

subject. If your honours should agree with us in opinion, we shall hope that his excellency general Washington may be informed, as soon as may be, of the powers intended to be given him by the resolution of the 11th of April last, by a joint letter from the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of delegates.

By order, J. DUCKETT, cl. ho. del.
By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, November 21, 1778.

Whereas the legislature of this state, on the 11th day of April, 1777, passed a resolve empowering his excellency general Washington to settle the rank of all officers in the Maryland forces in the continental service; and as the general, doubtful of the powers to him given by the said resolve, hath, by his letter of the 5th of October, 1778, requested an explanation of the same, and this house being of opinion, that the powers given to the general by the said resolution confined him to the settlement of rank and precedence only; therefore RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of this house, that the general assembly did not mean to confer powers for changing the appointment of any officer by adding or taking away a grade, but that the general assembly in forming the roster of rank, considered the act of convention of the 22d of August, 1776, as a supersedeas of the acts of convention of the 15th of January, 1776, and conducted themselves accordingly, and the rather, as that establishment of rank of the 22d of August was agreeable to what prevailed in most, if not all, the other states, and that the general assembly intended only to authorise an alteration in the instance of precedence amongst those of similar rank, when it might be found that mistakes had taken place in that respect.

By order, J. DUCKETT, cl. ho. del.

The petition of Mary Hesselius, widow and executrix of John Hesselius, late of Anne-Arundel county, deceased, and Thomas Jenings, of the city of Annapolis, attorney at law, was read, referred to the consideration of the house of delegates, and sent by Robert Goldsborough, Esq;

Messieurs Strawbridge and Sherwood from the house of delegates, deliver to the president the following resolution:

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, November 21, 1778.

Whereas it is found by experience to be absolutely necessary that the legislature of this state should have it in their power to inspect the charters, acts of assemblies, and resolves of the conventions of the neighbouring states, in order that they may thereby be enabled more effectually to co-operate with them in the several measures necessary for their joint security and welfare; and whereas no provision has hitherto been made for that purpose; therefore RESOLVED, That the president of the senate and speaker of the house of delegates be requested to procure, at the expence of this state, the several charters of the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Virginia, together with the several acts of their respective assemblies and conventions, and that the same, when procured, be kept for the use of the legislature of this state.

By order, J. DUCKETT, cl. ho. del.
The senate adjourns till Monday morning 9 o'clock.

M O N D A Y, November 23, 1778.

THE senate met. Present the same members as on Saturday. The proceedings of Saturday were read.

Messieurs Quynn and Brice from the house of delegates, deliver to the president the engrossed bill No. 5, with the paper bill thereof, which paper bill was thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, November 20, 1778: Read with the amendments and ordered to be engrossed."

By order, J. DUCKETT, cl. ho. del."

The memorial of Richard Harrison, agent at Martinique, was read, referred to the consideration of the house of delegates, and sent by Charles Carroll, Esq; Barrister.

The governor communicates to the president a letter from the president of congress, enclosing an act of congress for the provision of disabled soldiers and seamen, and an act of congress relative to the treasury of the United States; which were read, referred to the consideration of the house of delegates, and sent by Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq;

Thomas Stone, Esq; has leave of absence.

Messieurs Key and Bond from the house of delegates, bring in and return to the president the several letters and acts of congress sent to the house of delegates on this day by Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq; whereupon motion was made, and leave given, to draft bills on the said acts; and Robert Goldsborough, Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, William Hindman, and Thomas Jenings, Esquires, were nominated a committee for that purpose.

The senate adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

T U E S D A Y,