

measures, which our judgments and consciences reprove, and sacrifice that liberty of deciding upon public questions, which, as free men and legislators, we have a right to enjoy and exercise, and which, if we should sacrifice, we shall become contemptible even in your own estimation, and be degraded from the respectable station we at present occupy, into an useless and miserable appendage of legislature.

If the two branches of the legislature unhappily differ on this subject, there can be no reason why distrust, suspicion, and malevolence, should take place; we feel ourselves entirely free from these passions, and wish most sincerely to give every assistance in our power to dispatch the business necessary to be done for the public welfare. If any mode of agreement upon this controversy can be devised, let it be adopted, if not, let us lay it aside, and co-operate in every other measure for the common interest.

By order,

J. MACCUBBIN, clk.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, May 14, 1780.

May it please your HONOURS,

FROM an earnest desire to adopt some mode, this session, to comply with the request of congress relative to their emissions, and to furnish that body with new bills of credit, to answer, as far as in our power, the want of gold and silver, we have sent your honours a bill for sinking the quota of this state of the bills of credit emitted by congress. Our plan to induce the holders of those bills to bring them into the treasury, may be liable to objections, but as it is the best mode we are able to devise, and your honours have agreed to waive any exceptions to it, we esteem your assent as already obtained to that part of our bill. We propose to make the new bills a tender, and flatter ourselves your honours will not refuse a bill so essentially necessary to the welfare and safety of this state, and without which congress will remain unprovided, by this state, with the means to pay our army, and to defray other contingent and necessary expences, for no other cause than that the new bills are made a tender. We cannot but think such provision proper and necessary to give credit and value to the new bills, and really fear, without it, the great object we have in view, to induce