

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, November, 1786. 11

On motion, RESOLVED, That the further consideration of the said bill is postponed till to-morrow.  
The senate adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

T H U R S D A Y, December 21, 1786.

THE senate met. Present as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.  
Mr. Harwood, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the following message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER 20, 1786.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

THIS house are of opinion, that it will be proper to appoint a joint committee of both houses to take into consideration the subject of the memorial of Matthew Ridley, Esquire, and are ready to appoint members of this house to join in committee with such members of your house as may be named by you for that purpose.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read.

The president lays before the senate a petition from sundry inhabitants of Washington county, praying for a division of said county; a memorial from Thomas Beall, of Samuel, proposing to give a piece of ground at Fort Cumberland, if Washington county is divided and a court-house erected at said place, for the use of the county if laid out; and also proposing to supply a court-house and prison at said place, until the new county may be able to erect public buildings for its own use; and a petition from sundry inhabitants of Anne-Arundel county, praying that a town may be laid out at Elk-Ridge Landing; which were severally read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

The senate assumed the further consideration of the bill to direct descents; which was unanimously assented to, and endorsed will pass.

Mr. Stone, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the following message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER 21, 1786.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

ON consideration of a letter of the 1st of December instant, from his excellency the governor of Virginia, this house are of opinion, that seven deputies ought to be appointed by the joint ballot of both houses, to a convention to be held in the city of Philadelphia in the month of May next, for the purpose of revising the federal constitution. And this house are also of opinion, that five commissioners ought to be appointed by the joint ballot of both houses, to meet commissioners from the commonwealth of Virginia and Pennsylvania, and to communicate to them the regulations of commerce and duties proposed in this state, and to confer on such subjects as may concern the commercial interests of the said states, and are within the power of the respective states.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read.

The following message was prepared, agreed to, and, with the bill to direct descents, the petition from the inhabitants of Washington county, the memorial from Thomas Beall, of Samuel, and the petition from the inhabitants of Anne-Arundel county, was sent to the house of delegates by Thomas Stone, Esquire.

BY THE SENATE, DECEMBER 21, 1786.

GENTLEMEN,

WE agree to the appointment of a joint committee to consider the subject of the memorial of Matthew Ridley, Esquire, and have appointed George Gale, John Smith and Daniel Carroll, Esquires, to join the gentlemen from your house you may think proper to nominate for that purpose.

By order,

J. DORSEY, clk.

William Hemsley, Esquire, appears in the senate, and after qualifying, by taking the several oaths directed by the constitution and form of government, and subscribing a declaration of his belief in the christian religion, took his seat.

The president lays before the senate a letter from Pergrine Tilghman, Esquire, notifying his intention of accepting his seat in the senate; which was read.

The following message was prepared, agreed to, and sent to the house of delegates by George Gale, Esquire.

BY THE SENATE, DECEMBER 21, 1786.

GENTLEMEN,

WE cheerfully accede to the proposition contained in your message of this day by Mr. Stone, to appoint by a joint ballot of both houses seven deputies, to meet the deputies from the other states in the convention proposed to be held in the city of Philadelphia in the month of May next. This measure appears to us to be of the utmost importance, and most likely, with the least delay, to vest in the federal government those powers which are so necessary to give strength and stability to the union. As the deputies must be clothed with ample authority, we think it would be proper, previously to their appointment, to determine in a conference of both houses the nature and extent of their powers. The subject is important and delicate, and requires the united wisdom of the legislature, and cannot, in our judgments, be so well discussed in any other manner as in a joint conference of both houses. In the same conference it may likewise be expedient to consider the propriety of appointing five commissioners from this state, to meet the commissioners from the commonwealths of Virginia and Pennsylvania,