

amine the ballot boxes. No gentleman is named in addition to those nominated by your honours.

By order, J. DORSEY, clk.
 The senate proceeded to the election of delegates to represent this state in congress, the ballot box was prepared, the ballots placed therein, sealed up, and delivered to the committee of the senate appointed to meet the committee of the house of delegates, who retired to the conference room, and after some time returned and reported, that John Henry, William Hindman, William Harrison, Richard Ridgely, and Nathaniel Ramsey, Esquires, had a majority of votes. Whereupon it is declared in the senate, that John Henry, William Hindman, William Harrison, Richard Ridgely, and Nathaniel Ramsey, Esquires, are duly elected delegates to represent this state in congress.

Daniel Carroll, Esq; from the committee appointed to prepare a message, stating the difficulties the senate are under, from receiving the most important bills of the session at a very late period, and also respecting the provision of permanent salaries for the judicial department, brings in and delivers to the president the following message; which was read, agreed to, and, with the petition from John Kolph and Benjamin Hatchelson, sent to the house of delegates by Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq;

BY THE SENATE, NOVEMBER 24, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,
 WE think it a duty incumbent on us to call your attention to the state of our judiciary department. The thirtieth article of our bill of rights, for very obvious and important reasons, enjoins that the chancellor and judges should be independent, not only by holding their commissions during good behaviour, but also by having proper salaries secured to them during the continuance of their commissions. It is the duty of the legislature both to fix the salaries of the chancellor and judges, and to provide funds by a permanent law for the regular payment of such salaries. This duty has not been complied with, and instead of being in that state of independency required by the bill of rights, and strongly dictated by the first principles of free governments, the chancellor and judges have hitherto remained dependent for their salaries upon the annual votes of the legislature. This house hath been of opinion for a considerable time past, that there was no circumstance which would justify the legislature in delaying to make the provision required by the constitution, and our opinion hath been ineffectually communicated to a former house of delegates; but we trust, gentlemen, you will concur with us in sentiment, that this very important subject ought to be properly attended to early in this session, and that you will in due time send us a bill for fixing the salaries of the chancellor and judges during the continuance of their commissions, and for the payment of those salaries with certainty and regularity. The experience of passed sessions induces us to apprehend we may find ourselves under the necessity of determining too hastily, matters, by which the welfare of this state in particular, and of the United States in general, may be essentially affected, and which consequently demand the maturest consideration.

Towards the close of each session, when from its length and the approaching severity of the season, the house of delegates have been usually anxious to rise, the most important part of the public business hath been transmitted to the senate. As the constitution doth not allow this house to propose amendments to money bills, the evil consequence must readily occur, if we should think it necessary to dissent to them at a time when the house of delegates will not agree to continue sitting to re-assume the discussion of the subject matter of such bills, or even to enter into a consideration of such amendments as the senate may propose to others. We therefore request, that such important bills as are intended to be offered for our consideration by your house, may be sent to us so early in the session, that a fair opportunity may be given to us of considering them with that deliberation which every interesting act of legislature requires.

By order,

J. DORSEY, clk.

The following resolution was read, assented to, and sent to the house of delegates by John Smith, Esq;

BY THE SENATE, NOVEMBER 24, 1785.

RESOLVED, That upon all appointments to office by the joint ballots of both houses, the president of the senate and speaker of the house of delegates inform the person or persons appointed as a matter of course, without any particular directions from the two houses.

By order,

J. DORSEY, clk.

The senate adjourns till to morrow morning 10 o'clock.

F R I D A Y, November 25, 1785.

THE senate met. Present as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Baker, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the resolution respecting the president's and speaker's notifying to any person or persons their appointment, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, November 24, 1785: Read and assented to.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

The president lays before the senate a petition from Oliver Smith, John Wallace, Richard Peacock, Malachi Ambrose, John Woodall, James Smith, and George Tiller, respecting the collection