

We proposed to raise five million two hundred and twenty thousand dollars from the sale of British property, and to make our first payment, on the 1st of February next, out of part of the money arising from the sale. We determined to raise by taxes nine million of dollars, at four assessments, at such times, and in such proportions, as would suit the circumstances of our constituents; we intended that any deficiencies should be made up by British property, and resolved to pay our quotas monthly into the continental treasury.

The debt due from this state is above one million of pounds currency. Our treasury is exhausted; our quota of troops require a considerable reinforcement, and a large sum will be necessary to defray the expence of the recruiting service. We are inclined to think our proportion of the continental debt may exceed twenty-five million of dollars.

If, after contemplating the information we have taken the liberty to give you of our circumstances, you are still inflexibly determined not to seize and appropriate British property, in our power, to enable us to carry on the war, (and we again declare it is not in our power to collect the necessary sums by taxes, without greatly distressing our people, and compelling them to sell their property to pay the assessment) we shall return to our constituents with the consolation, that we have endeavoured to do all in our power, and the consequences which may happen, be they ever so great, will not be justly imputable to us.

It now remains for us to express our acknowledgments so justly due to your honours, for the particular instance of your attention and regard for the gentlemen of the eastern shore; but notwithstanding the inclemency of the season and the severity of the weather renders an attendance on the public business, at this time, exceedingly distressing and inconvenient to this house in general, and to the gentlemen of the eastern shore in particular, yet the duty which we owe to our country, the welfare of the public, and a relief to our people from the very heavy taxes which are demanded of them for the prosecution of the war, supersede the obligations of private interest. Governed by these motives, we can assure your honours, that we shall wait with patience the result of your determinations on the very important bill now sent back for your consideration.

We lament, with your honours, that the senate is at this critical period so thin, and regret that measures, calculated to compel the attendance of the members of the general assembly on the public business, have not met with your approbation, notwithstanding the repeated experience both houses must have had of the necessity of adopting some mode to enforce the observation of duties, to which public virtue and a patriotic spirit have not been competent.

By order,

J. DUCKETT, cl. ho. del.

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

W E D N E S D A Y, December 22, 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, several letters from the president of congress, containing several acts of congress, which were read and sent to the house of delegates by Matthew Tilghman, Esq;

The committee appointed to tax the fees arising upon hearing and determining the case between William Whetcroft and Edward Dorsey, beg leave to report as follows:

To the messenger for an express to Edward Dorsey	£. 60
To ditto for two orders at £. 6	12
To ditto for two summonses at £. 6	12
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	£. 84
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And it is the opinion of your committee that as the above expence has been incurred at the instance of the said William Whetcroft, he immediately pay and satisfy the same to the messenger.

ORDERED, That Matthew Tilghman and Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Esquires, prepare an answer to the message from the house of delegates on yesterday by Mr. J. Hall, and others.

The senate proceeded to ballot for the exclusion of two delegates to congress; the ballot box being prepared, the ballots were deposited therein, sealed up, and delivered to the committee appointed to join the committee of the house of delegates, who retired to the conference room, and after some time returned and reported, that William Paca and Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esquires, were by a majority of votes excluded from the present nomination.

The senate adjourns till 3 o'clock.

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

The senate met.

Messieurs Craufurd and Smith, from the house of delegates, deliver the president the following message:

By