed of, will procure these securities for the purpose. These lands, therefore, may be calculated on, and in the degree, as a fund only for the discharge of the domestic debt; and as they are not to be disposed of until surveyed, and some time must elapse before this can be effected, it is obvious that no immediate aid, even for this purpose, can be derived from that source.

Since, therefore, experience hath evinced, that requisitions have failed to obtain from the states, money sufficient for the support of their own government only, that it would be impolitic, if not impossible, to borrow more, that the emission of paper bills of credit would be altogether ineffectual, and of course inadmissible; and that the vacant and unappropriated lands ceded by individual states, can be calculated only as a fund for the discharge, and in the degree of the interest and principal of the domestic debt, it necessarily follows, that unless some other more efficient and productive fund can be found out, we shall suffer the highest national difficulties. Although we have already experienced, and may calculate much, on the generosity of our ally; although our domestic creditors, and especially those of the army, have evinced a patience and magnanimity under their sufferings, which does them the highest credit: yet it is neither consistent with the honour nor the interest of the United States, that justice should be longer delayed, especially while a single effort in their power remains unattempted. After the maturest deliberation, the committee have been able to devise no other than that recommended on the 18th of April, 1783: to this, therefore, they are of opinion, the United States should turn their attention, as the means of relieving them from their present embarrassments. The system, as therein recommended, consists of two parts; the first, an investment of the United States in Congress, with power to levy for the use of the United States, cer-

tain duties upon goods imported into the said states from any foreign port, island, or plantation: the second, such other substantial and effectual revenues as they may judge most convenient for supplying their respective proportions of one million five hundred thousand dollars annually, exclusive of the aforementioned duties, as therein more fully delineated.

In examining the conduct of the several states under this recommendation, they find that, except New-York and Georgia, they have all complied, in some degree, with the first part, and that only have with the latter. That the relief, therefore, may be as expeditious as possible, and particularly that the United States may be enabled to comply with their foreign engagements, while the aforesaid recommendations shall remain in full force as the whole, in confidence they will ultimately be complied with, the committee beg leave to report the following resolution:—

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the states of New-York and Georgia, to take into their immediate consideration the said recommendation of the 18th of April, 1783, more especially that part which proposes an investment of the United States with power to levy, for the use of the said states, certain duties upon goods imported into the said states from any foreign port, island, or plantation, and to comply with the same.

A motion was made by Mr. Houshoun, seconded by Mr. Smith, to postpone the consideration of the above report until the first day of March next; and on the question for postponing, it passed in the negative.

ELIZABETH-TOWN, January 25.

The following melancholy circumstance occurred about three or four weeks since in Somerset county, and is here related as was given by a person lately from that quarter. One McDonald, a legitimate son of Mr. McDonald, formerly sheriff of said county, having quarrelled with a natural son of said sheriff, a challenge was given, but the latter not appearing by the time appointed at the place of rendezvous, the challenger mounted his horse to go in quest of him to his house in company with his brother; but unfortunately they met on the way, and when the legitimate McDonald came within reach of his adversary, he dismounted him by a blow he gave him on the head with a loaded horse whip, and not satisfied with barely knocking him off his horse, he repeated his blows until one Mr. Connet, a tavern keeper near the place, being alarmed with the groans uttered by the almost dying man, came to his assistance; he was assaulted in his turn, but having the advantage as to strength, McDonald, big with a desire to imbue his hands in human blood, taking out of his pocket a penknife, with it opened the artery inside of his thigh, and not satisfied with what he had done, with another stroke ripped up a his belly, so that his entrails came out—and when the said Connet, finding himself unable to oppose any longer, was endeavouring to leave him, with the most cruel fierceness he gave him three stabs in his back, which shortly after closed the period of his life. There are three of them confined in gaol. McDonald, the murderer of Connet, with his brother, who was to have been his second, and the natural son of said sheriff.

CHARLESTON, (S. C.) January 26.

The brig Nymph, captain Palmer, from New-York, brought paper for printing the new emission money upon. It has in it a water mark, a most difficult feature to be counterfeited, and which will tend to prevent its circulation from being damped by doubts about authenticity.

NEW BERN, (North Carolina) January 5.

Last week arrived here the sloop Cripple, captain Hillister, from New York, in which came passenger the honourable major-general Howe. The following resolves of the two houses of legislature, and their votes of thanks to that gallant officer, are the grateful emanations of his country, for his long and faithful services:

STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA,

In the HOUSE of COMMONS, December 28, 1785.

WHEREAS major-general Robert Howe, formerly colonel of the second regiment of the continental line of this state, having been absent from the year 1785, on duty, as an officer of the army, to the end of the war, and having, during that period, distinguished himself by many signal services,

Resolved, That the thanks of the general assembly be given to general Howe, for the early and distinguished part he took in the late revolution, and for his long and faithful services to the United States in the late war, and that the speakers do transmit to him the thanks of the general assembly accordingly.

RICHARD D. SPAIGHT, sp. com.

By order, J. HUNT, clk.

