

nishment for counterfeiting the new bills of credit, which is of equal efficacy to give credit to a paper money, as making it a legal tender, and yet ought not to be tacked to a money bill.

Should you adhere to your determination of connecting these clauses to the bill, and introduce the practice of tacking to money bills matters which you may think properly connected with such bills, though the same subjects might properly stand in a distinct bill, this house may be reduced to the very situation which the eleventh article of the constitution intended to prevent, being either compelled to reject a money bill, which the urgency of affairs may require, or assent to acts of legislation, in our judgment injurious to the public welfare; and by these means this house may be deprived altogether of the liberty of proposing amendments. This would be to strip the senate of a privilege meant to be given by the constitution, which never can be acquiesced in by this house.

If the bill sent was nothing more than a money bill, we should be obliged to assent or dissent to the whole by the twenty-second article of our form of government, and could not propose amendments; but certainly when matters are grafted on such a bill which can stand independent of it, we have a right to desire that such matters may be separated, and that without giving the bill a negative.

As we have always been attentive to the privileges of your house, and have cautiously avoided any attempt to infringe them, we hope the same respect will be shewn to ours, as long as the present happy constitution is preserved. When each branch of the legislature acts upon the line directed by the form of government, there is no danger of a violation of the rights derived from the constitution; but when an infringement is made and submitted to, it encourages subsequent attacks, and in the end may overturn the whole. We send you the bill, and wish you to reconsider this subject, and have no doubt but the propriety of separating the clauses referred to from the bill, will so evidently appear, that we shall have no further difference in opinion on this point.

It gives us pain, gentlemen, to have occasion to draw your attention again to this subject, but the importance of preserving