

Interest.—Yet in the early parts of the session, but little disposition appeared in the members, to comply with this requisition.—Several pretexts were assigned:—It was urged that we had already paid more in proportion than others, that the State had not been properly credited, and that our Delegates should have it in charge to inquire into these circumstances.

These were the objections of some, but others with the *leading member* at their head, were swayed by different motives.—A compliance with the requisitions of Congress, appeared to be favourable to a plan which was then formed to divert the public money to the purchase of government securities, as a means of paying off our debt with ease, and saving us from impending ruin, which the members were told in the strongest terms, nothing else could effect.

Some specious reasons were urged for adopting this measure, and withholding the money from Congress, whom it was alledged, we should by these means, be enabled to pay in process of time, which otherwise would never be in our power.—These reasons, however, were not generally successful.—It is certain they could not bear the test of *reason*, and if compared with instances in private life, would hardly bear the test of *honesty*.

Fortunately, however, while these sentiments were daily gaining ground, the Assembly received a resolution of Congress, setting forth in terms still more forcible than had been hitherto used, the necessity of an immediate compliance with their requisitions made in April, 1783, in order to enable them to comply with their engagements, and support the federal government.

A committee of both houses were appointed to confer on this subject.—The result was, that the sum of ten shillings in the £. 100 was granted to Congress, for the term of twenty-five years.—It is to be observed likewise, that a bill had been before prepared, for the purpose of granting the five per cent. impost and certain duties on enumerated articles, conformable to the requisitions which had been made, from which it appears, that nothing will be wanting but a timely payment, to effect a compliance with the demands made by Congress on this State.

The adoption of this measure, however, did not put a stop to the certificate plan.—It appeared, that there would still be