In the SENATE, December 28, 1785.

The foregoing resolution was read and concurred with.

ALEX. MARTIN, sp. sen.

By order, J. HAYWARD, clk.

Pursuant to this resolve the speakers of the two houses caused general Howe to be presented with the following letter, in which was enclosed a copy of the foregoing resolution, viz.

To the honourable Robert Howe, Esq; late major-general in the army of the United States of America.

S I R,

IN pursuance of a resolution of the honourable the general assembly of this state, which we do ourselves the honour to enclose you, be pleased to accept, through us, the thanks of the legislature, for the early and distinguished part you have taken in the late revolution, and for your long and faithful services to the United States in the late war.

Be assured, Sir, we feel a particular pleasure in the part assigned us, in communicating to you the public testimonial of the approbation and gratitude of your country.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servants,

ALEX. MARTIN, sp. sen.

RICH. D. SPAIGHT, sp. com.

Newbern, December 29, 1785.

To the foregoing general Howe caused the speakers of the general assembly to be presented with the following answer.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN,

THE felicity I feel in reflecting that I have faithfully endeavoured to do my duty is greatly increased by the honourable testimony transmitted me, that my conduct has been thought worthy of the notice, and has obtained the approbation of the honourable bodies in which you gentlemen preside. Ever happy in serving my country, and ever desirous of its applause, I cannot but rejoice at receiving this ever pleasing confirmation that my efforts have not been wholly unsuccessful. Devoted to the common weal, I glory in the consciousness that duty to the public with me ever did and ever shall precede all other considerations, however interesting, endearing or heart-rending; but did my zeal in the service of America require a stimulus, or could it possibly admit of addition, the honours done me this day would certainly effect it.

Permit me, gentlemen, to request that you convey for me to the legislature, the high sense I have, and the grateful remembrance I shall retain the marks of distinction shewn me by my particular country; and enhance the obligation by accepting my thanks for the manner in which you have been pleased to communicate the very favourable sentiments they entertain of my services.

I am, honourable gentlemen,

With the greatest respect,

Your most obedient

And very humble servant,

ROBERT HOWE.

Newbern, December 29, 1785.

BALTIMORE, February 21.

A gentleman of veracity from Harford county, in this state, has related the following circumstance, which happened in his neighbourhood.—That about a fortnight ago, three negro men went to the dwelling house of a lonely woman, (who by her industry in the mantua and quilting businesses, had acquired a comfortable support) whom they robbed, murdered, and afterwards set fire to the house, which was entirely consumed before any discovery was made. Such of the neighbours who collected at the place after the house was burnt, were of opinion it caught by accident, and that the woman who lived in it must have perished in the flames, as there was no account of her. That on the third day after the transaction happened, one of the negroes concerned in this inhuman business, made a discovery to his master, by informing him, he with two others were guilty of the above robbery and murder, and for the purpose of keeping the whole affair secret, they had set fire to the house and burned the corpse—and said that he had neither slept nor had peace of mind since it happened. He at the same time delivered up his share of the money and goods to his master.

ANNAPOLIS, March 2.

TO THE PUBLIC.

IN November 1782, I received from col. Forrest notes for a considerable quantity of tobacco, which col. Forrest and myself had purchased of the intendand.—On my way from Annapolis to St. Mary's, I called at Mr. Sothoron's, where I met Mr. Forbes, with whom I had a tobacco transaction.—On a settlement of our accounts, I became his debtor, and offered him some tobacco inspected at Magruder's warehouse, which we had purchased of the intendand. This tobacco Mr. Forbes refused taking, as it was old.—Soon after I delivered the notes of Magruder's to the inspector, to overhaul and reprice; and took from him a receipt for the tobacco; in this receipt was mentioned the condition on which he was to reprice the tobacco.—This receipt, with the notes for all the old tobacco, was returned to the intendand.—Some time after the intendand wrote me for the notes—I then sent my servant to the inspector, and wrote him, that in case he had not begun to overhaul and reprice the tobacco, he would send me the notes I had delivered to him, and that if he had made a beginning, and had not completed the reprising, he would as soon as finished send notes for the tobacco, either to the care of Mr. Forbes or Mr.

Sothoron, that I received no answer some time after this for the tobacco, and purchased all the tobacco that he had sent to be reprized; and me.—To this I replied and promised the intendand, and gave him a receipt, I was in receiving the tobacco to the offer I had his inspector to ship it, acquainted with the intendand; he was to have received the intendand's order for a much higher price than he wanted to advance in the tobacco's price; he told him, he must though at the same time to assure Mr. Forbes my not giving him my purchase of tobacco to secure his price.

The intendand and Mr. Forbes informed Mr. Forbes to accommodate his recollection, the subject was, that the intendand placed the tobacco to the intendand's credit. The tobacco was extended at 3 and hence have it. Trifling circumstances; however, a great subject was as possible never contribute to revise never charged Mr. Forbes with incurable know me, I flatter myself of aiming at individual. This intendand has acquired.

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