

grave leave to refer to the depositions herewith lodged for the names of those concerned in the above transaction, as also for the particular circumstances of ill treatment.

All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

Signed by order of com.

JOHN JOHNSON, clk.

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

Thomas Contee, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker sundry petitions from persons excepted out of the proclamation issued by the general assembly, praying that the benefit of the said proclamation might be extended to them, severally endorsed; "By the senate, April 2, 1777: Read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

"By order,

R. POTTS, cl. sen."

Which were severally read here and referred to the governor and council, with full power to take such order therein as they think proper, so endorsed, and sent to the senate, with a petition from Daniel Melfom, by Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Ridgely.

Charles Grahame, Esquire, from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message:

By the S E N A T E, April 2, 1777.

Gentlemen,

THIS house having disagreed to several officers proposed in your list, and being desirous that the civil offices of this state may be filled as soon as possible, will go into a joint ballot this afternoon, should it be agreeable to you that the places of those disagreed to may now be filled up by the general assembly according to the form of government.

By order,

R. POTTS, cl. sen.

Which being read, RESOLVED, That a message be prepared and sent to the senate, requesting them to favour this house with their reasons for rejecting Solomon Wright and John Beale Bordley, Esquires, judges of the general court; Samuel Ridgeway, justice of Queen-Anne's county; John Beale and William Rich, surveyors; John Veazy, 3d, register of wills; and Meveril Lock, naval officer.

The following message being prepared, was sent to the senate by Mr. Lethbury and Mr. T. Bond.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, April 2, 1777.

May it please your honours,

THE importance of filling the civil offices of this state with men of ability and integrity is incontrovertible. 'Tis with great concern we observe the endorsement on the list of officers sent by this to your house. We doubt not but reasons must have induced your honours to that determination. As we are open to conviction, we request your honours to favour us with your reasons for not concurring with that part of our appointment which has been the subject of your objection. If you are not inclined to urge your reasons by message, we are willing to confer with your honours on the subject.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Brice T. B. Worthington, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the resolutions of Saturday last, which were sent up this day by Mr. Wootton and Mr. Downes, thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 2, 1777: Read and assented to with the following amendment, viz. "After the word "general," in the fifth line of the first page, insert the following, "whilst attending his duty."

By order,

R. POTTS, cl. sen."

The amendment read and assented to.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock:

T H U R S D A Y, April 3, 1777.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Stevenson appeared in the house.

On reading his excellency the governor's letter to the general assembly of April 2, 1777, relative to the pay of the militia lately in the service of the United States, and under his command, RESOLVED, That his excellency be empowered to appoint proper persons to audit and settle the accounts of the said militia, and to draw on the treasurers of this state for such sums of money as may be necessary for the discharge of such claims, and that he be requested to take the most effectual and speedy measures for re-payment of any monies advanced by this for the use of the United States. Sent to the senate for their concurrence by Mr. Gibson and Mr. Archer.

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

By the S E N A T E, April 2, 1777.

Gentlemen,

WE are not inclined to urge by message the reasons inducing us to dissent to several officers proposed in your list, from the apparent impropriety of bringing on a public and recorded examination of mens characters and comparative abilities in this way. Anxious to finish the business