

18 VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, November, 1786.

"By the house of delegates, January 1, 1787: Read the first and second time by especial order as amended 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 for the relief of lieutenant Arthur Harris, late of the continental army, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the house of delegates by Samuel Hughes, Esquire.

The senate adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

W E D N E S D A Y, January 3, 1787.

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

The president lays before the senate a memorial from John Harrison, setting forth, that he purchased certain confiscated property which he bonded for, and for which he is now under execution, and that he has been afflicted with a stroke of the palsy, and praying that the said property may be sold on credit; which was read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

The president lays before the senate a representation from Daniel of Saint Thomas Jenifer, Esquire, agent, respecting the appointment of a person in Cæcil county to receive certain interest, enclosing depositions; which were severally read, referred to the consideration of the house of delegates, and, with the above memorial, sent by Peregrine Tilghman, Esquire.

Mr. Purnell, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act to vest certain powers in the governor and the council, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 3, 1786: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, January 3, 1787: 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 senate adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

T H U R S D A Y, January 4, 1787.

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

Mr. Matthews, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act for the removal of the seat of justice from Charles-town to the Head of Elk, in Cæcil county, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, January 4, 1787: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, January 4, 1787: Read the second time by especial order and will pass.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Mr. Seney, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act respecting insolvent debtors, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, January 1, 1787: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, January 4, 1787: Read the second time and will pass.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Thomas Stone, Esquire, from the committee appointed to prepare a message, stating the reasons which influenced the senate to reject the bill for an emission of bills of credit, brings in and delivers to the president the following message:

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 5, 1787.

GENTLEMEN,

ALTHOUGH it hath not been the practice of the senate to assign the reasons of their negative to any bill sent from your house until desired, yet as you, and a part of our constituents, may have formed very sanguine expectations of the good effects to be derived from the bill for an emission of bills of credit, we have thought it advisable, on the present occasion, to deviate from our usual mode. We shall therefore lay before you, and our constituents, the reasons which influenced this house to dissent to your bill; and we have no doubt, but that they will have the same weight with all who attentively examine them, as they have had on us. Both reason and experience evince, that if the bills of credit proposed to be emitted, should depreciate considerably, they will neither relieve the people, or answer the exigencies of government; but will increase the difficulty on both to procure real money, by adding an article of purchase to those which are already the objects of sale.

It would be too tedious, as well as unnecessary, to particularise all the causes of depreciation which occur to us. We shall select such, as in our opinion, would most affect the credit of the paper money proposed to be issued; among these, is the unavoidable distinction between state and continental taxes; the former may be paid in paper; part of the latter must be paid in coin. This distinction arises from, and is inseparably connected with, the political existence of this state, as a member of a confederacy composed of thirteen states. By the articles of the confederation, each state is bound to pay into the continental treasury its quota of the federal debt and expences, in the manner required by congress. That assembly since the peace has, by its several requisitions, called upon