

THE committee to whom was referred to consider of and report rules to be observed by the senate in the transaction of business, beg leave to report as follows: That the printed rules adopted by the senate on the 11th day of November, 1791, with the addition of these words; "if required by any member present," at the end of the eighth rule; be adopted as rules for the transaction of business in the senate. All which is submitted to the honourable senate.

By order,

A. VAN-HORN, clk.

Which was read the first and second time and concurred with.

The rules above referred to, with the amendment agreed to by the senate, are as follow, viz.

1. The precedence of senators elected by the electors of the senate shall be regulated by the number of ballots which each person had at the election of the senate, and where two or more had the same number of ballots, the precedence shall be determined by lot; senators elected by the senate shall rank after those elected by the electors of the senate, and their precedence shall be regulated by the priority of their respective elections.

2. Every member shall take his seat when the president takes the chair, and remain uncovered until the senate rises.

3. Every member who shall deliver his opinion on, or speak in any debate, shall stand up in his place, and decently address himself to the president.

4. No member shall speak oftener than twice in any debate, except with leave, nor shall any member be interrupted while he is speaking.

5. No member, at the time of his speaking in debate, shall name any other by his proper name, but shall use some other distinction.

6. If two or more members shall rise to speak at the same time, the president shall determine which shall speak first.

7. If a member, when speaking, is called to order by the president, or any other member, he shall cease speaking, and take his seat, until it is determined whether he is in order or not; and all questions of order shall be determined, in the first instance, by the president, but every member shall have a right to appeal from his decision to the judgment of the senate.

8. Every bill brought in by a member, or received from the house of delegates, shall be read on two several days, with an intermission of one day at least, during which time it shall lie on the table for the perusal of the members, unless it be read a second time by an especial order; and no bill, or other matter of importance, shall have a second reading, until all the members in town be called upon to attend, if required by any member present.

9. All questions shall be determined by a majority of voices, taken seriatim, by beginning with the senior member.

10. Every question shall be entered on the journal, and the votes taken if moved for.

11. The president may not enter into debate, but may vote on every question.

12. All committees of the senate, or conferences thereof, shall, if required by any member, be elected by ballot, the number never to exceed five.

13. No member shall depart without leave, on pain of being censured from the chair on his return.

14. Each senator shall have a right, when a vote passes contrary to his sentiments, to enter his dissent, with the reasons thereof, provided his intention of protesting be declared to the senate at the time of the passage of such vote, and his protest be filed within ten days thereafter.

The senate adjourns until to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

T H U R S D A Y, November 17, 1796.

THE senate met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The president communicates to the senate an address from William Cooke, Esquire, one of the commissioners appointed by a resolve of the legislature, passed at last session, on the part of this state, to meet such commissioners as might be appointed for the same purpose by the commonwealth of Virginia, to settle and adjust, by mutual compact between the two governments, the western and southern limits of this state, and the dividing lines and boundaries between this state and the said commonwealth, and also to settle and adjust any claim of this state, or the said commonwealth, to territory within the limits of the other; which was read, and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

The resolution in favour of Edward Dennis, was read the second time by especial order and assented to.

The bill, entitled, An act to settle and ascertain the salary of the members of the council for the ensuing year, was read the second time by especial order and will pass.

The following message was prepared, read and agreed to, and, together with the address from William Cooke, Esquire, the resolution in favour of Edward Dennis, and the bill, entitled, An act to settle and ascertain the salary of the members of the council for the ensuing year, was sent to the house of delegates by the clerk.

BY THE SENATE, NOVEMBER 17, 1796.

GENTLEMEN,

WE have appointed William H. Dorsey, John S. Purnell and John Thomas, Esquires, a committee on the part of the senate to join the gentlemen appointed by your house to form a joint committee of both houses to compare and examine all bills from time to time during the session, as soon as they shall be severally engrossed.

By order,

A. VAN-HORN, clk.

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