

**ORDERED**, That the said message be read; and it was read accordingly.

Thomas Contee, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill, entitled, An act to direct in what manner all fines, forfeitures, and penalties, shall be recovered, &c. And the bill entitled, An act relating to the public buildings in Harford county, severally endorsed; "By the senate, April 4, 1777: Read the first and second time by an especial order and will pass.

"By order,

R. POTTS, cl. sen."

Which were severally read here and passed for engrossing.

The following message being prepared, was sent to the senate by Mr. Benson and Mr. Ford.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, April 4, 1777.

May it please your honours,

**APPREHENDING**, from the length of this session, that many gentlemen are suffering greatly in their private affairs, and being of opinion, that the immediately necessary business may be finished by the last of next week, we therefore inform your honours, that this house propose to adjourn on Saturday the twelfth instant.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Monsieur Bagues having been recommended to this state by the governor of Martinique, as a gentleman of merit, desirous of entering into the service of the United States, **RESOLVED**, That a present of eighty dollars be made to him, and that it be recommended to him to learn our language, after which this state will employ him in such station as his military abilities may merit. Sent to the senate for their concurrence by Mr. Bowie and Mr. Douglass.

Adjourned till 3 o'clock.

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

The house met. Mr. Dickinson appeared in the house.

The house took into consideration the bill, entitled, An act to prevent the distilling of grain, and having made several amendments thereto, the bill was re-committed to be amended accordingly.

Mr. Mason has leave of absence.

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

### S A T U R D A Y, April 5, 1777.

**T**HE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Mason. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Smith has leave of absence till Wednesday next.

Charles Grahame, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill, entitled, An act to establish orphans courts in the several counties of this state, thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 4, 1777: Read the first and second time by an especial order, and will pass with the amendment herewith sent.

"By order,

R. POTTS, cl. sen."

Amendment to the bill, entitled, An act to establish orphans courts in the several counties of this state.

After the word "deceased" in the second clause of the third page, insert the following, viz. "And also shall be obliged to lodge all original papers, and all records by him made up, in a repository in the court house of the county of which he is register, which said repository shall be provided by the justices of the county courts, at the expence of their counties respectively."

Also the resolve of yesterday relative to Monsieur Bagues, thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 4, 1777: Read and assented to.

"By order,

R. POTTS, cl. sen."

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

By the SENATE, April 5, 1777.

Gentlemen,

**WE** are very sensible that the length of this session must be inconvenient to gentlemen's private affairs, and therefore shall use our utmost endeavours to give such dispatch to the business, as to enable the general assembly to adjourn at the time mentioned in your message, but should this not be in our power, we hope an adjournment incompatible with the general good will not hastily take place.

By order,

R. POTTS, cl. sen.

Which was read.

On motion, That the settlement of the rank of all military officers of the seven battalions raised by this state, as a part of her quota of the continental army, be referred to his excellency general Washington? The previous question was called for and put, Whether the above question be now put? Carried in the negative.

AFFIR-