

appointed to meet the committee of the house of delegates, who retired to the conference room, and after some time returned and reported, that Thomas Johns had a majority of votes. Whereupon it is declared in the senate, That Thomas Johns is duly elected register of wills for Montgomery county.

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

S A T U R D A Y, March 20, 1779.

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

His excellency the governor communicates to the president a letter from the president of the general court of Massachusetts-bay, relative to the scarcity of provisions, which was read, referred to the consideration of the house of delegates, and sent by Joseph Nicholson, Esq;

Messieurs Chaille and Mitchell, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president a bill, entitled, An act for reviving and continuing the actions and process of Worcester county court, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, March 19, 1779: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order, J. DUCKETT, cl. ho. del.
"By the house of delegates, March 20, 1779: Read the second time and will pass.

"By order, J. DUCKETT, cl. ho. del."
Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entitled, An act for reviving and continuing the actions and process of Worcester county court, was read the second time by especial order, passed, and sent to the house of delegates by Charles Carroll, Barrister, Esq;

By the S E N A T E, March 20, 1779.

RESOLVED, That all resignations from members of the senate be from under hand and seal.
By order, H. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

The senate adjourns till 3 o'clock.

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

The senate met.

The following message was sent to the house of delegates by Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Esq;

By the S E N A T E, March 20, 1779.

Gentlemen,

A V E R Y capital objection lies against the bill, entitled, A supplement to the act to raise the supplies for the year seventeen hundred and seventy-nine, which it should seem was overlooked at the time of the passage of the bill to which this is a supplement. All property except money is assessed at a value ascertained by the bill, which is not much more than $\frac{1}{10}$ of the value at which, under the present depreciated state of our currency, it would sell, and 5 per cent. on the value so ascertained is the supposed or nominal income on which the tax or pound rate is to be levied on every holder of property of every kind except money, which is considered of the real value of its denomination, and to be taxed accordingly. So that it is clear, the tax being laid on a supposed or nominal income, so much below the real income, as to be nearly in the proportion above stated, that is as 1 to 10, a tax even of 20s in the pound on all other property except money would be no very heavy burthen. Be pleased now to consider the weight of such a tax on the monied interest: A man has a bond for £. 100, he draws £. 6 per cent. the debtor at time of payment of interest has a right to deduct £. 5, so that the creditor retains only 20s. On a bond for £. 1000, he would retain £. 10, when the debtor would have a right to deduct £. 50; so that, instead of the debtor's being reimbursed for the tax he was obliged to pay upon an equal sum assessed in his hands, which unquestionably was the original intention in the first assessment under this government, when all property was to be valued as it would sell, he deducts from his creditor nearly ten times as much as he pays, and what was intended only as a reimbursement for so much actually paid, becomes a very considerable additional part of his income. This may be elucidated in the following manner: A man sells a negro tradesman for £. 1000, and takes a bond for the money; the negro is assessed at £. 100, and the debtor pays a tax under the present bill of £. 3 5; his negro hires for two or three hundred a year, and with that money, and the sale of a few commodities at the present high prices, he is enabled at the end of the year to pay off his bond, or at any rate the interest; and what has he a right to deduct? £. 32 10. To reimburse what? £. 3 5. Needs there one single argument to prove the injustice; it is indeed too glaring, and would fully justify us in a rejection of a bill; but so essentially necessary at this time do we esteem it, and so fully persuaded are we that you must see the manifest inequality and injustice