

ments entertained by the two houses on a subject of this nature. The reasons suggested by the senate in that message meet with our approbation, and, on being considered by your house, will furnish the grounds of our opinion upon the present occasion in the fullest manner. As the amendments to the bill do not meet with your concurrence, we have amended your continuance bill, by proposing the addition of a clause for continuing the act for the more effectual punishment of criminals, until the first of January, seventeen hundred and ninety-two.

By order,

H. RIDGELY, jun. clk.

By THE SENATE, DECEMBER 21, 1790.

GENTLEMEN,

WE have sent back the bill, entitled, A Supplement to the act for the better administration of justice in the several counties of this state, and hope, on reconsideration, you will assent to it. The provisions, we conceive, will improve the system of the original act, and assist the due execution of it. The propriety of not confining the executive in their choice of a chief justice to a character residing in the district for which he is to be appointed, and of prohibiting the justices from practising as attorneys, and of preventing the associates from acting as magistrates out of court in civil cases, on account of appeals, and of fixing an earlier season for laying the levies in the counties, occurred to us as necessary provisions; and we flatter ourselves they will strike you in the same point of view, on a further reflection. If however, all the provisions of the bill should not meet with your approbation, it is in your power to designate the most exceptionable, by suitable amendments, which may be agreeable to us, and you will propose them accordingly.

By order,

H. RIDGELY, jun. clk.

The senate adjourns until 5 o'clock.

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

The senate met.

Mr. Lecompte, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president the journal of accounts, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 21, 1790: Read the first and second time and assented to,

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

And the following resolution:

By THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER 20, 1790.

Whereas sundry debtors, in virtue of a resolution assented to at April session, seventeen hundred and eighty-seven, discharged their bonds in final settlement certificates, which had an interest due hereon previous to the first day of January, seventeen hundred and eighty-five, and the said resolution authorized a payment of such bonds in final settlement certificates bearing an interest only from the said first day of January, and it is reasonable that the surplus interest should be allowed to them; therefore, RESOLVED, That the treasurer of the western shore be and he is hereby directed to pay the amount of such surplus interest, in indents, to all debtors who have discharged their bonds in virtue of the said resolution, or to their legal representatives.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time by especial order and assented to.

Mr. Hollingsworth, from the house of delegates, delivers to the president a bill, entitled, A Supplement to an act, entitled, An act respecting the collectors of the public taxes since the first day of January, seventeen hundred and eighty-three, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 21, 1790: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, December 21, 1790: 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 resolution:

By THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER 21, 1790.

RESOLVED, That the auditor-general be and he is hereby empowered to adjust and settle, subject to the direction of the governor and council, all open and unsettled accounts between the state and individuals, and in making the said settlements the auditor and the governor and council may proceed upon equitable principles, and receive such vouchers as may be satisfactory to them, although not strictly legal; that all accounts examined and passed by the auditor shall be signed by him, and the said accounts shall be carried to the governor and council, or to the council in the absence of the governor, for their approbation, who, if they approve, may order the treasurer of the western shore to issue a certificate for the amount of the balance, who shall issue accordingly, and the persons in whose favour the said orders shall be drawn, shall respectively give a receipt upon the accounts, which shall be carried without delay to the auditor, that the same may be entered in his books; and that in case the said auditor refuse to act, die, resign, or remove out of the state, in the recess of the house of delegates, the governor and council may appoint a proper person to such vacant office, to hold the same until the next meeting of the house of delegates.

RESOLVED, That the governor and council be and they are hereby empowered to employ an agent to superintend the collection of all balances due to the state upon open account, and allow him such compensation for his services as they may think proper, not exceeding five per cent: on the amount of all money paid into the treasury under his agency.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

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

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