

We are of opinion that conferences between the two branches of the legislature are on some occasions, necessary and are then useful, as in cases of ascertained difference 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 much legislative provision, and details only are to be adjusted, which might require much 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.

For these reasons we decline acceding to the proposition contained in your message.

The resolutions relative to the ordinance of nullification and other proceedings lately had in South Carolina, were read the third time, and assented to.

Mr Mayer from the committee on judicial proceedings, to which was referred the bill entitled, an act to repeal an act entitled, an act for the relief of Joseph Stone and others, securities of William Williams, late sheriff and collector of Saint Mary's county, passed at December session 1831, chapter 210, and for other purposes, reported favorably thereon.

It was read the second time.

The bill entitled, a further supplement to the act entitled, an act authorising the appointing of inspectors and wood corders, and to regulate the cording of fire wood brought by water to the city of Baltimore, was taken up for consideration, and whilst progressing in the second reading,

On motion of Mr. Morris the following amendment was read the first time.