

this particular business; we have therefore amended your bill, so that the holders of the bills of credit may have bills of exchange drawn by the old commissioners, if they will act, or the bills of credit of this state, for the bills emitted in 1766. This, in our opinion, is doing every thing which the holders of the bills of credit can in justice expect from the assembly. Doing less, we conceive, would not be a full compliance with what could reasonably be expected from this assembly.

By order, R. POTTS, cl. sen.  
The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

S A T U R D A Y, April 19, 1777.

**T**HE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Veazy, Mr. Ewing, and Mr. Deye. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Chaille has leave of absence. Mr. Harrison appeared in the house.

The following message being prepared, was sent to the senate by Mr. Ennalls and Mr. Maxwell.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, April 19, 1777.

May it please your honours,

**T**HIS house have this day received intelligence greatly interesting to this state. We have thought proper to appoint Mr. Hall, Mr. S. Chase, and Mr. Lethrbury, to join such members of your house as you may please to nominate, to consult with the governor and the council on the most effectual measures to be adopted for the defence and safety of this state.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Brice T. B. Worthington, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill, entitled, An act to establish a board of commissioners to superintend the marine department, &c. and the following message:

By the SENATE, April 19, 1777.

Gentlemen,

**O**UR objection to the board of commissioners to superintend the marine department, and to import military stores, did not proceed merely from the extensive powers with which those commissioners were to be invested, but also from the opinion that such an establishment was not immediately necessary, as will appear by reference to our message. The infant and humble state of our marine does not require dock-yards, store-houses, and an expensive navy board. We wish to ease the governor and council, whenever it can be done consistently with the public welfare, and therefore we would willingly consent that they should employ discreet and trusty persons to import military stores, and such as are best acquainted with the construction of vessels and their equipment, to overlook and forward our naval preparations, reserving to themselves a general directing, controuling, and superintending power over those whom they may employ for that purpose. It will be necessary, we apprehend, before the close of the session, to continue to the governor and council, some of the powers already entrusted to them by a resolve of the general assembly of the 21st of March, in the delineation of which, such as are requisite for the above purposes, may safely and with more propriety be lodged in the governor and council, than in a distinct board, not subject to the direction and controul of the chief executive power in our state, from which, by our constitution, all other subordinate executive powers ought regularly to flow.

By order,

R. POTTS, cl. sen.

Which was read.

On reading the bill relating to an assessment on all property in this state, on motion, That the assessment on any public office or employment of profit, be at the rate of five shillings for every hundred pounds of the clear annual amount and profit of such office or employment? The previous question was called for and put, Whether the said question be now put? Resolved in the affirmative.

A F F I R M A T I V E.

Messieurs Jordan,  
Lethrbury,  
Perkins,  
Galloway,  
Allein,

Turner,  
Jackson,  
Maddox,  
Polk,  
Ennalls,

Henry,  
Smoot,  
Craufurd,  
O. Sprigg,

S. Chase,  
Brice,  
Banning,  
Kent,

Bruff,  
Wright,  
Bordley,  
Bishop,

Archer,  
Downes,  
Douglass,  
J. T. Chase.

N E G A T I V E.

Messieurs Read,  
Maxwell,  
Hall,  
Harrison,

Ridgely,  
Stevenson,  
Shepherd,  
R. Bond,

Bowie,  
Magruder,  
Edelen,

Sheredine,  
J. Bond,  
T. Bond,

Smithson,  
Dickinson,  
Williams,

Wootton,  
Crabb,  
Burgess.

The main question was then put, and resolved in the affirmative.

A F F I R M A -