

The engrossed bill No. 16 was read and assented to, and with the paper bill thereof, the engrossed and paper bill No. 3, the bill to explain and amend an act for the sale of certain confiscated British property, and the above bill, sent to the house of delegates by Samuel Hughes, Esq;

Messieurs Bowie and Duckett, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president a bill, entitled, An additional supplement to the act to settle and adjust the accounts of the troops of this state in the service of the United States, and for other purposes, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, May 16, 1783: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order, W. HARWOOD, clk.  
"By the house of delegates, May 29, 1783: Read the second time and will pass.  
"By order, W. HARWOOD, clk."

The bill for the relief of Charles Dunkin, of Worcester county, was read the second time by especial order, with the proposed amendment, and will pass.

Amendment proposed. At the end of the bill insert, "Provided, that this act shall not affect the claim of, or title in, any other person already acquired in or to the said land, or any part thereof."

The bill to prohibit the bringing slaves into this state, was read the second time by especial order, with the proposed amendments, and will pass.

Amendments proposed. Page 1. In the eighth line after the word "person," insert "being a citizen of some one of the United States." In the fourteenth line strike out from the word "and" to the word "free" in the nineteenth line inclusive. After the first clause, insert "Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall be construed or taken to set any slave free who is brought into this state by any person travelling through this state, or sojourning therein for a short time, such slave not being sold or otherwise disposed of in this state, but carried by the owner out of this state.

"And be it enacted, that no person brought into this state from any of the United States, who is not a slave for life by the laws of the state from which such person is brought, shall be considered as a slave for life in this state, but such person brought into this state, shall serve for the time which the laws of the state from which such person is brought oblige him or her to serve, and no longer."

The bill to lay out a road to John M'Mullen's lot of ground in Snow-Hill-town, in Worcester county, was read the second time by especial order and will not pass.

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

F R I D A Y, May 30, 1783.

THE senate met. Present as on yesterday. William Hindman, Esq; appeared. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

John Henry, Esq; brings in and delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Robert Long; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The honourable Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq; brings in the following protest:

Dissentiet.

BECAUSE the clause in the bill, empowering the judges of the courts of law and equity to suspend, remove, or strike out of the roll of attornies, persons already admitted, or hereafter to be admitted, as attornies, for supposed, not proved, disaffection to the government of this state, is a violation of the public faith, unnecessary, and impolitic. This clause violates the public faith, by depriving, for one and the same offence, a few individuals (for few only in reality will be affected by the clause) of those rights and privileges, which they had forfeited for nonconformity to one act, and had purchased and regained under another. A small attention to the act for the better security of government, and the supplementary act for procuring an extra supply of provisions for the continental army, passed at June session seventeen hundred and eighty, will evince this violation of law and justice. By the former act, nonjurors are rendered incapable of practising the law; by the latter, this disability is taken off, upon certain conditions to be performed by them; on performance, they are placed on the same footing of other subjects, with respect to the practice of the law; no arbitrary and discretionary power was vested in the judges, before the passage of this bill, to remove or suspend practising attornies, for the vague and indeterminate offence, *disaffection to government*. The only evidence, which the law heretofore required of attachment to the constitution and form of government of this state, was the taking the oath of support and fidelity thereto. Persons, who had refused or neglected to take that oath, on or before a particular day, are left at liberty, by the supplementary act just mentioned, to take the oath at *any time*, and even without taking it, they are restored to all the privileges of citizens, save such as are expressly excepted by that act. To destroy this conclusion, drawn from the above mentioned laws, it will be incumbent on the patronisers of this bill to shew, that the judges have, without it, a discretionary power of removing or suspending practising attornies