

urge, the necessity of immediately adopting the most effectual measures for the internal defence of the state.

The great number of captures made by the vessels of the enemy on every part of the American coast, the blocking up the Delaware and the Chesapeake bays, indicate too clearly that the change in the mode of conducting the war has already begun to operate.

You will observe, from the letter of Mr. Morris to the intendant, that all the accounts of the army are to be settled up to the end of the last year; that congress take upon themselves the whole business of feeding, cloathing, and paying the army for the present and succeeding years, for which purposes they have called upon the states for sufficient supplies; and that partial advances made by the states to their officers or men, for pay due after the commencement of the present year, will not be admitted as charges against the United States, nor suffered to be deducted out of the pay of those receiving the advances. In consequence of these regulations, we take the liberty of suggesting the necessity of some mode being speedily devised for bringing to settlement, all such advances made to the line of this state, and the propriety of repealing the laws directing them to be made.

Besides the acts of congress passed since the last session, we have thought proper to lay before you, all those which in any wise relate to the national bank, as well as that recommending an impost of five per cent. duty on all goods imported, and on prizes and prize goods, with the letters of the superintendant of finance on those important subjects, conceiving that a reference to those papers might become necessary in the course of your deliberations.

Permit us, before we conclude, to call your attention to one more subject, which, we persuade ourselves, you will deem of sufficient consequence to merit your early consideration. From an apprehension that the laws of the last session were not published soon enough to give the people throughout the state sufficient information respecting the time of compounding for their certificates, and that considerable injury might be done to many, who, notwithstanding they knew the law, could not compound, their certificates being mislaid or erroneous, circumstances which they could not guard against, we ventured to give orders to the registers of the land-office, to suspend issuing warrants of proclamation to affect such certificates, until the general assembly could have an opportunity of investigating the subject, directing them to keep an exact account of all applications, and the time of their being made, that if it should be found expedient to make any alteration in the law, the applicants might not be deprived of their right of pre-emption by our interposition.

THO. S. LEE.

Which was read.

Mr. James Shaw, a delegate returned for Dorchester county, appeared, and after qualifying in the usual manner, took his seat in the house.

A letter of resignation from Mr. John Dent was laid before the house and read, and thereupon ORDERED, That Mr. Speaker issue his warrant to the sheriff of Charles county, for the electing a delegate in the room of Mr. Dent; which issued accordingly, returnable on or before the first day of June next.

Mr. Maynadier has leave of absence.

The house adjourns till 3 o'clock.

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

The house met. Mr. Caufin appeared in the house.

A certificate of the qualification of Mr. Ranken, Mr. M'Pherson, Mr. Golder, and Mr. Knapp, was produced and filed.

The several resolutions of congress, &c. communicated by his Excellency the Governor this forenoon, were read.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill for the adjournment of civil causes ruled for trial at the next general court for the western shore. ORDERED, That Mr. Thomas, Mr. Jenifer, and Mr. Chew, prepare and bring in the said bill.

Mr. Thomas brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the said bill; which was read the first and second time by especial order and passed.

RESOLVED, That this house will, on to-morrow morning, go into a second reading of the message from the governor and council.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

W E D N E S D A Y, May 8, 1782.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Maynadier. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Stone and Mr. Rowland appeared in the house.

ORDERED,