

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the governor and council deliver or cause to be delivered a copy of the said laws to each member of the general assembly, to each judge of the general court, and to each chief justice of the county courts, the residue to be distributed in such manner as the governor and council may think proper.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

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

The bill, entitled, An act to authorise and empower the levy court of Harford county, at their discretion, to levy a sum of money for the purpose therein mentioned, was read the second time and will pass.

The following message was prepared, read and agreed to.

BY THE SENATE, DECEMBER 21, 1798.

GENTLEMEN,

WE have reconsidered our amendment to the bill, entitled, An act to prevent the firing of woods in the several counties in this state therein mentioned, and cannot recede from the same,

By order,

A. VAN-HORN, clk.

The president communicates to the senate a petition from the mayor, recorder, aldermen and common-council-men of the corporation of George-town, and sundry inhabitants of said town, praying that they may have the application of so much of all common law fines imposed by the said corporation as may be necessary to discharge the costs and charges incurred by the said corporation in the prosecution of common law offences; that the county wharf in said town may be vested in the said corporation; that the said corporation may be empowered to grant all ordinary and retailers licences within the limits of the said town, and expend the money arising therefrom in repairing the streets of George-town, and defraying other expences of the said corporation; that they may be exempted from the operation of the act to authorise and empower the levy court of Montgomery county to assess and levy a sum of money upon the assessable property thereof for the purpose of building a new gaol in said county; that the book containing the original plan of George-town may be removed from Montgomery county court office, and deposited with the clerk of the said corporation for safe keeping, and that a law may pass therefor; which was read, and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

On motion, ORDERED, That the bill, entitled, An act for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors, be the order of the day for Friday next.

The bill, entitled, An act to prevent the going at large of geese and swine in the town of Havre-de-Grace, in Harford county, was read the second time by especial order and will pass.

The bill, entitled, A supplement to the act, entitled, An act to establish and regulate a market at Bridge-town, in Kent county, and for other purposes therein mentioned, was read the second time by especial order and will pass.

The bill, entitled, An act for building a new gaol in Dorchester county, and other purposes therein mentioned, was read the second time by especial order and will pass.

Mr. Forrest has leave of absence till Friday next.

The bill, entitled, An act for appointing commissioners to contract for and purchase the Chop-tank Indian lands in Dorchester county, and for appropriating the same to the use of this state, and to repeal the acts of assembly therein mentioned, was read the second time and will pass with the proposed amendments.

Amendments proposed. After the title of the bill insert, "Whereas it is represented to this general assembly, that the lands in Dorchester county, heretofore granted to the Choptank Indians, have been much injured and abused by tenants placed upon said lands by Indians claiming title to the same: And whereas doubts are entertained whether the grant of said lands has not ceased, and the right thereof reverted to the state." Strike out from the word "that" in the 5th line of the 1st page to the end of the 6th line of the same page, and insert "William Perry, Henry Waggaman and William Marbury, Esquires." In the 13th line of the same page strike out the word "county" and insert the word "state." In the 8th line of the 2d page, after the word "of" strike out to the word "Indians" inclusive in the 10th line of the same page, and insert "the right, title and interest, of the said Indians, to all and singular the lands and tenements aforesaid." In the 8th line of the 3d page strike out the word "three" and insert the word "one." Strike out the word "their" at the end of the 12th line of the same page, and the word "tribe" at the beginning of the 13th line, and in lieu thereof insert the words "they, or any of them, or their descendants." Strike out from the word "and" in the 13th line of the 3d page to the end of the enacting clause, and insert "the said commissioners, or a majority of them, may agree to pay each individual of the said Indians who now claims title to, and receives rents from, said lands, such annuity as may be agreed upon between said commissioners and said Indians, provided that the aggregate amount of such annuities shall not exceed the sum of six hundred dollars; and such annuities shall be payable for their use quarterly, out of the treasury of the western shore, to the orders of such persons, or friends, as the said Indians may respectively from time to time appoint to draw the same, and that the said annuity shall commence on the first day of January next ensuing the date of such agreement; and the annuity allowed to any Indian as aforesaid shall, upon the death of said Indian, descend and be paid such person or persons as under the laws of this state would be entitled to have the personal estate of said Indian, in case said Indian died intestate, leaving personal estate, and be transmitted in same manner; provided, that no annuity shall be transmitted to any but the immediate descendants of the Indian to whom granted, and that upon the death of any of the said Indians, or their descendants, without any representative as aforesaid, the annuity in such case granted shall cease."