

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, NOVEMBER, 1785. 45

BY THE SENATE, FEBRUARY 16, 1786.

GENTLEMEN,

WE are as strongly impressed as you can be with the ill consequences of prolonging the present session of assembly unnecessarily, but we apprehend it would be much more injurious to our constituents to rise without doing the important business in a proper manner, after a session so uncommonly long, than to spend some time more, and complete the business which the welfare and credit of the state require should be done. We shall give every assistance in our power to complete this business, but we cannot justify passing upon very interesting subjects without due consideration, and the time you mention for adjourning in your message by Mr. Joshua Senev, will by no means allow us a proper opportunity to consider the bills now before us. Had the bills been sent us earlier, as we requested, they would have been decided on before this time; some of them are very important, and those which we have examined, require many corrections and amendments. We hope the public business will permit us to adjourn by the twenty-fifth day of this month, we shall then, with much pleasure, agree to put an end to the session.

By order,

J. DORSEY, clk.

Mr. Bowie, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the bill, entitled, An act ascertaining what shall be recovered on protested bills of exchange, and to repeal an act of assembly therein mentioned, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, February 9, 1786: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

" By the house of delegates, February 25, 1786: Read the second time and will not pass.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Also a bill, entitled, An act to erect a public gaol in Anne-Arundel county, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 29, 1785: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

" By the house of delegates, February 13, 1786: Read the second time and will pass.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

And also a bill, entitled, An act relative to the arrearages of taxes due the state before the first day of January seventeen hundred and eighty-three, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, January 18, 1786: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

" By the house of delegates, February 15, 1786: Read the second time and will pass.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

The petition of Henry Symmonds was read the second time, referred to the consideration of the house of delegates, and sent by John Henry, Esq;

The president lays before the senate a petition from John Eager Howard and George Lux, praying that the commissioners of Baltimore-town may be enabled to take and receive a grant of a parcel of ground for the use of a burying ground for strangers; which was read, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto.

Daniel Bowley, Esq; brings in and delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act to enable John Eager Howard and George Lux, of Baltimore county, to grant and convey to the commissioners of Baltimore-town, and their successors, a parcel of ground adjoining the said town, for the purposes herein after mentioned; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Beall, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act to restore to Simon Nicholls the collection of the arrears of taxes due in Montgomery county for the years therein mentioned, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, February 13, 1786: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

" By the house of delegates, February 15, 1786: Read the second time and will pass.

" By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

On motion, ORDERED, That the following be entered on the Journals of the senate.

At a meeting of the commissioners appointed by the general assemblies of the commonwealth of Virginia, and the state of Maryland, for forming a compact between the two states, to regulate and settle the jurisdiction and navigation of Patowmack, Pocomoke rivers, and that part of Chesapeake bay which lieth within the territory of Virginia, to wit, George Mason and Alexander Henderson, Esquires, on the part of the commonwealth of Virginia, and Daniel of Saint Thomas Jenifer, Thomas Stone, and Samuel Chase, Esquires, on the part of the state of Maryland, at Mount Vernon in Virginia, on the twenty-eighth day of March, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, the following compact was mutually agreed to by the said commissioners.

First, The commonwealth of Virginia disclaims all right to impose any toll, duty or charge, prohibition or restraint, on any vessel whatever sailing through the capes of Chesapeake bay to the state of Maryland, or from the said state through the said capes outward bound, and agrees that the waters of Chesapeake bay, and the river Pocomoke, within the limits of Virginia, be for ever considered as a common highway, free for the use and navigation of any vessel belonging to the said state of Maryland, or any of its citizens, or carrying on commerce to or from the said state, or with any of its citizens, and that any such vessel, inward or outward bound, may freely enter any of the rivers within the commonwealth of Virginia as a harbour, or for safety against an enemy, without the payment of port-duties, or any other charge; and also that the before-mentioned parts of Chesapeake bay and Pocomoke river be free for the navigation of vessels from one part of the state of Maryland to another.