

new emission for every 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ dollars brought in. To establish the best funds in our power for the redemption of the new bills, we have laid duties on certain imports and exports, and other rates, and appropriated the monies arising from fines and forfeitures, and the sale of estates forfeited for treason, and declared, that the deficiency shall be made up by a tax on property at the annual November session. The whole of the taxes in one view will stand thus :

1st. The £. 5 tax on every £. 100 of property	- - - - -	5	0	0
2d. Payable the 10th of June	- - - - -	10	0	0
3d Payable in tobacco, with an alternative, the 1st of September	- - - - -	25	4	0
4th. Payable the 10th of November	- - - - -	10	0	0
		£. 50 4 0		

5th payable by duties, &c. and deficiency by tax on property, to sink annually $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1,027,000 dollars of the new bills

The tax of £. 50 4 on every £. 100 of property will bring in on eighteen million (the estimated value of all the property within this state) the sum of nine million thirty-six thousand pounds. This sum is to be extracted out of the pockets of our people in less than the space of eight months, besides the expences of each county, and the duties and tax, if necessary (equal in the year to 7/6 new money on every £. 100 of property) to sink the new emission. The expence of collection will be above £. 350,000, besides the four per cent. commission to the commissaries of purchases.

This house can discover no fund but taxes and duties to raise the supplies, and to sink the new bills of credit. Both are indispensably necessary. We are reduced, by your honours rejection of the bill for the confiscation of the property of our enemies, to the alternative, of giving up our cause and submitting to the British yoke, or endeavouring by taxes and duties alone to comply with the two requisitions of congress. We have elected the latter. We are satisfied the taxes will be very burthensome and grievous to many of our constituents. We wish them to submit with cheerfulness to the payment, but should discontent take place, we are clear in our opinion that the cause of it cannot justly be imputed to us. We have done every thing in our power to ease the people from the heavy burthen of taxation.

Your honours must be fully convinced, that the most ample and unquestionable funds should be provided for the redemption of the new bills; on their credit and value congress rely for the means of paying the army and prosecuting the war. We wish your honours to reconsider the subject of seizing and appropriating the property of our enemies, to enable us to carry on the war. In addition to what we have already communicated to your honours on this subject, we would observe, that we would agree to appropriate, in the first place; as much of the confiscated property as would be necessary to indemnify any of our citizens, for any debts due them from the subjects of Great-Britain, for any money they may have in the public funds, or for any estate they are entitled to in that kingdom, which they may lose in consequence of the war and our seizing the property proposed, and we mean a full indemnification by a satisfaction of equal value. We are willing to except from confiscation the property of any person the two houses may agree, from their merit or services, deserve the notice and interposition of the legislature.

The question who are subjects of Great-Britain we are willing to leave to the present judges, or to a judicature or office of escheat to be erected. The absentees are not noticed in the bill. If any of them are properly the subjects of Great-Britain, they will be included, otherwise not. We are desirous of appropriating as much of the late proprietary's vacant and ungranted land as may be necessary to furnish our officers and soldiers with the bounty promised them; we would propose to sell the perishable and unprofitable part of the confiscated property, and immediately apply it in aid of the taxes, and the residue, we would mortgage it as a fund for the redemption of our bills of credit. We have been thus explicit, that our intentions and conduct on this subject may be fully known and understood. As we sincerely wish to preserve harmony and confidence between the two houses, we wish your honours to weigh our propositions, to consider the very heavy taxes, the extreme exigency of our public affairs, our present situation of defence, and means of carrying on the war; and we earnestly solicit your assistance to extricate our common country from the difficulties and distress in which it is involved, and which must encrease, unless effectual measures are adopted at this present session of assembly.

By order,

F. GREEN, clk.

Which was read.

Also a bill, entitled, An act for bringing into the treasury the sum of twenty million five hundred and forty thousand dollars, and sinking the same, according to the requisition of congress, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, April 28, 1780: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

" By order,

F. GREEN, clk.

" By the house of delegates, May 5, 1780: Read the second time and will pass.

" By order,

F. GREEN, clk."

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