

purchasers on the sale of this property, and the various events of indulgence, disputed titles, delay and insolvency, which may attend their engagements before a recovery of the money be completed, we are induced to fear that the real value, which may be finally received into the treasury, will be extremely short of the present expectation, and perhaps insufficient to discharge the certificates issued on the claims of these creditors. It is therefore conceived to be most proper for the legislature not to authorise any additional certificates of this kind to be issued, because when they are once granted, the state must become answerable in any event, even though the value of the property intended for their payment should prove deficient.

It is for these reasons that we take the liberty to advise the expediency of an act of assembly which might serve as a general regulation in cases of this nature, providing that such claims of the creditors of persons convicted or attainted of treason as have been a justed and admitted, should remain thus liquidated upon the books of the auditor-general, and that the payment, or other satisfaction thereof, should be postponed until the money shall be received from the purchasers of this property, and deposited in the treasury; or providing, if it be more agreeable to the creditors, that the treasurer be authorised to assign the bonds executed on this account to the amount of each particular claim in discharge thereof; and if the bonds cannot be easily negotiated in this manner, that he be authorised to issue orders on the debtors, or their securities, to the amount of the creditor's claim, in discharge of the like sums upon their bonds, and upon refusal to pay, that the same proceedings be allowed upon such orders for the recovery of the money as are allowed upon the original bonds lodged in the treasurer's office, and permitting such orders to be sufficient evidence of the demand. Upon this system the claims of this kind could be settled or compromised between the individual creditor and debtor, and the state be freed from much embarrassment from both. How far these ideas may be extended to other public subjects of a pecuniary nature, is submitted to the wisdom of your house. We find that property, both real and personal, is accumulating or returning upon our hands, and we cannot but wish that a power should be vested some where to dispose of the same for certificates, or to assign the same to the public creditors who may choose to accept thereof in discharge of their debts, upon some terms or price to be mutually agreed to.

By order,

H. RIDGELY, clk.

Mr. Purnell, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act to permit William Kearney, of Queen-Anne's county, to import into this state certain slaves bequeathed to his wife by the last will and testament of her father, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 8, 1789: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, December 8, 1789: Read the 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.  
And also the following message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER 8, 1789.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

THIS house have thought it advisable, for the dispatch of public business, to sit twice a day, and have therefore rescinded the resolution entered into at the commencement of the session, and agreed after this day to sit from nine o'clock in the morning to one in the afternoon, and from three o'clock in the afternoon till seven.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Dennis, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the following resolution:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER 8, 1789.

RESOLVED, That so much of the resolution of the last session of assembly limiting the time within which petitions shall be preferred and decided on, as would prevent a final determination on applications now before the legislature, be rescinded, with a view to such applications only.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

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

Mr. Winder, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the following resolution:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER 8, 1789.

Whereas it appears that the sum of sixty pounds, with interest since the third day of November, seventeen hundred and eighty-five, is due to Patrick Hamilton, from a certain James M'Nabb and John Baine, whose property has been confiscated and sold, and bonds for the amount of the sales have been put into the treasury; therefore, RESOLVED, That the treasurer of the western shore be directed to place a credit to the bond of said Patrick Hamilton for the sum of sixty pounds, and interest as aforesaid, whenever a sum equal thereto shall be paid into the treasury on the sales of the property of the said James M'Nabb and John Baine; and that there shall, in the mean time, be a suspension from any process for that sum on the bond of the said Patrick Hamilton.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

The resolution in favour of William West, Daniel Bowley and Richard Ridgely, was read the second time, and assented to with the following proviso:

"Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to place the said William West, Daniel Bowley and Richard Ridgely, in any other situation than if no claim had been made on the part of this state, to affect the property of the said Thomas Harrison."

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

W E D N E S