

“ By the house of delegates, March 22, 1777: Read the first and second time by an especial order and will pass.

“ By order,
Adjourned till Monday 10 o'clock.

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.”

M O N D A Y, March 24, 1777.

SENATE met according to adjournment. Present the same members as on Saturday. Thomas Stone, Esq; appeared in the house. The proceedings of Saturday were read. The bill, entitled, An act to prevent desertion, was read a second time and will pass with the following amendments, to wit,

In the sixth line from the bottom of the first page strike out the word “ any.” In the fourth line of the second page, between the words “ brought” and “ which,” insert the following, “ if such justice shall be informed thereof, if not, then he shall give a certificate, expressing such of those circumstances as shall come to his knowledge.”

In the fourth line from the bottom of same page insert the words following: “ or such of those circumstances as shall be mentioned in the certificate sent with such deserter,” between the words “ belong” and “ in.”

Strike out the word “ knowingly” in the third line of the third page, and in the fifth line of same page, between the words “ them” and “ from,” insert the following, “ knowing them to be such.” In the beginning of the ninth line of same page, strike out the word “ and.”

In the fifth line from the bottom of the third page, strike out the word “ thereof,” and insert the following, “ of the said penalties;” and in the subsequent line, strike out the words “ of the said penalty,” and insert “ thereof.”

In the first line of the fourth page, strike out the word “ either;” and in the second line of same page, strike out from the word “ months” to the end of the clause, and insert the following, “ and if any such offender shall be a second time guilty of the like offence, and be convicted thereof as aforesaid, and shall not pay the penalty aforesaid, or have goods and chattels, on which the said penalty may be levied by distress as aforesaid, such offender may be adjudged by the said justices before whom he shall be convicted, to receive a number of lashes not exceeding thirty-nine.”

In the fourth page, strike out from the word “ and,” in the beginning of the fifth line, to the word “ such” in the eighth line of same page, and insert the following: “ And be it enacted, That upon information on oath or affirmation before a justice of peace, by any person entitled to take such oath or affirmation, that such person has good cause to suspect that a deserter is harboured or concealed in any dwelling house or other house, it shall be lawful for such justice to issue his warrant to have such house searched, and for that purpose to break open such house on neglect or refusal to open the door or doors thereof, when demanded; and if any person shall presume to break open any house, on pretence of searching for deserters, without such warrant obtained as aforesaid.” After the word “ chattels,” in the ninth line of same page, insert the following, “ or be subject to an action of trespass, at the election of the party who shall be so injured and grieved.” In the eleventh line of same page, strike out from the word “ to” to the word “ him” in the thirteenth line, and instead thereof insert the following, “ to any place within his hundred, in which he shall be informed, or may suspect, a deserter or deserters may be harboured, or concealed, or dwelling, and shall apprehend all and every such suspected person, or persons, and carry him, or them.” In the sixth line of same clause, insert the words “ or persons,” between the word “ person” and the word “ as.”

So endorsed and sent to the house of delegates by George Plater, Esq;

The bill, entitled, An act to provide carriages for the army, and to ascertain the hire thereof, and the pay for crossing ferries, was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

On-reading a second time the message from the house of delegates by Messieurs Ennalls and Deye; the following message; in answer, was sent to the house of delegates by Matthew Tilghman, Esq;

By the SENATE, March 24, 1777.

Gentlemen,

WE have agreed to the amendment proposed by your house, directing, that “ on the act of limitation being pleaded, this act, and the special matter, may be given in evidence on the general replication.” As a difference of opinion still subsists between the two houses respecting the appointment of collectors of blankets, and the powers to be entrusted with them, we propose a conference between some members of each house, as the most expeditious way of producing a conformity of sentiment in this matter, and the most effectual to procure a sufficient and speedy supply of blankets.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

The following message was sent to the house of delegates by William Paca, Esquire.

By