

T U E S D A Y, April 15, 1777.

**S**ENATE met according to adjournment. Present the same members as on yesterday. Charles Carroll, Esq; barrister, appeared in the house. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The president communicates to the senate the following letter from governor Johnson, and request of the council:

Gentlemen of the general assembly,

THE council and I doubt whether a letter wrote by Mr. John Contee to the honourable senate, on his being chosen a member of council, and on which we do not know any opinion or resolution has been formed, may not properly be considered as a refusal to act, which is the occasion of the enclosed request. We wish to avoid the impropriety of admitting any gentleman to a seat who is not entitled to it, and would by no means improperly refuse a seat to one who is chosen by the general assembly.

THOMAS JOHNSON.

In COUNCIL, April 15, 1777.

Mr. John Contee offers himself to qualify as a member of this board, wherefore the honourable the general assembly is requested to certify, whether Mr. Contee hath or hath not refused to act, there being yet only one person chose by the council a member, and he in the room of Charles Carroll, senior, Esq; whose refusal to act is entered on the proceedings of the senate.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. co.

The letter of governor Johnson, and request of the council, were read and referred to the house of delegates, together with Mr. John Contee's letter. Sent by George Plater, Esquire.

Senate adjourns till to-morrow.

W E D N E S D A Y, April 16, 1777.

**S**ENATE met according to adjournment. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

Messieurs Lethbury and Bordley from the house of delegates, deliver to the president a bill, entitled, An act relating to the bills of credit emitted by an act of assembly passed at November session 1766, endorsed as follows; "By the house of delegates, April 14, 1777: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

"By the house of delegates, April 16, 1777: Read a second time and will pass.

"By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del."

Messieurs S. Chase and Bruff from the house of delegates, deliver to the president a bill, entitled, An act to assess and impose an equal tax on all property within this state, endorsed as follows; "By the house of delegates, April 11, 1777: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

"By the house of delegates, April 15, 1777: Read the second time and will pass.

"By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del."

The bill, entitled, An act to enable the governor to issue commissions of oyer and terminer and gaol delivery in certain cases, was read a second time, and will pass with the following amendments. After the first enacting clause insert the following: "Provided that such trial shall be had in some county of that shore on which such offences shall be committed."

Sent to the house of delegates by George Plater, Esq;

Mr. Stone from the committee appointed for that purpose, brings in the following answer to the message of the house of delegates of the 10th instant, which was read and assented to, and sent to the house of delegates, with the bill, entitled, An act to punish certain crimes and misdemeanors, and to prevent the growth of toryism, and the original amendments of this house thereto, by Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Esq;

By the SENATE, April 16, 1777.

Gentlemen,

**S**ENSIBLE of the importance of the bill to punish certain crimes and misdemeanors, and to prevent the growth of toryism, and desirous that an act should pass upon such principles as promise the most permanent security to the freedom, independence and safety of this state, we have re-considered that subject, and shall assign the reasons for our original amendments, for our departure from those which we have consented to wave, or alter, and for retaining those against which the reasoning in your message seems to us not well founded.

We rejected the clause in the bill for inflicting imprisonment, fine or banishment, on persons who may persuade and entice any of the inhabitants or subjects of this state, to return to, or acknowledge any dependence on, the crown and parliament of Great-Britain, or to own any allegiance