

Thomas Stone, Esq; brings in and delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act for a general registry of wills; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entitled, A Supplementary act to the act, entitled, An act for building a new church in the city of Annapolis, was read the second time and will pass.

John Kilty, Esq; from the council, delivers to the president a letter from the secretary of congress of the 15th instant, enclosing a system of general revenue recommended in the act of the 18th of April 1783, and a schedule of the French and Dutch loans; and also a letter from the secretary of congress, enclosing a report of congress of the 15th instant; and a resolve of the 18th instant, recommending an effectual provision for the discharge of the continental debts, as necessary to the restoration of public credit; which were severally read, and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

Mr. Seney, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the bill, entitled, An act to alter and amend the law in certain cases, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, February 22, 1786: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, February 24, 1786: Read the second time and will pass with the proposed amendments.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Amendments proposed. Page 13, line 1, after "affidavit," add "or affirmation as the case may be." Line 7, after the word "before" strike out "judgment," and insert "verdict." Page 17, strike out the first and second clauses to the end. Page 26, strike out the clause respecting interrogatories to the end in page 27. Page 31, strike out the last clause

Mr. Sieret, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the bill, entitled, An act to enable John Eagar 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 therein mentioned, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, February 24, 1786: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates February 14, 1786: Read the second time by especial order and will pass.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Ordered to be engrossed.

The letters from the secretary of congress, resolves and report of congress, and the bill, entitled, A Supplementary act to the act, entitled, An act for building a new church in the city of Annapolis, were sent to the house of delegates by Thomas Stone, Esq;

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

S A T U R D A Y, February 25, 1786.

THE senate met. Present as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. Turner, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the bill for the average value of land; with the following message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, FEBRUARY 25, 1786.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

IN answer to your message by John Henry, Esq; we must again inform you, we cannot consent that the judges of the general court be instituted a court of appeals with regard to the valuation of lands in the several counties, inasmuch as we are of opinion, that the judgment of five commissioners, liable to be revised and corrected by three of the most proper men, residents in the county where the lands lie, (and who probably may be personally acquainted with both the soil and situation,) is more likely to be unexceptionable and consistent with the proper average value, than the opinion of the judges of the general court, who cannot be so well acquainted with the real circumstances of the land in question, and who cannot be supposed to derive any additional knowledge on subjects of this nature from their legal abilities. We are of opinion, that an appeal to the general court would only be made by gentlemen possessed of large bodies of land; and as the testimony they would offer would no doubt be such as might induce the judges to make an abatement, which abatement would operate as a tax on the less opulent landholders of the county, who, from the distance they may reside from the seats of justice, and the great expence which would attend their appearing to make opposition, would prevent any testimony on their part, and therefore, the opinion of the judges, mult in many cases be founded on an ex parte hearing. We return the bill, and flatter ourselves your honours will consent to its passage as amended by this house.

By order, . . .

W. HARWOOD, clk.

And also the following message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, FEBRUARY 25, 1786.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

WE have read the resolutions and letters from congress sent us yesterday by Thomas Stone, Esq; and are of opinion that they contain matters of the greatest importance to this state, and the union in general, and such as require the united wisdom of both branches of the legislature. We therefore propose a conference with your honours, in order that we may come to some immediate