

The president lays before the senate an address from James Russell, respecting the bank stock belonging to the state of Maryland; which was read, referred to the consideration of the house of delegates, and sent by Samuel Hughes, Esq;

Mr. Stull, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act for the division of Washington county, and the erecting a new one by the name of Fayette county, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, January 7, 1785: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order, W. HARWOOD, clk.
"By the house of delegates, January 11, 1785: Read the second time and will pass.
"By order, W. HARWOOD, clk."

The order of the day is postponed till to morrow.

The bill, entitled, An act to empower Peregrine Fitzhugh and Elizabeth his wife to sell a tract of land in Washington county, and to apply the money arising from said sale to the purposes therein mentioned, was read the second time by especial order and will pass.

The bill, entitled, An act to enable the corporation of the city of Annapolis to lay a tax on property within the said city and the precincts, to regulate and license ordinaries and retailers of spirituous liquors within the said city and the precincts thereof, was read the second time by especial order with the proposed amendment and will pass.

Amendment proposed. At the end of the bill insert, "This act to continue and be in force for and during the term of ten years, and until the end of the next session of assembly which shall happen thereafter."

The following message was prepared, agreed to, and, with the above bills, sent to the house of delegates by William Perry, Esq;

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 11, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

WE are not less desirous to end the session than yourselves, but being persuaded that the necessary business cannot be completed by Saturday next, we do not accede to your proposal of adjourning on that day; it is more advisable, in our opinion, by setting a few days longer, to dispatch what business remains unfinished, than to postpone to a spring session the consideration of matters which may as well be discussed and decided upon now as in the spring. Frequent sessions are expensive and injurious to the public, and inconvenient to the members of the general assembly, and if not indispensable should be avoided. The conferrees appointed on the 30th day of December have not yet made any report of their proceedings; the various subjects of that conference appear to us to be of such a nature as to admit and to require a legislative decision at this session; we therefore expect that the conferrees will proceed to some conclusion on the several points referred to them; when they report the conclusions, it will take the houses some time to consider the propriety of them. We flatter ourselves, that by a close attention to business, all which is material may be gone through in the course of a fortnight; at the expiration of that time, should our expectations not be disappointed, we mean to adjourn to the first Monday in November next.

By order, J. DORSEY, clk.
The bill, entitled, An act for the relief of the securities of Simon Nicholls, late collector of the public tax for Montgomery county; and the bill, entitled, An act to enable Sarah Parran to dispose of certain lands for the purpose therein mentioned; were read the second time by especial order and will pass.

The bill, entitled, An act to limit the time for bringing and settling claims against this state, was read the second time and will pass.

The bill, entitled, An act for altering the time of holding the courts in the counties therein mentioned, was read the second time with the proposed amendments and will pass.

Amendments proposed. Strike out the word "second" in the eighth line of the first page and insert "thru." Strike out the word "third" in the twelfth line of the same page and insert "second."

The following message was prepared, agreed to, and with the above bills, sent to the house of delegates by George Gale, Esq;

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 11, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

WE are induced to propose an amendment to the bill for altering the time of holding the courts in the counties therein mentioned, from information that the bill, as passed by you, will exclude a gentleman of the law, who resides in Alexandria in Virginia, and practices in Prince-George's county, from attending this court or that of the county where he resides, as they will both be held on the same week in the month of April, which would be injurious not only to the practitioner, but also to those whose business is committed to him, and will also deprive a practitioner of the law, who is a member of this house, of the opportunity of finishing his business at the next eastern shore general court. These inconveniences will be remedied by the amendment we propose, and no possible mischief can attend the adoption of it that we can conceive. We hope therefore your house will upon reconsideration adopt the amendment, but if you should not agree to it, return us the bill, and we will pass it in its present form, being satisfied that the business of the county courts cannot be conveniently done at their present times of sitting, the month of March being generally very unfit for attendance at courts, and the general assembly in November interfering with the courts of this month.

By order,

K

J. DORSEY, clk.
Mr.