

against it. We see, had into the Law of Nations, and were fully satisfied the immutable Principles of Justice, the Law of Nature, and the common Consent of Mankind, justified the Measure. We beg leave here to recapitulate the Reasons contained in our Bill.

- 1 The King of Great Britain by his Proclamation, and the Parliament of that Nation, by Statute, declared the People of this State to be in rebellion, for which Cause, by the Law of ^{the Kingdom} that Nation, the Property of the People here, who had been consumed in the present glorious Revolution, would have been liable to forfeiture and Confiscation, and at the Mercy of the cruel and tyrannical Monarch of Great Britain.
 - 2 The Parliament of Great Britain, by Statute, declared the Property of the People of this State found and taken on the high Seas, liable to Seizure and Confiscation, and that it was lawful and just to seize and destroy their Persons and Property; in consequence whereof considerable Property of the Subjects of this State hath been seized on the high Seas and confiscated, and considerable Property within the State hath been seized and applied to the use of the British Army or Navy, or wantonly destroyed by the Fleet or Army of Great Britain.
 - 3 The King and Parliament of Great Britain commenced, and continue to prosecute, an unjust War against the People of this and the United States, whereby this State has already been involved in a very great Expence, and by the Law of Nations the People of Great Britain, in their separate and collective Capacity, are enforceable, not only for all Expences incurred by this State in consequence of the War, but for any Injury or Damage sustained by any of the Subjects of this State since the Commencement of the War.
 - 4 This State, compelled by the Tyranny of the King of Great Britain, and the open Hostilities committed by his Armies and Fleet, to wage War in defence of its dearest Rights and Liberties, was finally obliged to separate from the British Empire, and to become a sovereign and independent State, whereby the Subjects of Great Britain became Aliens, and by Prosecution of the War Enemies to this State, and as such incapable of holding any Property within it, and the same became thereby void in this State.
 - 5 In the Declaration of Independence by Congress, it was declared, that thereafter the Subjects of Great Britain should be considered by the United States, Enemies in War, in Peace Truce.
 - 6 It is not in the Power of this State to raise the Money required by Congress to carry on the present just and necessary War, without compelling many of its Subjects to sell their Property to raise the Taxes, and Justice, Policy, and Necessity, dictate the Propriety of the first selling and applying the Property of our Enemies towards defraying the Expences of the War.
- The Reasons convinced our Judgment. They determined our Action, and we doubt the impartial World will agree with us in Sentiment.
- We wish your Honours to examine the Reasons assigned, to point out your Objections to them, and to inform us whether you think that all or none of them will justify and support the Measure.
- We proposed to raise five Million two hundred and twenty thousand Dollars from the Sale of British Property, and to make our first Payment on the first of February next, out of part of the Money arising from the Sale. We determined to raise by Taxes nine Million of Dollars, at four Assessments, at such Times, and in such Proportions, as would suit the Circumstances of our Constituents; we intended that any Deficiencies should be made up by British Property, and resolved to pay our Quota monthly into the Continental Treasury.