

assembly, under the direction of Alexander C. Hanson and Samuel Chase, Esquires; with the bill of rights, and constitution and form of government, the confederation, and the resolutions of the conventions, and the proceedings of the convention that framed the constitution; at the public expence, and subject to the disposal of the general assembly; and that the intendant of the revenue be directed to advance Mr. Green such a sum of money as he may think proper, to assist him in the execution of the work.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

The resolution respecting Hugh Young, was read and assented to.

The bill, entitled, An act respecting the commerce of this state, to prevent frauds in the customs, to direct the duty of naval officers, and to regulate the conduct of the masters and mariners of merchant vessels, was read the second time with the proposed amendments and will pass. Amendments proposed. In the 8th page and 8th line, after "cargo" insert "unless such vessel shall come from a port, where, by the law and custom, no clearance is granted, whereof a certificate, or other satisfactory proof, shall be given." Page 18, strike out the title of the duty bill. Page 5, after the word "or" in the 4th line insert "mariner."

The following message was prepared, 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 John Smith, Esq; president, the honourable Thomas Stone, Daniel Carroll, William Hindman, Edward Lloyd, William Perry, and George Gale, Esquires.

N E G A T I V E.

The honourable Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq;

Carried in the affirmative, and, with the above bill and resolutions, sent to the house of delegates by Daniel Carroll, Esq;

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 22, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING been much instructed by the matter, and duly impressed with gratitude for the manner, of your very polite answer to our message of the 19th of this month, we cannot refrain from congratulating you upon the happy discovery made yesterday, that the very part of the act referred to is void, which but a few days before you pressed for a repeal of with much seeming earnestness; it is to be lamented indeed, as you have so satisfactorily proved the policy of your measure, that the declaration grounded upon this new information, will lose much of its weight by the circumstances under which it was made, as people will be apt to run into the error of supposing, that our adherence to the negative given to your bill originated the opinion you have given, and not a due consideration of the bill of rights and form of government. Another circumstance unfavourable to the success of your assertion in obtaining the end desired is, that the point of law must by our constitution be determined by the judicial power, where occasional declarations of either house will have very little influence; and if the courts of justice should commit a mistake, and determine against your authority, a proper confidence in it may possibly injure the men you mean to relieve, as the act in question unfortunately inflicts certain penalties on those who vote without having complied with its directions. However this matter ends, great credit must be allowed you for your humanity, liberality and wisdom, but above all, for the great and generous mind you discover in shifting your position with so much facility, after the first attempt to accomplish your very laudable views has not met with merited success, owing to an opinion of this house, unhappily dictated by the extremity of folly.

By order,

J. DORSEY, clk.

The following message was prepared, and the question being put, That the same be agreed to? The yeas and nays being called for appeared as follow:

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

The honourable Thomas Stone, Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Daniel Carroll, William Hindman, and George Gale, Esquires.

N E G A T I V E.

The honourable John Smith, Esq; president, the honourable Edward Lloyd, and William Perry, Esquires.

Carried in the affirmative, and sent to the house of delegates by William Hindman, Esq;

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 22, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

WE are very desirous that you would adopt the several amendments which we pointed out in our message of yesterday, as proper to be made to the bill for imposing certain duties on imports and exports. If you still pertinaciously adhere to that part of the bill imposing duties on exports, we will pass the bill if you will return it to us, even with those duties, provided you will limit the duration of the act to three years, and will insert in it a clause for appropriating, at least for one year, the monies to be collected under the act.

By order,

J. DORSEY, clk.

The bill, entitled, An act to vest a legacy to the use of the presbyterian church near Bladensburg, in Prince-George's county, was read the second time and will not pass.