

By the SENATE, May 6, 1780.

GENTLEMEN,

ON the first reading of your 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, we find two clauses contained in it, one for making the new bills of credit to be issued in virtue of the resolves of congress of the 18th of March last, a legal tender; the other, pledging the faith of this state for the redemption, without abatement or discount, of the certificates given for monies borrowed by the state, and its bills of credit; both which, in our opinion, are unconstitutionally connected with the bill, as they contain matters not immediately relating to, and necessary for, the imposing, assessing, levying, or applying, the taxes or supplies to be raised for the support of government, or the current expence of the state, and therefore ought not, consistently with the 11th article of the form of government, to have been blended with this bill. For this reason, we have returned the bill, that you may separate those clauses from it; when they are separated, we shall resume the consideration thereof, and give it all the dispatch in our power.

By order,

H. RIDGELY, clk.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, May 6, 1780.

May it please your HONOURS,

YOUR message of this day by William Hindman, Esq; is, in our opinion, irregular, it being contrary to the practice of either House to return a bill on the first reading, and repugnant to the 22d article of our form of government, which declares, that the senate can only give their assent or dissent to money bills.

This house conceive the two clauses, your honours propose to separate from the bill, pertinent and necessarily connected therewith; the intention of the bill being to call out of circulation our quota of the bills of credit heretofore emitted by congress, and which are by law a legal tender, and to give in exchange other bills of credit, which are by the bill sent up made a tender, and we think with great propriety, during the present scarcity of gold and silver, to prevent