

S A T U R D A Y, December 14, 1793.

**T**HE senate met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Charles Goldsborough, Esquire, has leave of absence.

It was moved and seconded, that the president write the following letter to John Hall, Edward Lloyd and Benjamin Stoddert, Esquires, who are now absent.

SIR,

I AM directed by the senate to inform you, that they have only nine members now attending, some of whom are indisposed, and others, from the peculiar situation of their family, obliged to return home in a day or two.

The journals, if resorted to, will evince, that the business of the senate, particularly towards the close of each session, has been often transacted by eight, or at most nine members—Thus the whole responsibility is thrown upon a few, instead of being divided, as the constitution intends, between all the members. The senate, therefore, consider it to be their duty to press your immediate attendance, which is become indispensably necessary in its present situation.

By order,

W. PERRY, jun. clk.

The bill, entitled, An act to repeal, conditionally, an act, entitled, An act for the relief of William Whetcroft, of the city of Annapolis, passed at November session, 1779, was read a second time, and passed.

The clerk of the house of delegates delivers a bill, entitled, A Further supplement to an act, entitled, An act to straighten and amend the public roads in the several counties, and for other purposes therein mentioned, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 9, 1793: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, December 14, 1793: Read the second time and will pass.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

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

The clerk of the house of delegates returns the bill, entitled, An act to appoint a health officer for the port of Baltimore-town, in Baltimore county, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, December 2, 1793: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

"By the house of delegates, December 14, 1793: Read the second time and will pass with the proposed amendments.

"By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk."

The amendments proposed. To follow after the first enacting clause. "Be it enacted, That the master, or other person having charge of any vessel bound to the port of Baltimore, having on board altogether, when the said vessel departed the port, above thirty passengers on board, disordered with any contagious disease, or coming from any sickly port or place, without a clean bill of health, shall bring his vessel, or suffer or permit the same to be brought, nearer to the port of Baltimore than Hawkins's Point, or shall land, or bring on shore, or cause or suffer to be landed or brought on shore, any of such infected persons, or any part or parcel of their goods or effects, or any other goods, until he has obtained a licence or permit so to do from the physician, or his assistant aforesaid, such master, or other person having charge of such vessel, shall forfeit and pay, for every such offence, the sum of one thousand dollars.

"Be it enacted, That if any master, or other person having a charge of any vessel, at the time of inquiry by the aforesaid physician or his assistant, shall have on board any person infected as aforesaid, and shall knowingly conceal the same, or shall not make a just and true discovery to the physician, or his deputy, of the sickly and disordered state and condition of all and every person on board, from the time the said vessel departed from the port or place from whence she last sailed, to the time of the said inquiry, and of all other particulars necessary for the said physician, or his deputy, to know, respecting the premises, such master, or other persons having charge of such vessel, shall forfeit and pay, for every such offence, the sum of three hundred dollars.

"Be it enacted, That if any pilot shall conduct any vessel above Hawkins's Point, having on board above thirty persons, being passengers or servants, (and it is hereby declared to be the duty of each pilot to make due inquiry thereof,) such pilot shall forfeit and pay one hundred dollars; and if any pilot shall have knowledge that there is on board any vessel that he undertakes to pilot, any person distempered with the plague, or any malignant contagious disease, (and it is hereby declared to be his duty to make due inquiry thereof,) and shall pilot such vessel above Hawkins's Point, he shall forfeit one hundred dollars, and such pilot shall be disqualified to act as a pilot for one year; and if any pilot shall have knowledge that there is on board any vessel that he undertakes to pilot, any person distempered as aforesaid, (and it is declared to be his duty to make due inquiry thereof,) and shall conceal the same, and not give information thereof to the aforesaid physician, or his deputy, such pilot shall forfeit one hundred dollars, and such pilot shall be disqualified to act as a pilot for one year.

"And be it enacted, That all penalties imposed by this act, shall be recovered by indictment or action of debt, by any person who shall sue for the same; provided the same be prosecuted or sued for within three months after the said offence committed, and on affidavit filed in the clerk's office, and a copy issued with the writ, signifying the real cause of action, and specifying the certainty of the offence being committed, the court may award special bail to be given to said indictment or suit, and in default thereof, to commit the person, as in other cases where bail is ordered by the court."

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