

selves, we cannot, with other restrictions less than those proposed by us, consent to release them from their contracts that have been fairly entered into. The assent of the creditors only applies to the final release; without such consent the person of the debtor is effectually protected, and is freed from the control of the creditor.

It has been the complaint of the people of the state, that persons with too much ease have been released from their engagements; this has been the case even with those restrictions proposed by us.

It appeared most adviseable, by an almost unanimous vote of the senate, to continue this business under the control of the chancellor; the debtors have never complained, and as the assent of a large proportion of the creditors is deemed indispensable, they cannot with propriety complain.

The difficulties also that would occur by a transfer of this business to the judges, had its influence in forming a determination not to depart from the tribunal to which insolvents have heretofore been referred.

Which was read, agreed to, and, with the bill for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors, sent to the house of delegates by the clerk.

The bill for the benefit of Sarah Russell Contee, Anne Lee, Eleanor Benson and Margaret Clarke, was read the second time by a special order, passed, and sent to the house of delegates by the clerk.

Mr. Johnson, from the committee, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of the heirs and representatives of Francis Mary Delalandelle; which was read the first and second time by a special order, passed, and sent to the house of delegates by the clerk.

The clerk of the house of delegates delivers the bill for the relief of the heirs and representatives of Francis Mary Delalandelle, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 31, 1801: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

" By the house of delegates, December 31, 1801: Read the second time by a special order and will pass with the proposed amendments.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Which amendments were read, agreed to, and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill respecting free negroes. ORDERED, That Mr. Worthington, Mr. Bowie and Mr. Ringgold, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Worthington, from the committee, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act respecting free negroes; which was read the first and second time by a special order, passed, and sent to the house of delegates by the clerk.

The clerk of the house of delegates delivers the bill respecting free negroes, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 31, 1801: Read the first and second time by a special order and will pass.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Ordered to be engrossed.

And the following resolution:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER 31, 1801.

RESOLVED, That the treasurer of the western shore pay to Robert J. B. Parker, the sum of ten dollars and fifty cents, as a compensation for his acting as door-keeper to the senate for three days.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, assented to, and sent to the house of delegates by the clerk.

The clerk of the house of delegates delivers the engrossed bills No. 101, 102, 103 and 104, with the paper bills thereof; which engrossed bills were severally thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 31, 1801: Read and assented to.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

The engrossed bills No. 25, 57 and 71, were read and assented to, and, with the paper bills thereof, sent to the house of delegates by the clerk.

The clerk of the house of delegates returns the paper bills No. 25, 57 and 71; which said bills were severally endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 31, 1801: The engrossed bill whereof this is the original read and assented to.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

The clerk of the house of delegates delivers the engrossed bills No. 105, 106, 107 and 108, with the paper bills thereof; which engrossed bills were severally thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 31, 1801: Read and assented to.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

The engrossed bills No. 109 and 110, were read and assented to, and, with the paper bills thereof, sent to the house of delegates by the clerk.

The resolution in favour of Frederick Green was read the second time, and the question put, That the senate assent to the said resolution? The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.

Mr. Harwood, president, Mr. Bowie, Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Johnson, Mr. McCulloch.

5.
N E G A T I V E