

services rendered by your Excellency to the United States of America. To encounter the toils and perils of war, in quest of glory, has ever been the peculiar characteristic of the French nobility and nation; whatever could be performed by the most signal valour, aided by the most judicious conduct, and consummate military skill, has often, before the present period, been achieved by French generals, and French soldiers. In recalling the evils which lately threatened this state from a British army, we see a French nobleman, at the head of a few regular troops, and the yeomanry of the country, opposing their celebrated commander, engaging his veterans, and disconcerting his measures, till your presence, and the combined forces, completed our safety in the capture of this general and his army. As long as liberty shall be considered of value, this event must perpetuate our gratitude, while it unites your fame with that of general Washington's. To preserve in troops far removed from their own country the strictest discipline, and to convert into esteem and affection deep and ancient prejudices, was reserved for you; and this praise is all your own. We view with regret the departure of troops, which have so conducted, so endeared, and so distinguished themselves, and we pray that the laurels they have gathered before York-town may never fade, and that victory, to whatever quarter of the globe they direct their arms, may follow their standard. You are going to present yourself before your royal master, our great and good ally, who alone can make you a return. It is only left to us to wish, that the moment may be happy, and that in your report to his majesty, it were possible to include the sense of the citizens of Maryland, for the services of his army under the command of your Excellency.

Which was read, assented to, and sent to the house of delegates by Richard Barnes, Esq;

The bill relating to Robert Long, of Baltimore county, was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Messieurs Beatty and Ogle, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president the following message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, JANUARY 8, 1783.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

WE agree to the vote of thanks to his Excellency the count de Rochambeau, handed in this day by Richard Barnes, Esq; and propose that it be signed by the president of the senate and speaker of this house, and presented to him by a committee of both houses. We have nominated Mr. Brice T. B. Worthington and Mr. Hall to join any members you may appoint for that purpose.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Charles Carroll, Barrister, Esq; appointed to draught a message to the house of delegates, in answer to the one sent up with the bill to regulate the militia, brings in and delivers to the president the following:

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 8, 1783.

GENTLEMEN,

IT was by no means the intention of our amendment to prevent the governor from taking the command of the militia, whenever he should be advised to it by the council, but only to exempt him from ordinary militia duties; and therefore, if you judge it necessary, it may be expressly provided, that the exemption extend no further.

The exemption of the governor and members of the council, the members of the general assembly, the chancellor, the judges of the general court and the court of appeals, the judge of the court of admiralty, and the members to congress, is founded on the principle, that no set of men in the state should be unequally burdened, or that an undue proportion of public services or duties should be imposed upon, or required from, any part of the society; a principle, in our opinion, incontrovertible, and which we cannot, in this instance, see any sufficient reason for deviating from, especially as we presume our constituents are far from expecting or desiring it.

We admit that examples set by those men to whom the people have entrusted their liberty and property, will ever be attended with its proper effect; and although we cannot subject that set of men to an attendance on the usual days of muster, and other ordinary militia duties or services that may be often incompatible with their other duties, we are convinced they will, on any necessity or emergency, readily step forth to join their fellow citizens, and share with them any dangers in defence of their country; and we are of opinion, that such voluntary joining the militia, and acting with it in such circumstances, will be more exemplary, and have a better effect, than the performance of that duty under the obligation or compulsion of any positive law. We cannot therefore, for these reasons, recede from this amendment.

By order,

J. MACCUBBIN, clk.

Which was read, assented to, and, with the bill to regulate the militia, sent to the house of delegates by William Hindman, Esq;

The message by Messieurs Beatty and Ogle being read, the following message was sent to the house of delegates, in answer thereto, by James M<sup>c</sup>Henry, Esq;

By