

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

Messieurs	Read, Jordan, Lethrbury, Perkins, Maxwell,	Galloway, Allein, Turner, Jackson, Maddox,	Ennalls, Henry, Smoot, Craufurd, O. Sprigg,	S. Chase, Brice, Banning, Kent, Bruff,	Wright, Bordley, Bishop, Archer,	Downes, Douglafs, Dickinson, J. T. Chase.
-----------	--	--	---	--	---	--

N E G A T I V E.

Messrs:	Hall, Ridgely, Stevenfon,	Shepherd, R. Bond, Bowie,	Magruder, Edelen, Sheredine,	J. Bond, T. Bond, Smithfon,	Williams, Wootton,	Crabb, Burgefs.
---------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------	--------------------

Adjourned till 3 o'clock.

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

The house met.

The bill, entitled, An act for the payment of the journal of accounts, read a second time by an especial order and will pass. Sent to the senate by Mr. Sheredine and Mr. Smith. They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker they delivered the bill.

The amendments proposed by the senate to the bill, entitled, An act relating to the bills of credit emitted by an act of assembly passed at November session, 1766, were read and rejected.

On a second reading the draught of instructions to the delegates to congress prepared by the committee for that purpose appointed, the same were considered and approved, and are as follow:

By the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of MARYLAND, April 18, 1777.
INSTRUCTIONS to Samuel Chase, William Paca, William Smith, Benjamin Rumfey, and Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Esquires, delegates to congress.

WE have long and impatiently expected that a confederacy would have been formed between the United States: nothing we apprehend but the urgency of affairs more immediately pressing and necessary would have protracted to this time that essential measure. Without it there will be no bond of unity among these states, no general superintending and controuling power; when once the object of the subsisting union ceases by a happy conclusion of the present war, you, gentlemen, must be fully sensible of the importance of a permanent confederacy, and that its permanency depends on its being founded in justice and good policy. On a subject in which we feel ourselves and our posterity will be so deeply interested, it becomes our duty thus publicly to deliver our sentiments for the better regulation of your conduct. We do therefore instruct you to move for a stricter union and confederacy of the Thirteen United States, reserving expressly to the general assembly of this state the power of confirming and ratifying the said confederacy, without which ratification we shall not consider it as binding upon this state; and should any other colony solicit to be admitted into that confederacy, you are to oppose such admission until the general assembly can be informed thereof, and their consent obtained thereto.

Without an oeconomic management of our revenues, it will be extremely difficult to support this expensive war; nothing can contribute more to such management than a liquidation of the public debt, and the laying down in the confederacy some equitable rule for the ascertaining the quotas of that debt, which the several confederating states are to pay. We know no rule liable to so few exceptions as the number of white inhabitants in each of the states; negroes rather weaken than strengthen the southern states, yet as they are accounted property, though often of a precarious, and the very young and aged always of an expensive, nature, we consent that the negro taxables in this state be deemed and taken as part of our people for the purpose of taxation.

Representatives ought always to be accountable for their conduct to their constituents, yet when their proceedings remain secret, and their votes on the most important subjects are unknown, their conduct, tho' ever so censurable, will go unpunished for want of proper information.

We therefore instruct you to move for and endeavour to obtain, that all the journals of congress be regularly and expeditiously published, except such parts thereof as relate to military operations and secret correspondence; that all proceedings of congress, and all questions agitated and determined in that body, be entered on their journal, and that the yeas and nays of each member, if required by any state, be taken on every question, as stated and determined by the house.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Sent to the senate for their concurrence by Mr. Harrison and Mr. Ridgely.

William Paca, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message:

By the SENATE, April 19, 1777.

Gentlemen,

IN consequence of your message of this day by Messieurs Ennalls and Maxwell, we have appointed George Plater and Matthew Tilghman, Esquires, to join the gentlemen named by you
E c for