

the counties aforesaid, altho' he should get on his way thither, certain information of the dispersion of the insurgents, and in consequence thereof, should think the further proceeding of those troops on their present expedition, utterly useless.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

Mr. Crabb and Mr. Selby from the house of delegates, bring in and deliver to Mr. President the following message:

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, February 15, 1777.

May it please your honours,

THIS house concur with your message by Matthew Tilghman, Esq; and are of opinion that the council of safety be directed to send an express to general Smallwood to dismiss from their present service the Virginia regiment on the continental establishment, and that they likewise countermand the marching orders to the Annapolis independent company of militia.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

On reading a second time the message from the house of delegates by Messieurs Yates and Benson, the following message, in answer, was agreed to and sent to the house of delegates by Samuel Wilson, Esquire.

By the SENATE, February 15, 1777.

Gentlemen,

WE concur with you in the number of delegates to be sent to congress, and having named Samuel Wilson and Thomas Stone, Esquires, to examine the ballot boxes, in conjunction with the committee from your house, shall immediately proceed to ballot, but wish you to agree with us in empowering any two, or more of them, to represent this state. Most of the other states may be represented by one delegate only. What we propose may ease the gentlemen appointed in their attendance, and prevent the want of a representation, which might otherwise frequently be occasioned by unavoidable accidents.

We also concur in your proposition of thanks, and have requested the president of this house to join the speaker of yours in a letter to colonel Simpson, thanking him for his friendly and spirited conduct in marching his battalion to assist our friends in Somerset and Worcester counties.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

William Paca, Esq; has leave of absence till Monday.

Mr. Wright and Mr. Galloway from the house of delegates, bring in and deliver to Mr. President the following message:

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, February 15, 1777.

May it please your honours,

THIS house, from a just sense of the necessity of a constant representation in congress, concur with your message by Samuel Wilson, Esq; that any two or more of the delegates to congress shall have full power and authority to represent this state.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

The senate then proceeded to ballot for delegates to represent this state in congress, and the ballot box being prepared, the ballots were deposited therein, sealed up, and delivered to the committee appointed by this house to join the committee of the house of delegates to take the joint ballot of both houses, who retired to the conference room, and after some time returned and reported, that on examining the ballots of both houses, the following gentlemen had a majority of votes: Samuel Chase, Benjamin Rumsey, William Smith, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Thomas Stone, and William Paca, Esquires. Whereupon it is declared by the senate, that Samuel Chase, Benjamin Rumsey, William Smith, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Thomas Stone, and William Paca, Esquires, are duly elected delegates to represent this state in congress, and that any two or more of them be empowered to act.

ORDERED, That the president be requested to write to Thomas B. Hands, Esq; informing him of his election into the senate and requesting his attendance.

Adjourned till Monday 3 o'clock P. M.

MONDAY, February 17, 1777.

SENATE met according to adjournment. Present the same members as on Saturday, except William Paca, Esq; The proceedings of Saturday were read.

Adjourned till next day 3 o'clock P. M.

TUES-