

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, NOVEMBER, 1782. 25

BECAUSE this reduction of interest to five per cent. is not necessary for the support of government or the current expences of the state, and therefore stands opposed to the letter and spirit of the eleventh section of the constitution and form of government, which declares, that "the house of delegates shall not, on any pretence, annex to, or blend with a money bill (which the emergency of affairs may require) any matter, clause, or thing, not immediately relating to and necessary for the support of government, or the current expences of the state."

BECAUSE it is impolitic to lower the interest of money, and raise discouragement to lending, at a time like the present, when money is thought to be so scarce.

BECAUSE money lenders are hereby induced to send their specie to places out of the state, where interest is higher and property more secure; for money in this case representing a commodity, the proprietor will naturally seek to dispose of it in that market where it will bring the most profit.

BECAUSE, while it lowers the interest, the lender, by the law of last session, entitled, An act to prevent suits on certain debts for a limited time, is left without the option to continue the loan or recover the capital.

BECAUSE it is retrospective, thereby violating the contract between the buyer and seller, or the lender and the borrower.

BECAUSE it is ruinous to the trade and prosperity of the state; inasmuch as it tends to destroy all faith in agreements, which is the basis of public and private credit, a real representative of money, and therefore source of national industry, greatness, and wealth.

BECAUSE this clause alone serves to entail political ignorance or political dishonesty, as characteristic of this general assembly. And finally,

BECAUSE, in a war undertaken by the common consent of the United States, and which involves our particular rights as men, and our sovereignty as a people, only one fifth of the whole assessment is appropriated to the common expences of the war, and this fifth provisioned, under limitations subversive of the confederation, or the powers of congress, indispensably necessary to carry on the war, and perpetuate the union.

JAMES M'HENRY.

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

W E D N E S D A Y, January 1, 1783.

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

Messieurs Worthington and Cadwalader, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president the engrossed bill No. 6, with the paper bill thereof, which engrossed bill was thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, January 1, 1783: Read and assented to.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Messieurs M'Mechen and Fell, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president a bill, entitled, An act for confirming a deed of conveyance made by James Langton to Thomas Langton, of and in the lands and premises therein mentioned, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 27, 1782: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, January 1, 1783: Read the second time and will pass.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Messieurs Coursey and Stone, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president a bill, entitled, An act for the benefit of Mrs. Rebecca Hanson and Miss Catherine Dulany, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 27, 1782: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, January 1, 1783: Read the second time and will pass.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Richard Ridgely, Alexander Furnival, Samuel Gray, and William Goddard, are returned summoned, in consequence of the order of the 25th of December.

The senate proceeded on with the reading the bill, entitled, An act for the more effectual paving the streets in Baltimore-town, in Baltimore county; and the question being put, Whether the bill do pass? Resolved in the affirmative? The bill so endorsed was sent to the house of delegates by James M'Henry, Esq;

On motion, the order of the day for the consideration of the bill for the relief of John Gray, hatter, a languishing prisoner in Baltimore county gaol, was postponed till to-morrow morning.

On motion, the following resolution was delivered to the president:

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 1, 1783.

RESOLVED, That from the journal of the intendant and his report, and sundry accounts therein referred to, and laid before the general assembly, it appears, that he hath given a due

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attention