

N<sup>o</sup>.  
576.

considerable Sums of <sup>his own</sup> Money, in procuring and providing the Articles,  
 and that he will be put to great Inconvenience unless he is paid. We are  
 exceedingly distressed by the applications and Complaints of the Creditors of this  
 State, and greatly embarrassed by the Resolution of the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 &c. are to be paid, which makes the Persons who has contracted in  
 Specie insist that he ought <sup>to be</sup> immediately paid Specie or an Equivalent in Tobacco  
 or Flour. With Diffidence 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 blame  
 of the people (some of whom being unacquainted with our Resources  
 and others from different Motives, impute every Failure in the exe-  
 cution to Causes very different from those which actuate their Con-  
 duct) for the Direction of the general Assembly whether any prefer-  
 ence is to be given to Specie Contracts? whether the 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, whether 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, till the  
 whole is exhausted those only who are most convenient, will be paid  
 and the rest much dissatisfied, and full of Complaints, and therefore  
 the Assembly and this Board.

great Assembly