

court of this state which has, according to the laws of this state, cognizance of the offence; and that all piracies, crimes, and offences, committed as aforesaid by the subjects of Virginia, or by any other persons, not subjects of this state, against any subject of Virginia, shall be tried in the court of the commonwealth of Virginia, which, by the laws thereof, has cognizance of the offence. And if any person shall fly from justice from either of the said states, such person may be taken upon the said water by process from the state from which such person shall fly as aforesaid. That piracies, crimes, and offences, committed as aforesaid by persons not subjects of either state, against persons not subjects of either state, shall be tried in the court of the state in which the offenders shall be first seized in order to be brought to justice.

3. You are to endeavour to obtain, that the use and navigation of the rivers Patowmack and Pocomoke shall be free to the subjects of both states, and to all other persons trading to either state, and that the said rivers be considered as a common highway, free to all persons navigating the same; provided nevertheless, that each state shall have a right of imposing tolls, duties, or customs, on vessels coming into its respective ports on the said rivers, and unloading therein their cargoes or part thereof.

The jurisdiction to be exercised by each state over the rivers aforesaid, cannot, in the opinion of this assembly, be put on a better and more equitable footing, than that in which you are instructed to settle the jurisdiction over that part of the bay within the limits of the commonwealth of Virginia.

By order,

A. C. HANSON, cl. sen.

Which was read and concurred with, and sent to the house of delegates, by George Plater, Esq; Messrs. Forbes and M'Pherson, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president the said report, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 22, 1777: Read and assented to."

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del."

The resolve of the house of delegates, delivered on the 18th instant, by Messieurs Kent and Brice, was read, and assented to, and sent to the house of delegates, by Thomas Stone, Esq;

Messrs. Plowden and Kent, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president a resolve, for fixing the allowance to the commissioners, who are to meet the commissioners of Virginia, which was read and assented to, and sent to the house of delegates, by B. T. B. Worthington, Esq;

The president communicates to the senate a letter from the governor, relative to appointing William Paca, Esq; to be one of the judges of the general court, and a letter from Thomas Stone, Esq; on the same subject, which were read, and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates, and sent to the house of delegates by Thomas Contee, Esq;

Messrs. Brice and Tillard, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president a resolve for the appointment of a committee to inspect and examine, in the recess of the assembly, all accounts of the disposition of the public money, which was read and assented to, and, with the following message, sent to the house of delegates, by Charles Grahame, Esq;

By the S E N A T E, December 22, 1777.

Gentlemen,

T H E senate have appointed Brice T. B. Worthington and Thomas Contee, Esquires, to join the gentlemen appointed by your house, as a committee for the purposes mentioned in your message of this day by Messieurs Brice and Tillard.

By order,

A. C. HANSON, cl. sen.

Messrs. Earle and Worthington, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president the following message, which was read.

By the H O U S E of D E L E G A T E S, December 22, 1777.

May it please your honours,

J O S E P H N I C H O L S O N, jun. Esq; having resigned his office of delegate to congress, and this house having received information that William Paca, Esq; is to be appointed one of the judges of the general court, an office incompatible with that of delegate to congress, and Brice T. B. Worthington, Esq; having resigned his place of commissioner to Fredericksburg in Virginia, it becomes necessary to fill up those vacancies. We propose to nominate two other delegates to congress, and one commissioner, by the joint ballot of both houses immediately, and have appointed Mr. Kent, Mr. Crabb, and Mr. Lethbury, to join such members as you may think proper to nominate, to examine the ballot boxes. The lists proposed are herewith communicated.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

The following message was sent to the house of delegates by William Hindman, Esq;

By the S E N A T E, December 22, 1777.

Gentlemen,

W E are ready to ballot for two delegates to congress and one commissioner to Fredericksburg in Virginia, and have appointed Thomas Contee and Charles Grahame, Esqrs. to join the committee