

This species of knowledge I am happy in not possessing, and must of course be unequal to the task of determining whether the State lost or gained by the measure.—The committee inform us that there was a loss to the State of £.98 17 2. and the Intendant makes out a difference in favor of the State of £.31 7.

I can hardly conceive that the first Argument is properly founded, respecting the latter. I shall only observe, that those who are acquainted with both the gentlemen, will hardly suppose such a superiority of that kind of knowledge in the Intendant, as would enable him to make a better bargain for the State than Col. Stone could make for himself, nor can we suppose that gentleman so disinterested, as to give up even the small sum of £. 31, for the State's advantage.

But in considering the rectitude of the measure, I conceive it to be perfectly immaterial, whether the exchange is proved by calculation to have been in favor of the State or Col. Stone.

It was clearly a contract which the Intendant was not authorized to make, and the approbation of such conduct must certainly tend to the promotion and encouragement, of more dangerous encroachments. I cannot omit observing on the justness of a remark made by the Intendant on the inconsistency of the committee, in blaming him for not purchasing depreciation certificates with a balance remaining in his hands, and immediately afterwards, censuring his purchase of certificates as derogatory to the dignity of the State and unauthorized by law.

There was an opening that could not be missed, for the observation, and it is certainly unanswerable. The censure passed on the purchase of certificates by the Intendant, would in my opinion, have reflected the highest honor on the committee, had not the above inconsistency appeared against them, and had not their subsequent conduct in approving the similar purchases in contemplation by the State, shewed the prevalence of an opposite opinion.

Whatever errors may have appeared in the report, it is probable, *the public* will approve the determination with which it concluded—That there was no longer a necessity for continuing the office of an Intendant, and that such an establishment would be prejudicial and burthensome to the State.