

part of the material business of the session. A committee has been appointed to consider and report the ways and means which this state can exert to answer the wish and intention of congress by those requisitions. This house are satisfied that it is impracticable to call in, by taxes, the sum required by congress; to collect, by taxes, the monthly sum of one million five hundred and eighty thousand dollars will be inconvenient, and very distressing to the people; and to raise, by taxes, the whole sum of twenty-three million seven hundred thousand dollars, or the greater part of it, within the time limited by congress, will be impossible. The supplies required by the resolve of the 25th of February (if they could be obtained at the prices limited by congress) would require above two hundred thousand pounds in specie or new bills of equal value, and if to be purchased at forty prices, eight million, and at fifty prices, ten million, of pounds, in continental bills of credit. We have reason to believe the greater part of the supplies of flour, corn, and wheat, is already procured, but provision still remains to be made for the payment of the creditors. To call in, by taxes, our quota of the continental emissions, and to furnish, by taxes, money to purchase the supplies, not less than a hundred pounds in the present bills of credit would be required for every hundred pounds of actual property.

Our affairs are brought to an alarming crisis. Your honours are fully informed, and we shall not attempt to urge the necessity for this and every other state to make immediate and most vigorous exertions. We are willing to impose taxes on our constituents as far as their abilities will permit. We are anxiously solicitous to establish very ample funds, and to afford the most undoubted security, for the redemption of the new bills of credit. We view this measure absolutely and indispensably necessary. The existence of our army, the continuance of the war, and the maintainance of our independence and our liberties, depend greatly, if not wholly, on the credit and value the several states can give to the new emissions. We intend to appropriate confiscated British property, with the addition of certain duties on imports and exports, to this salutary and necessary purpose. The public service and the very urgent demands on congress require,
that