

The bill, entitled, An act to empower Basil Burges, of Anne-Arundel county, to sell certain lands therein mentioned, was read the first and second time by especial order and will not pass.

The bill, entitled, An act for securing the title of the proprietors of lots and houses in Charlestown in Charles county, was read the first and second time by especial order and will pass.

The senate adjourns till 3 o'clock.

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

The senate met.

The engrossed bills, from No. 1 to 17 inclusive, were read and assented to, and the paper bills thereof so endorsed.

Messieurs Wilmer and Read, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president a bill, entitled, An act to prevent distilling grain into spirit, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 7, 1779: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

J. DUCKETT, cl. ho. del.

"By the house of delegates, December 19, 1779: Read the second time and will pass.

"By order,

J. DUCKETT, cl. ho. del."

The bill, entitled, An act to empower the vestry of St. Paul's parish in Baltimore county to exchange certain lands with Thomas Harrison for the use of said parish, and for other purposes therein mentioned, was read the first and second time by especial order and will pass.

The bill, entitled, An act to prevent distilling grain into spirit, was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entitled, An act for securing the title of the proprietors of lots and houses in Charlestown in Charles county; the bill, entitled, An act to empower Basil Burges, of Anne-Arundel county, to sell the lands therein mentioned; the bill, entitled, An act to empower the vestry of St. Paul's parish in Baltimore county to exchange certain lands, and for other purposes therein mentioned; were sent to the house of delegates by Matthew Tilghman, Esq;

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

M O N D A Y, December 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 board of treasury, which was read and sent to the house of delegates by Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Esq;

On motion, on reading the second time the bill, entitled, An act for the seizure and confiscation of British property within this state, the question was put, Whether the said bill be returned with a negative, accompanied by a message giving the reasons for not now entering upon the consideration thereof; or whether the said bill be now considered and finally determined upon.

For R E F E R R I N G.

Honourable Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esq; president, honourable Matthew Tilghman, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, William Hindman, and Joseph Sim, Esquires.

For C O N S I D E R I N G.

Honourable Brice T. B. Worthington, Richard Barnes, and Upton Sheredine, Esquires.

The bill, entitled, An act for the seizure and confiscation of British property within this state, was read the second time and will not pass, which, with the following message, was sent to the house of delegates by Brice T. B. Worthington, Esq;

BY THE SENATE, DECEMBER 20, 1779.

GENTLEMEN,

THE extreme severity of the weather, and prospect of danger to the eastern shore gentlemen of being shut out from their homes during the winter, call upon us to give every possible dispatch in our power to the necessary public business, and make us anxiously desirous to have it completed; but we are so situated, having but eight attending members, without the least expectation of an addition to the number, that if sickness or other accident should prevent any one of them from giving their attendance, the whole business of the session must remain unfinished. From these considerations, amongst others, we have been induced to return with a negative the bill, entitled, An act for the seizure and confiscation of British property within this state. It is a bill of an extraordinary kind, the subject is abstruse, difficult, and important, and in our opinion ought to receive more mature deliberation than from the present circumstances can be given. And we the more readily adopt this measure, because though the bill is confessedly important, yet we conceive it to be of such a nature, as that no evil can arise to the public from its

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