

discretion, direct an issue to be tried in the said court where the debtor resides, to determine the truth of any allegation made by such creditor, and if such debtor shall be found guilty of any wilful fraud or deceit of his creditor, he shall for ever be precluded from having any benefit of the act; and if any debtor who shall take the oath or affirmation by this act directed, shall, upon indictment, be convict of wilfully, falsely and corruptly, swearing or affirming to any matter or thing in such oath or affirmation contained, such person shall suffer as in case of wilful and corrupt perjury, and likewise be liable to his creditors, and shall have no relief by, or benefit of, this act."

The bill, entitled, An act to prevent insufficient securities in bonds given on obtaining writs of error, and to give a more speedy recovery against the principal and securities given on obtaining such writs, and upon appeals, was read the second time and will pass.

The bill, entitled, An act to revive and aid the proceedings in Saint-Mary's county court, was read the second time by especial order and will pass.

The resolution respecting the governor and council's calling upon clerks and sheriffs for their accounts of monies received in virtue of their offices, was read the second time by especial order and dissented to; and the following message was prepared and agreed to.

BY THE SENATE, DECEMBER 23, 1789.

GENTLEMEN,

WE have dissented to the resolution requesting the governor and council to inquire into the conduct of the clerks and sheriffs, and to order suits against the defaulters, under an opinion that that department have attended to their duties in these particulars. Soon after their appointment last year, an order of council was made and published on this subject, and we have reason to believe that the necessary measures were pursued for obliging these officers to the discharge of their respective duties.

By order,

H. RIDGELY, clk.

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

T H U R S D A Y, December 24, 1789.

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

The bill, entitled, An act for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors confined in sundry gaols of this state, the bill, entitled, An act relating to writs of *capias ad satisfaciendum*, the bill, entitled, An act to revive and aid the proceedings in Saint-Mary's county court, the bill, entitled, An act to prevent insufficient securities in bonds given on obtaining writs of error, and to give a more speedy recovery against the principal and securities in bonds given on obtaining such writs, and upon appeals, and the resolution respecting the governor and council, with the message thereto relating, were sent to the house of delegates by James Carroll, Esquire.

Mr. Sterett, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the bill, entitled, An act to alter the time of holding the court of appeals, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 23, 1789: Read the first and second time by especial order and will pass."

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

Which was ordered to be engrossed.

Also the paper bills No. 11, 24 and 33, severally endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 22, 1789: The engrossed bill whereof this is the original read and assented to."

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

And the paper bill No. 35, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 24, 1789: The engrossed bill whereof this is the original read and assented to."

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

And also the following message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER 24, 1789.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

WE have acceded to your several amendments to the bill for the more effectual punishment of criminals, except the last; and as this house cannot consent to a longer continuance of the bill than first proposed, we have therefore returned it, in hopes that your honours will recede from the said amendment.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Purnell, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president an additional supplementary act to an act, entitled, An act for enlarging the powers of the high court of chancery, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 24, 1789: 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.

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

BY THE SENATE, DECEMBER 24, 1789.

GENTLEMEN,

ON considering the subject of your message by Mr. Sterett respecting the criminal law, we recede from the amendment proposed by this house as to its continuance.

By order,

H. RIDGELY, clk.

On motion, ORDERED, That the bill, entitled, An act respecting the debtors and creditors of this state under the act to establish funds to secure the payment of the state debt within six years, and