

mens suspicions are lulled, they are less vigilant, and more liable to be deceived, than in time of war, hence the danger of admitting men into respectable and influencing stations, without some satisfactory proof of their being well disposed towards us, that they really are citizens of Maryland, and not emissaries of a disappointed and revengeful nation. If this country ever lose its liberty, it will be by treachery within, and the risk of treachery will be in proportion to the influence of disaffected natives or foreigners, and it does not appear to me, that there is any benefit arising from the admission of either class to the privilege of practising the law, which will justify running the smallest risk of influence inimical to the state.

And thus it will be found, by all who examine this bill and its principles, that notwithstanding the clamour which has been raised against it by the disaffected and their friends, notwithstanding the intemperate warmth with which the bill, and those who favoured it, have been attempted to be exposed by the protester, that it is not a breach of the legislative faith, that it is not a retrospective law, unjust, or impolitic, but on the contrary was a just, wise, and necessary measure, such as those who wish to preserve both the substance and form of independence to the state, and to guard it from every danger, might well think themselves bound in duty to adopt, without being influenced by any other motive than a regard for the happiness and safety of their country. The imputations upon the gentlemen who were for the bill, with which the protest is interlarded, are so indecent and illiberal, that a particular answer to them might justly be deemed a mean condescension by men whose principles have been too well tried to be suspected, and whose characters are too well known to be hurt by censures resting upon the authority of the protester only. Suspicion may suggest, and malevolence propagate, the blackest charges against the fairest characters, but the candid and rational will require some proof of iniquity before they will believe a deviation from general rectitude, upon motives which, considering the situation and circumstances of men to whom they are ascribed, could not influence, even if they were of the loosest morals.

T. STONE.

The above is an answer to the protest of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq; entered and recorded in the records of the senate, being liber No. 4, and folio 61.

On motion, ORDERED, That Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq; have the privilege of entering a reply to the above answer of Thomas Stone, Esq; at a future session of assembly.

The bill, entitled; An act to provide a fund for the relief of the widows and children of the clergy of the protestant episcopal church, was read the second time with the proposed amendments and will pass.

Amendments proposed. In the title of the bill, strike out from the word "state" in the second line to the word "church" inclusive in the third line. In the 6th line of the first page, after the word "the" insert "ministers of the." In the 11th line of the first page, strike out from the word "children" to the word "church" inclusive in the 12th line. In the 15th line of the first page, after the word "clergy" strike out to the word "who", in the same line and insert "aforesaid." In the 14th line strike out "have agreed to enact." In the 23d line after the word "clergyman" insert "as may or shall hereafter be." In the 24th line of the first page, strike out from the word "church" to the word "state" in the sixth line of the 2d page. In the 2d page and 2d line from the bottom, strike out the word "general" and insert "declared." In the 3d page and 6th line, after the word "that" strike out to the word "corporation" in the 7th line and insert "the members of the said." In the 7th line strike out the word "they," and in the 8th line strike out "October" and insert "May." In the 10th line of same page, strike out from the word "upon" to the end of the clause, and insert "for the purposes of forming such rules and regulations as may be necessary for answering and carrying into effect the pious purposes of this act, provided such rules and regulations be not repugnant to the constitution and laws of this state." In the 3d page and second line from the bottom, strike out from the word "best" to the word "have," and insert "shall." In the same page and 2d line, after the word "law" strike out "and equity." In the 4th page and 10th line, strike out from the word "children" to the end of the clause.

The resolution respecting the governor's house and the stadthouse, was read and assented to.

The bill, entitled, An act to repeal part of the act for the better security of the government, was read the second time by especial order, and the question being put, That the same do pass? The yeas and nays being called for appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.

The honourable Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esquire.

N E G A T I V E.

The honourable John Smith, Esq; president, the honourable John Henry, George Plater, Thomas Stone, Daniel Carroll, Edward Lloyd, Samuel Hughes, William Perry, and George Gale, Esquires.

Determined in the negative.

The following messages were prepared, agreed to, and with the above bills, resolution, petition of Robert Smith, and the bill, entitled, An act to regulate auctions in Baltimore-town in Baltimore county, sent to the house of delegates by George Gale, Esq;