

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, FEBRUARY 1777. 7

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, February 11, 1777.

May it please your honours,
THIS house hath appointed Mr. Kent, Mr. Beall, and Mr. Jordan, to join one or more of the members of the senate to inspect and examine the accounts and proceedings of the commissioners of the loan-office.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Mr. Lethbury brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker, a draught of a proclamation for the suppression of the insurgents in Somerset and Worcester counties; And Mr. Hall brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker, a draught of instructions to colonel Gift; which were severally read and ordered to lie on the table.

Samuel Wilson, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the resolution of this house relative to the security of the trade and commerce of this state, thus endorsed; "By the senate, February 10, 1777: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table. February 11, 1777: Read the second time and assented to. By order, R. RIDGELY, cl. sen."

Brice Thomas Beale Worthington, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message:

By the SENATE, February 11, 1777.

Gentlemen

IN consequence of your message of this afternoon by Messieurs Jordan and Gibson, we have appointed Brice Thomas Beale Worthington, and Turbut Wright, Esquires, to join the gentlemen therein named as a committee to inspect and examine the accounts and proceedings of the commissioners of the loan-office.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

Which was read.

On reading a second time the proclamation for the suppression of the insurgents in Somerset and Worcester counties, and the instructions to colonel Gift, the same were considered, amended, and approved, and are as follow:

By the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of MARYLAND.
A P R O C L A M A T I O N.

WHEREAS, divers persons, inhabitants of Somerset and Worcester counties in this state, influenced by wicked, artful, and designing men, have manifested their disregard and enmity to the sacred rights and liberties of America, by opposing the measures adopted by congress and the supreme authority of this state, by endeavouring to discourage and obstruct the recruiting service for the necessary defence of our just rights, liberties, and property, and by words and open deed, have not only maintained the authority of the cruel and unrelenting tyrant of Great-Britain, and his venal and corrupt parliament, over the good people of this state, and attempted to persuade the faithful subjects thereof to return to a dependence on the crown and parliament of Great-Britain; but maliciously and advisedly have endeavoured to raise tumults and disorders in the state, and to excite the people to resist the government thereof as by law established, and at length, in open violation and breach of their duty to their country, and obedience to its laws, have carried on a traiterous correspondence with the cruel enemies of this and other the United States, invited them to join in an unnatural war against their friends, countrymen and brothers, by erecting the standard of the tyrant of Britain, and assembling in arms for the impious and diabolical purpose of shedding the blood of their neighbours, friends and brethren, and overturning the constitution and government of this state, established solely under the authority of the good people thereof:

The General Assembly have therefore thought proper, from compassion to the deluded and infatuated people of the counties of Somerset and Worcester, leagued and confederated for the above-mentioned horrid purposes, and to prevent spilling the blood of their christian brethren, to issue this their proclamation, to exhort them to return to their duty and obedience to the laws of their country, and to require them immediately to disperse, and within thirty days from the date hereof, to repair to the commanding officer, at such time and place in the counties of Somerset and Worcester as he shall appoint, and deliver up all their fire and side arms, and take the oath of allegiance and fidelity to this state, as prescribed by the form of government thereof: And the general assembly do declare, that upon strictly complying with the terms aforesaid, the insurgents shall not only be pardoned for all offences and crimes heretofore committed against this state, but shall be received and protected by its laws, power and authority, and secured in as full and ample enjoyment of their civil and religious rights as any other the subjects of this state, and further, that their grievances (if any) shall be heard and redressed. But the general assembly, to prevent such rebellious combinations, have thought proper to except from any benefit or advantage under this proclamation the following leaders, viz. Andrew Francis Cheney, Hamilton Callallo, Whittington Turpin, Thomas Moore, Stoughton Maddox, Thomas Malcolm, Levy Langford, Joseph Beall, Thomas Pollett, jun. Angelo Atkinson, Jesse Gray, William Pollett, John Odell Hart, and the reverend Mr. Bowie.

I.N.