

and for the punctual payment of the annual interest thereon, be committed to Charles Carroll, William Perry, Richard Ridgely and Nicholas Hammond, Esquires, to prepare and report amendments thereto.

Mr. Harwood, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of collectors of the tax since the first of January, seventeen hundred and eighty-three, endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 24, 1789: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table."

"By order, W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, December 24, 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.

The senate adjourns till 5 o'clock.

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

The senate met.

The bill, entitled, An additional supplementary act to an act, entitled, An act for enlarging the powers of the high court of chancery, was read the second time by especial order and will pass.

Richard Ridgely, Esquire, from the committee appointed to prepare amendments to the bill, 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 for the punctual payment of the annual interest thereon, brings in the same; which said bill was read the second time by especial order, with the following amendments, and will pass.

Amendments proposed. In the 1st page, after the word "council" insert "or any four of them, the governor being one." In the same page, after the word "that," strike out "they" in the 6th line from the bottom, and insert "the said board;" and in the succeeding line of the same page, strike out the words "the said board," and insert "them." Strike out the word "June" throughout the whole bill, and insert the word "August." After the word "mortgaged" in the 4th line of page 4, insert "or otherwise incumbered," twice in this line. In the 4th line from the bottom of the 15th page, after the word "interest" insert "due on such instalment." In the 10th line of the 6th page, strike out the word "thirty" and insert "five." In the 12th line of same page, strike out the words "clerks of the eastern or western shore," and insert "respective clerks of the general court of the eastern or western shore." After the word "notwithstanding" in the 6th line of the 7th page, insert "and in all such or future cases of the like nature, the said chancellor is hereby authorized and empowered to limit a reasonable time to decide thereon in a summary manner, according to the principles of equity and good conscience, without being restricted to the formal proceedings of a court of chancery, or to the order of suits therein depending, or to the stated meetings of the said court; and if it shall be thought necessary by the said chancellor, he may appoint one or more fit and proper person or persons on behalf of the state, to attend upon any surveys of the lands whose title or bounds may be disputed, to take depositions thereon, or to collect any other testimony that may be wanting to illustrate any matter in dispute, or to make the said surveys." In the 8th page, strike out the first enacting clause. After the word "writing" in the last line of the 8th page, insert "and lay the same before the general assembly at the next, or any succeeding session." In the 4th line from the bottom of the 10th page, after the word "debts," insert "in manner aforesaid." Strike out from the word "December," in the last line of the 10th page, to the word "and," in the 5th line of the last page. At the end of the bill insert "and, whereas no provision hath been made for assessing and collecting the two shilling and six-penny fund tax for any year subsequent to the year seventeen hundred and eighty-eight, Be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That all the proceedings of the late commissioners of the tax in such of the counties within this state wherein measures have been taken by them for the collection of the said tax for the present year, be and the same are hereby made valid and confirmed; and all bonds executed by any collectors by them appointed for securing the collection thereof, are hereby made effectual to all intents and purposes, and the respective obligors in such bonds mentioned, shall be and are hereby bound by the terms and tenor thereof, in like manner as if such bonds had been executed according to any law heretofore made for assessing and collecting the said tax, and the said collectors shall be subject to the same rules and regulations as are provided by any such law for securing the collection thereof; and the governor and council are hereby authorized and empowered to appoint three commissioners in each respective county within this state, for assessing and securing the collection of the said tax for the two next succeeding years, and also for the present year in such of the counties where no proceedings have been had from a supposed defect of power for collecting the same, and the said commissioners are hereby authorized and required to meet at the court-houses in their respective counties, and to take the necessary measures to effect the collection of the said fund tax for the two next succeeding years, and also for the present year in such of the counties where no steps have been taken for this purpose; and in the appointment of collectors, and in making the necessary regulations for the punctual collection of the said tax, the commissioners shall be governed by the rules and provisions laid down by the act for raising the supplies for the year seventeen hundred and eighty-six, on the valuation of property on which the assessment was levied and collected for that year; and the said commissioners shall, on application by any person interested, or without such application when they shall have knowledge of the change, make such alterations in the assessment of that year, as any change of property or time, or other circumstances may render necessary; and the collectors of the said fund tax, instead of four, shall be allowed six per cent. for the collection.

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"And,