

principles of justice, equity, and impartiality. He shall suffer no exorbitant charges to pass, nor any account without proper probates and vouchers; and if he refuse to pass any account in the gross, he shall take a list of such accounts in a book for the purpose. That he call upon the treasurers, when occasion may require, for a list of payments made by them, and compare the same with his books; upon the commissaries, quarter-masters, storekeepers, and others, who have heretofore had, now have, or hereafter shall have, any ammunition, arms, military accoutrements, and stores of every kind, artillery horses and carriages belonging to this state, for exact inventories thereof; that he call upon the commanding officers of the navy, and the masters of the trading vessels belonging to this state, for a state of their several vessels, with exact accounts of their tonnage, guns, men, tackle, apparel, and furniture, that such accounts may be lodged in his office for the inspection of the general assembly. That he be authorized and empowered to call upon the late board of auditors and their clerks, for an explanation of the books, papers, and accounts, which have been under their care and direction, in such cases as he may think proper. That all accounts examined and passed by him, or by the principal clerk, in such cases as now are or hereafter may be entrusted to his examination, shall be signed by him or the principal clerk as aforesaid, and the said accounts shall be carried to the governor and the council, or to the council in the absence or sickness of the governor, for their approbation; who, if they approve thereof, may draw upon either of the treasurers for the amount of the balance, and the person in whose favour the said orders shall be drawn, shall give a receipt upon the account, which shall be carried by him without delay to the auditor-general, that the same may be duly entered in his books; and every order drawn by the governor and the council upon the treasury, for the payment of money, shall be countersigned by the auditor-general, or his clerk, before such order shall be paid, that an entry may be made thereof on the auditor's books. That in case the auditor-general shall, in the recess of the house of delegates, die, resign, remove out of this state, or refuse to act, the governor and the council may appoint a proper and discreet person, versed in accounts, to such vacant office, to hold the same until the next meeting of the house of delegates, who shall give bond and qualify as before directed; and in case of invasion, or other good cause, remove the books, papers, and accounts, relating to his office, to some place of safety. That all invoices, letters, and accounts, that may be received by the governor and council, relative to goods bought, shipped, or imported into this state, shall be in due time delivered to the auditor-general, to be entered in his books; and all goods that are so bought, imported or received, shall be charged to the account of the respective commissaries or storekeepers receiving the same. That a yearly salary of three hundred pounds be allowed to the principal clerk for his services and expences. That a yearly salary, at the rate of seven hundred pounds common money, be allowed to the auditor-general for his services and expences, except books and the rent of an office.

A letter from his excellency the governor, of this day, enclosing a letter from his excellency general Washington, of the 21st instant, requesting that a sufficient number of waggons may be provided, to forward to camp the stores of provisions now deposited in different places in this state, was laid before the house; and the said letters, being read, were referred to the committee appointed to take into consideration the several letters and acts of congress, &c.

Adjourned till 3 o'clock.

P O S T M E R I D I E M.

The house met.

Robert Goldsborough, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the resolutions of this house on the memorial of Robert Anderson, thus endorsed; "By the senate, March 28, 1778: " Read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

" By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

" By the senate, March 31, 1778: Read the second time and assented to.

" By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen."

Mr. West brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to procure troops for the American army; which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

RESOLVED, That the governor and the council be authorized and empowered to draw on the treasurer of the western shore for any sum, not exceeding thirty-thousand dollars, to be paid out of the money lately remitted from congress for the purchase of provisions, and that the same be replaced out of the first monies arising on the assessment or loan-office of this state. Sent up for concurrence by Mr. Chew and Mr. Smoot.

Charles Carroll, barrister, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the foregoing resolution, thus endorsed; "By the senate, March 31, 1778: Read and assented to.

" By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen."

Communicated to the governor and the council by Mr. Deye.

Adjourned till next day, 9 o'clock.

W E D N E S-