

proof, and the consequence may be, that the party sued will be subject to have his whole real estate tied up until judgment, for a claim of ten thousand pounds, when only one hundred is due, and immediately on judgment being obtained, execution may be taken out against the goods, chattels, lands and tenements of the debtor: The disadvantages attending a sale under these circumstances need not be pointed out. Another effect of the bill will be, that private creditors, who may have advanced money to those who afterwards engage with the public will be necessitated to delay any execution against the lands of their debtors, until a settlement of their public accounts, and judgment thereon had; which we conceive will be very inconvenient, and in many cases unjust. Add to these, that the clause, if not amended will *ex post facto* change the nature and effect of the contract made between the public and those to whom money has been delivered. We cannot see that the bill gives an effectual security against those debtors who are inclined to rob the public by fraudulent conveyances, because such men will not wait until a writ is issued against them, but will convey their estates in trust before any writ can be taken out to bind their lands. The case of loan-office bonds does not appear to be applicable; there the debtor knows the effect of the contract entered into at the time of making it, the sum due may be exactly known, and lands are not tied up for a nominal sum exceeding what is really due; private creditors and purchasers, by application to the office, can know the extent of the incumbrance, and provide for the discharge thereof; by the act regulating the loan-office, steps are directed to be taken to discover if there be any incumbrances on the land prior to a delivery of the money, and the lien originates with the bond, which precludes every possibility of fraudulent conveyances. We wish you to consider these objections to the bill in its present form, and to accede to our amendment; but we are so very desirous to adopt a speedy mode for recovering the public debts, that rather than so necessary a bill should fail, from a disagreement of the two houses upon particular parts of it, that if our reasons in support of the amendment are not satisfactory, we will withdraw it, and agree that the bill shall pass with the clause as it now stands.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

Adjourned till 3 o'clock.

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

The house met. Mr. Hammond has leave of absence till Friday next.

A memorial from Thomas Harwood, treasurer of the western shore, was presented to the house and read.

The bill, entitled, An act to prevent and suppress insurrections, was sent to the senate by Mr. Hyland and Mr. Semmes.

The message delivered this forenoon, by William Hindman, Esq; was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from Cassandra Ducker, widow and executrix of John Ducker, deceased, was laid before the house and read.

Adjourned till next day, 9 o'clock.

T H U R S D A Y, April 16, 1778.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Smith and Mr. Hammond. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. James Lloyd, a delegate returned for Kent county, appeared in the house, and after being duly qualified he took his seat.

Matthew Tilghman Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill, entitled, An act to raise the supplies for the current year, thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 14, 1778: Read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

"By the senate, April 15, 1778: Read the second time, by an especial order, and will pass.

"By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen."

Which was ordered to be engrossed.

Charles Carroll, barrister, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill, entitled, An act to prevent and suppress insurrections, thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 15, 1778: Read the first and second time, by an especial order, and will pass.

"By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen."

Which was ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Sprigg has leave of absence.

Leave given to bring in a bill for the special appointment of inspectors. ORDERED, That Mr. J. Hall, Mr. Lethrbury, Mr. Burgess, Mr. Quynn, and Mr. Mitchell, do prepare and bring in the same.

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