

That Archibald Buchanan and the deceased, in his life-time, presented a memorial to the general assembly, representing a true state of their case relative to the contract they had entered into with the council of safety, for supplying the troops, in the service of this state, with rations; that the said memorial, after being read in the house of delegates, was referred to a committee, who having reported, that the several facts contained therein were true, and that they were of opinion that the memorialists were entitled to an additional price on the number of rations furnished, the said memorial was referred to the board of auditors, with full power to make such further allowance to the memorialists as the said board should think just and reasonable. That Mr. Cummins had finally settled with Mr. Buchanan, and died (before any settlement with the board pursuant to the reference aforesaid) leaving his mother, Margaret Cummins, his executrix, who had empowered him to settle the affairs of the deceased; and therefore praying, that the board of auditors, or such other persons as should be thought proper, may be empowered to settle with him as fully as they might have done with the deceased in his life-time.

Mr. Hall, from the committee of manufactories, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

On a second reading the report on the memorial of Frances Campbell, RESOLVED, That the sum of three hundred and fifty pounds current money be allowed her on the journal of accounts.

The following message being prepared, was sent to the senate by Mr. R. Barnes and Mr. L. Wilson.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, November 20, 1777.

May it please your honours,

NINE days having elapsed since the choice of the members of the council, and two only of the gentlemen having qualified, and this house being informed, that Mr. Polk was in this city when elected, and remained here for several days after his appointment, and that Mr. Rogers has been in the city some days, and has not qualified; we presume neither of those gentlemen intend to accept the office: we are not acquainted with the reasons which have prevented Mr. Sim from attending, but are of opinion in his situation he might and ought to have attended or sent an excuse. We therefore propose, if agreeable to your honours, that a new choice be made in their room, by the joint ballot of both houses. The necessity that government should be as small a space of time as possible without an executive, is very obvious; and we ought to avoid the difficulties which have already arisen and may arise from the want of the exercise of such a power in this state. The resolve of the general assembly to reduce the artillery companies, and to send two of them to the assistance of general Washington, remains unexecuted; public creditors could not have been paid, but for the expedient proposed by this house and agreed to by your honours. The powers vested by the law passed this session in the governor and the council ought to be immediately exercised for the safety of this state. We therefore wish your honours to take this subject into consideration, and agree with us to fill up the vacancies in the council by the only method in which we apprehend the same can now be done.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Mr. Smithson and Mr. Gibson appeared in the house.

Mr. Smith, from the committee on the assessment of property, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a report; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

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

F R I D A Y, November 21, 1777.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Peregrine Lethbury, a delegate returned for Kent county, appeared in the house, and after being duly qualified he took his seat.

The bill, entitled, An act to repeal an act, entitled, An act to punish forestalling and engrossing, and for other purposes, being read, the question was put, That the said bill do pass? Carried in the negative.

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

Messrs. Read,  
R. Barnes,  
Plowden,

Turner,  
Semmes,  
M'Pherson,

Forbes,  
Kent,  
Holland,

Purnell,  
Mitchell,  
Young,

H. Wilson,  
Smith,

J. T. Chase,  
J. Barnes.

N E G A T I V E.

Messrs. Lethbury,  
Hammond,  
Worthington,  
Tillard,  
Somervill,  
Maddux,

Winder,  
L. Wilson,  
Daffio,  
Deye,  
Stevenson,  
Veazey,

Ward,  
Alexander,  
West,  
Magruder,  
Contee,  
S. Chase,

Brice,  
Gibson,  
Goldborough,  
Barle,  
Edelen,

Bond,  
A. Hall,  
Smithson,  
Douglass,  
Sprigg,

Hughes,  
Schnebely,  
Burgess,  
Williams,  
Crabb.

Mr.