

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

The house met.

Matthew Tilghman, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message:

By the S E N A T E, February 15, 1777.

Gentlemen,

WE think it necessary, in consequence of the intelligence this day received by captain Winder, to dispatch an express to general Smallwood, with instructions to discharge from their present service the Virginia regiment, and the two companies of regulars on the continental establishment; we are also of opinion, that orders should be given to countermand the Annapolis independent company of militia, which still remains in this city; if the express should reach the general before the troops land at Cambridge, such an instruction will probably prevent their landing, and at least save them a fatiguing and unnecessary march to Somerset and Worcester counties, by avoiding of which, they will be enabled to join general Washington the sooner, who we have reason to believe stands in need of being speedily reinforced.

We conceive such an instruction the more necessary, as without it, we apprehend, general Smallwood will look upon himself obliged, in compliance with his former instructions, to proceed with his whole force to the counties aforesaid, altho' he should get on his way thither, certain information of the dispersion of the insurgents, and in consequence thereof, should think the further proceeding of those troops on their present expedition, utterly useless.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

Which was read, and the question put, That the house concur therewith? Resolved in the affirmative.

ORDERED, That a message be prepared and sent to the senate acquainting them therewith. The following message being prepared, was sent to the senate by Mr. Crabb and Mr. Selby.

By the H O U S E of D E L E G A T E S, February 15, 1777.

May it please your honours,

THIS house concur with your message by Matthew Tilghman, Esq; and are of opinion that the council of safety be directed to send an express to general Smallwood to dismiss from their present service the Virginia regiment on the continental establishment, and that they likewise countermand the marching orders to the Annapolis independent company of militia.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Samuel Wilson, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message:

By the S E N A T E, February 15, 1777.

Gentlemen,

WE concur with you in the number of delegates to be sent to congress, and having named Samuel Wilson and Thomas Stone, Esquires, to examine the ballot boxes, in conjunction with the committee from your house, shall immediately proceed to ballot, but wish you to agree with us in empowering any two, or more of them, to represent this state—most of the other states may be represented by one delegate only—what we propose may ease the gentlemen appointed in their attendance, and prevent the want of a representation, which might otherwise frequently be occasioned by unavoidable accidents.

We also concur in your proposition of thanks, and have requested the president of this house to join the speaker of your's in a letter to colonel Simpson, thanking him for his friendly and spirited conduct in marching his battalion to assist our friends in Somerset and Worcester counties.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

Which was read.

Mr. Schnebely has leave of absence till Monday next.

Mr. Speaker issued his warrant for the election of two delegates to represent the city of Annapolis in general assembly.

The following message was prepared and sent to the senate by Mr. Wright and Mr. Galloway.

By the H O U S E of D E L E G A T E S, February 15, 1777.

May it please your honours,

THIS house, from a just sense of the necessity of a constant representation in congress, concur with your message by Samuel Wilson, Esq; that any two or more of the delegates to congress shall have full power and authority to represent this state.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

The house then proceeded to ballot for delegates to represent this state in congress, and the ballots being deposited in the ballot box, the committee appointed by this house to examine the ballots of both houses, in conjunction with a committee of the senate, retired, and after some time the gentlemen return and report to the house, that they had, with the committee of the senate, examined the ballots of both houses, and that a majority appeared in favour of Samuel Chase, Benjamin Rumsey, William Smith, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Thomas Stone, and William