

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, November, 1791. 13

legal interest thereon to be paid annually; which said certificates shall be receivable for any debt due the state of Maryland, and be charged on the same funds as other specie certificates of this state.

By order, W. HARWOOD, clk.

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

The bill to open a road from Venable's mills, on Barren creek, in Somerset county, to Dean's Landing, on Nanticoke river, the bill to lay out and open a road to and from the mill of Joshua Howard, on Sam's creek, in Frederick county, the bill to open and extend the road leading from Whittingham's bridge, at Princess-Anne-town, in Somerset county, to the plantation of George Pollitt, deceased, until it intersects the road leading from Salisbury to Stevens's ferry, at the plantation of Joshua Merriss, the resolutions respecting Thomas Hyde and James O'Bryon, were sent to the house of delegates by the clerk of the senate.

The bill for erecting a village at Choptank bridge, in Caroline county, and for other purposes, was read the second time and will pass.

The resolution respecting William Augustine Washington, was read the second time and assented to.

Which last mentioned bills and resolution were sent to the house of delegates by the clerk of the senate.

The clerk of the house of delegates delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Rhode Phillips, of Dorchester county, thus endorsed, "By the house of delegates, November 24, 1791: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order, W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, November 25, 1791: 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, NOVEMBER 25, 1791.

RESOLVED, That the auditor-general be and he is hereby authorized and directed to liquidate and settle the pay and depreciation of pay of Richard Henley Courts, late a surgeon's mate under the appointment of doctor William Brown, and grant him certificates for the amount that may be due him, and the same be charged to the United States.

By order, W. HARWOOD, clk.

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

On motion, ORDERED, That the bill, entitled, An act for the relief of John Love, of Harford county, be read a second time on to-morrow.

The additional supplement to the act, entitled, An act to provide for the appointment of commissioners for the regulation and improvement of Easton, in Talbot county, and to establish and regulate a market at the said town, was read the second time by especial order and passed.

The bill to empower the justices of the peace of Charles county to assess and levy a sum of money on said county to repair their court-house and build a record-office, was read the second time and passed.

Benjamin Stoddert, Esquire, brings in and delivers to the president a bill, entitled, An act concerning the territory of Columbia and city of Washington; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The senate adjourns till to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

S A T U R D A Y, November 26, 1791.

THE senate met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except John Hall, Esquire. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esquire, delivers his protest against the second reading of the bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Samuel Sterett, of Baltimore-town, that it might be committed for amendments.

DISSENTIET,

BECAUSE if the power remains with this legislature to pass an act for giving relief to the individual in this case, it has a power to pass a general law relieving every individual within its jurisdiction similarly circumstanced; and it is more consistent with the spirit of genuine legislation, and with that impartiality likely to obtain in laws framed upon general principles, extending indiscriminate relief to all complying with the provisions of such laws, than in a private act made to fit the case of an individual, whose person is known, whose friends in the legislature are apt to sympathise with his misfortunes, and in private commiseration, or private motives, lose sight of general utility.

Because notice of the intended application has not been given according to the rule laid down by the legislature in such cases, a rule never yet violated but in a single instance, and founded upon this obvious principle of justice, that where the interests of many may be affected, these should have an opportunity of making known their objections to the relief prayed for.

Because it is conceived, that the legislature has not, in the present case, the power of granting the solicited relief. The applicant is confessedly a trader, and as such the proper object of a bankrupt law. Has this legislature a constitutional right to pass laws with respect to bankrupts, since its ratification of the general government? This right is assumed by those who are for granting relief to the petitioner. An examination of the reasons in support of the right, will best discover whether it exists or not.

Although