

then necessarily, that the inestimable and constitutional right of suffrage will be abridged and confined; the people will be under the dire necessity of conferring the power of legislation on men of opulent fortunes, who may not be distinguished by their wisdom, probity, or zeal for the public good. The legislature will be composed of such men alone, an aristocracy will be established, oppression and injustice will ensue, and a total subversion of our government may be the final result. We are so well convinced of your honours attachment to the constitution, and your fervent zeal for the public welfare, that we cannot impute your rejection of the resolve to any unworthy motives. The consequences above enumerated, we apprehend, were not foreseen by your honours at the time of giving your dissent.

We are well satisfied that it is not the sense of our constituents that we should transact the public business without such a compensation as would enable us to defray our reasonable expences, and although some of the members, from their local situation, may not be sensible of the inconvenience, yet those would do well to consider the propriety of opposing a measure so just and necessary. We have returned to your honours the said resolve, and request you to reconsider the subject, and reflect on the consequences delineated in the message, and have no doubt it will receive your assent.

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

M O N D A Y, December 14, 1778.

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

Messieurs Stevenson and Hammond, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president the resolution of this house, requesting the governor and council to prepare an estimate of the annual expence of this state, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 13, 1778: Read and assented to.

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

Which was sent to the governor and council by Richard Barnes, Esq;

Messieurs Bowie and Brown, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president a bill, entitled, An additional supplement to the act for the better security of the government, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 11, 1778: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

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

"By the house of delegates, December 14, 1778: Read the second time and will pass.

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

The engrossed bill, No. 22, was read and assented to, and, with the paper bill thereof, sent to the house of delegates by Charles Carroll, Esq; Barrister.

Messieurs Gibson and Burgess, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president the paper bill, No. 22, which was thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 14, 1778: The engrossed bill, whereof this is the original, read and assented to.

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

The senate adjourns till 4 o'clock.

P O S T M E R I D I E M.

The senate met.

The paper bills, No. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20, were sent to the house of delegates by Charles Carroll, Esq; of Carrollton.

The following message was sent to the house of delegates by Thomas Stone, Esq;

By the S E N A T E, December 14, 1778.

Gentlemen,

IT gives us concern to find ourselves reduced to the necessity of going into a train of messaging at this late hour in the session, whereby it may be prolonged, to the inconvenience of many and at a considerable expence to the public. We are sorry to find you so much alarmed at the dreadful effects, which you suppose may arise, from not allowing the members of assembly forty shillings per day: We really did not foresee, nor can we yet conceive it to be a matter of such momentous consequence, and pregnant with such dire necessity. Our form of government does not, we hope, altogether depend on granting to ourselves a further diurnal sum of fifteen shillings, and we are well satisfied that (as now) so we shall in future have a sufficient number of upright, capable and independent persons, to undertake the power of legislation. We therefore do not conceive that our conduct in refusing to encrease the allowance of the members of assembly, can justify your comments respecting it, or warrant a supposition of those consequences, you are pleased to intimate. We coincide with you in opinion, that in a moral view, poverty should not