

of establishing a board to superintend our marine, and to import stores, must be apparent, when it is considered that the governor and the council must necessarily be engaged in business of more momentous concern. We send the bill back, assured that your objections go not to the establishment of the board, but to their powers, as we are unwilling to burthen the executive department with a business that must engross their entire attention, and request your honours to point out your particular objections to the bill, which will be duly attended to.

By order, G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

On motion, RESOLVED, That captain Nathaniel Smith be appointed a major of the artillery stationed at Baltimore-Town; that if circumstances should require major Fulford, stationed at the city of Annapolis, to repair to Baltimore-Town, that major Smith take command of major Fulford during the time he shall remain on duty there; and if the public service should require that major Smith be ordered to Annapolis, that he be there subject to the command of major Fulford.

The engrossed bills, No. 5, 6, 7, &c. to 18 inclusive, were severally read and assented to, and sent to the senate with the paper bills thereof by Mr. Turner and Mr. F. Bond.

The bill, entitled, An act for holding an election for sheriffs in Somerset county, &c. read a second time by an especial order, passed, and sent to the senate by Mr. Jackson and Mr. Polk. They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker they delivered the bill.

The house took into consideration the case of captain William Paddison, the letter from our agent in Martinico, and the several papers sent by congress to the council of safety relative thereto, and thereupon RESOLVED, That the case of the said Paddison, with the said papers, be referred to the governor and the council, and that they be requested to take such order therein as to them shall seem proper.

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

F R I D A Y, April 18, 1777.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Benson. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Veazy and Mr. Ewing have leave of absence.

On motion, leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, A supplementary act to the act, entitled, An act to promote the recruiting service. ORDERED, That Mr. S. Chase, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Henry, and Mr. Bruff, do prepare and bring in the same.

Matthew Tilghman, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill, entitled, An act for holding an election for sheriffs in Somerset county, &c. thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 17, 1777: Read a first and second time by an especial order and will pass.

"By order, R. POTTS, cl. sen."

Which was read here and passed for engrossing.

Also a petition from Andrew Francis Cheney, thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 18, 1777: Read and referred to the house of delegates.

"By order, R. POTTS, cl. sen."

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

The resolve of yesterday, respecting the rank of the majors of artillery, sent to the senate by Mr. Banning and Mr. Ewing.

George Plater, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the resolve sent up by Mr. Banning and Mr. Ewing, thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 18, 1777: Read and con-  
"red with. By order, R. POTTS, cl. sen."

The house took into consideration the request of congress of the eighteenth of January last, to preserve on record and deposit in the archives of this state the unanimous declaration of independency, with the names of the members of congress subscribing the same; and thereupon ORDERED, That the said declaration be entered on the journal of this house, among the proceedings of the high court of chancery, and also on the records of the general court, to perpetuate the memory of an event which will excite the admiration and attention of future ages, inform posterity of the causes which gave rise to so necessary and important a revolution, and evince to the world an approbation of that measure.

The declaration follows in these words.

In C O N G R E S S, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous DECLARATION of the THIRTEEN UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

WHEN, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's GOD entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.