

S A T U R D A Y, February 25, 1786.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Beall. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. Ramsey from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message :

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, FEBRUARY 25, 1786.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

IN answer to your message by John Henry, Esq; we must again inform you, we cannot consent that the judges of the general court be instituted a court of appeals with regard to the valuation of lands in the several counties, inasmuch as we are of opinion, that the judgment of five commissioners, liable to be revised and corrected by three of the most proper men, residents in the county where the lands lie, (and who probably may be personally acquainted with both the soil and situation,) is more likely to be unexceptionable and consistent with the proper average value, than the opinion of the judges of the general court, who cannot be so well acquainted with the real circumstances of the land in question, and who cannot be supposed to derive any additional knowledge on subjects of this nature from their legal abilities. We are of opinion, that an appeal to the general court would only be made by gentlemen possessed of large bodies of land; and as the testimony they would offer would no doubt be such as might induce the judges to make an abatement, which abatement would operate as a tax on the less opulent landholders of the county, who, from the distance they may reside from the seats of justice, and the great expence which would attend their appearing to make opposition, would prevent any testimony on their part, and therefore, the opinion of the judges, must in many cases be founded on an ex parte hearing. We return the bill, and flatter ourselves your honours will consent to its passage as amended by this house.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, agreed to, and sent to the senate, with the bill to ascertain the value of land, by Mr. Turner.

On motion, ORDERED, That Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Carroll, and Mr. Goldsborough, be a committee to prepare a message to the senate proposing a conference on the subject matter of the act of congress respecting the system of general revenue recommended in the act of the 18th of April 1783.

Mr. Goldsborough, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message :

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, FEBRUARY 25, 1786.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

WE have read the resolutions and letters from congress sent us yesterday by Thomas Stone, Esq; and are of opinion that they contain matters of the greatest importance to this state, and the union in general, and such as require the united wisdom of both branches of the legislature. We therefore propose a conference with your honours, in order that we may come to some immediate determination, and that proper measures may be taken thereon. We have appointed Mr. B. Worthington, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Chase, Mr. Joshua Seney, and Mr. Goldsborough, as conferees from this house, who will meet any members of your body, provided your honours agree to the proposed conference.

Which was read the first and second time, agreed to, and sent to the senate by Mr. Turner.

The bill respecting the election of governors and visitors of St. John's College, was read the second time, and the question put, That the said bill do pass? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Waggaman appeared as follow :

|           |                 | A F F I R M A T I V E. |               |                |               |                  |
|-----------|-----------------|------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| Messieurs | Key,            | Gantt,                 | Stone,        | John Dashiell, | Chase,        | Chaille,         |
|           | Carroll,        | Jones,                 | Goldsborough, | Adams,         | Quynn,        | Joseph Dashiell, |
|           | Grahame,        | Dent,                  | Bracco,       | Digges,        | Joshua Seney, | Purnell.         |
|           | Fancy,          | Turner,                | Gale,         | R. Bowie,      |               |                  |
|           |                 | N E G A T I V E.       |               |                |               |                  |
| Messieurs | B. Worthington, | Stevenson,             | Baker,        | John Seney,    | Norris,       | Starck,          |
|           | N Worthington,  | Roberts,               | Oglevee,      | Faw,           | Love,         | Funk,            |
|           | Ridgely,        | Waggaman,              | Miller,       | Beatty,        | Bond,         | Oncalc.          |
|           | Ridgely of Wm.  | Ennalls,               | Ramsley,      | Carey,         | Wheeler,      |                  |

So it was determined in the negative.

Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill for the benefit of Anne Hood, Hester Hood, Elizabeth Hood, and Mary Hood, of Anne-Arundel county, endorsed; "By the senate, February 3, 1786 Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table. J. DORSEY, clk.

"By the senate, February 23, 1786: Read the second time and will pass. J. DORSEY, clk."

Which was ordered to be engrossed.

And the following message :

BY THE SENATE, FEBRUARY 25, 1786.

GENTLEMEN,

CONSIDERING the subject of your message by Mr. Turner, referring to the resolutions of congress of the first importance to this and the other United States, we agree to the proposed