

measure, and we are desirous to take some time to weigh them well before we come to a conclusion on a matter of so much consequence.

By order,  
James Lloyd, Esq; has leave of absence.

J. DORSEY, clk.

The senate adjourns till 5 o'clock.

P O S T M E R I D I E M.

The senate met.

Mr. Bowie, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act to alter and amend the laws respecting commerce and imposing duties, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, March 6, 1786: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, March 8, 1786: Read the second time and will pass.

"By order,

W HARWOOD, clk."

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entitled, An act to establish a supplementary fund to raise the sum of money required of this state by the resolve of congress of the eighteenth day of April seventeen hundred and eighty-three, was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

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

T H U R S D A Y, March 9, 1786.

**T**HE senate met. Present as on yesterday, except James Lloyd, Esq; The proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. Bowie, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act to ascertain for what time interest shall cease on debts due from the citizens of this state previous to the commencement of the late war, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, March 9, 1786:

"Read the first and second time by especial order and will pass.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Waggaman, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of John Stevens of Dorchester county, late collector of the tax, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, March 9, 1786: Read the first and second time by especial order and will pass.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Gale, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the bill allowing a longer time to compound on old certificates, &c. with the following message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, MARCH 9, 1786.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

THIS house will not recede from their amendment to the bill originated in the senate, entitled, A supplement to the act allowing a longer time to compound on old certificates, &c. and return the bill for your honours to decide thereon as you may think proper.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

The following message was prepared, agreed to, and, with the bill for the regulation of the poor in the several counties of this state, for the relief of indigent mariners, &c. and the bill for building a new prison in the city of Annapolis, was sent to the house of delegates by Thomas Stone, Esq;

BY THE SENATE, MARCH 9, 1786.

GENTLEMEN,

WE cannot by any means submit to your opinion, that the bill for the regulation of the poor in the several counties of this state, for the relief of indigent mariners, and for the repairing the poor-house in Baltimore county, is a money bill. Although so late in the session, we are forced to enter into a discussion concerning the nature and extent of money bills, as defined by our form of government, to combat an opinion, which, if suffered to pass unnoticed, may be drawn into precedent, and if adopted or acquiesced in, would tend to embarrass the proceedings of the legislature, and abridge the constitutional rights of the senate. It is probable that habits and jealousies acquired under the former government, had their influence in producing that part of our constitution which excludes the senate from originating or amending money bills. The inconvenience of the exclusion has been often felt, indirectly evaded in several instances, and repeatedly acknowledged by the most experienced members of your house. That the exclusive privilege of originating money bills, coupled with the unreasonable restraint imposed on the senate from amending them, might be abused by the house of delegates, was foreseen by the framers of the constitution, who defined what should be deemed a money bill, to prevent altercations on that topic, and the probable abuse which would grow out of the exclusive privilege from improper racks being made to such bills by the house of delegates. The definition of a money bill, given in the 11th section of the form of government, is clear and explicit. It is thereby declared, that every bill assessing, levying, or applying taxes, or supplies for the support of government, or the current expences of the state, or appropriating money in the treasury, is a money bill. The particular instances enumerated in the same section, described what are not money bills, were cited