

dissolved; and that the powers heretofore delegated to the said council of safety, be and are hereby transferred to, and vested in, the governor and the council, for and during this session of the general assembly.

By order, R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.  
Adjourned till next day 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, March 22, 1777.

SENATE met according to adjournment. The same members present as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The petition of William Jacob of Baltimore county, praying an encouragement for erecting a linen and woollen manufactory, was read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates, and sent by Brice T. B. Worthington, Esquire.

The bill, entitled, An act to prevent desertion, was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

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

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, March 22, 1777.

May it please your honours,

THE house have agreed to the several amendments proposed by your honours to the first and second clauses of the bill, entitled, An act to promote the recruiting service, and are of opinion, that if the act of limitation should be pleaded, the same should be given in evidence on the general replication, without being pleaded specially. This house cannot consent that the governor should have the appointment of the collectors of blankets, unless on the recommendation of both houses, who are best acquainted with the most proper persons in the different counties of this state.

The several clauses proposed by your honours to be substituted in the bill, except the one directing an oath for the collector, are disagreed to by this house.

We would propose to your honours, that an oath or affirmation to prevent concealment should be administered to every master or mistress of a family, and that all the blankets beyond what may be necessary for the use of the family, in the opinion and judgment of the collector, should be taken to supply the present distresses of our troops. We are of opinion, that the owner is an improper judge of what he ought to spare, and that one third only of the overplus above the number necessary for, and commonly used in a family in the winter season, would produce a number very inadequate to our necessities. If the senate retain their opinion, that the collectors should convey to, and deposit the blankets collected in the public store at Annapolis, we would submit to their consideration the propriety of inserting other places for that purpose, as Baltimore and Chester-Town, and that the governor and council might be empowered to order the blankets to such places and under the care of such persons as they should think proper.

If an agreement in sentiment cannot be obtained on that part of the bill which relates to the procuring of blankets, we would propose that the other parts of the bill, now agreed to by both houses, should be passed into a law.

By order, G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

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

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, March 22, 1777.

May it please your honours,

WE concur with that part of your message by Thomas Contee, Esquire, relative to the dissolution of the council of safety, and are of opinion that the powers heretofore delegated to the said council of safety, ought to be vested in the governor and council, until the general assembly shall make further order therein.

By order, G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Mr. Chase and Mr. Benson from the house of delegates, bring in and deliver to Mr. President a bill, entitled, An act to punish certain crimes and misdemeanors, and to prevent the growth of toryism, with the following endorsements thereon: "By the house of delegates, March 8, 1777: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table. By the house of delegates, March 22, 1777: Read the second time and will pass."

By order, G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Mr. Wright and Mr. Crauford from the house of delegates, bring in and deliver to Mr. President a bill, entitled, An act to direct the forms of the commissions to the judges and justices and civil officers of this state, and the oath of office to be taken by the governor, the chancellor, judges, justices, and all civil officers of this state, with the following endorsement thereon: "By