

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

Mess<sup>rs</sup> R. Barnes, Ridgely, Smith, Burgess, Williams, Crabb, Stevenson,

N E G A T I V E.

Mess<sup>rs</sup> Plowden, Tillard, Murray, Bowie, Kerr, H. Smithson, Lethrbury, Chew, Shepherd, Magruder, Earle, Chafe, Maxwell, Turner, Ward, Brice, Bruff, Chate, Gresham, M'Pherson, Alexander, Quynn, Edelen, Sprigg, J. Hall, Winder, Hyland, Gibson, Young, Schnebely, Hammond, L. Wilson, West, Goldborough, Sheredine, Bayly, Worthington,

The house having gone through the bill, and the question being put on it, passed in the affirmative.

Sent to the senate by Mr. Chafe and Mr. Lethrbury.

Mr. Gibson and Mr. Shepherd have leave of absence.

Adjourned till Monday morning 9 o'clock.

M O N D A Y, March 23, 1778.

THE house met. Present the same members as on Saturday, except Mr. Contee, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Shepherd, Mr. Tillard, Mr. Chew, Mr. Ridgely, Mr. West, and Mr. Bowie. The proceedings of Saturday were read. Mr. Mitchell appeared in the house.

Mr. Brice, from the committee appointed to examine the public accounts in the recess of assembly, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a report, which was read in the words following:

By the COMMITTEE of both houses authorized to enquire into the state of the public offices during the recess of assembly.

YOUR committee have, in consequence of their appointment, examined the several accounts and proceedings of the commissioners for emitting bills of credit established by act of assembly, from the fourth day of June, 1777, to the 26th day of January, 1778, and find by the last account from the trustees, dated at London the 24th day of February, 1778, that there was then £. 29,000 capital stock in the bank of England belonging to this province, which cost the sum of £. 36,131 6 6 sterling, and a balance in their hands of £. 478 3 sterling not invested; and that by the said account it appears, the dividends on the said stock have only been received up to the 10th day of November, 1774.

That it appears to your committee, by a report in June last, there was then a balance due to sundry claimants on the journal of accounts and list of debts passed at November session, 1766, and for which no payments have been since made, the sum of Dollars 1,515 1/2

And that there remains in the office, in bills of credit of the emission of 1767, unapplied, 13,639 1/2

13,639 1/2

15,154 1/2

That it appears to your committee, by a report in June last, there was then due from sundry sheriffs, on account of ordinary licences, down to the year 1775 inclusive, and of which no part hath been since paid, the sum of £. 1,508 4 9 1/2 gold currency, but no lists having been returned by the clerks of Kent and Cæcil counties for the year 1775, the debts from said counties could not be ascertained; and that there has become due from sundry sheriffs on that account the sum of £. 292 2 6 gold currency, as appears by the following list:

Henry Stevenson, Esq; sheriff of Baltimore county, for the year 1777	219 12 4
Thomas Duckett, sheriff of Prince-George's county, ditto	44 6 8
James Morfell, sheriff of Calvert county, ditto	28 3 8

£. 292 2 6

That the sheriffs of the several counties have made no payments on the above account, and no lists having been returned by the clerks but as above, the arrears cannot at this time be further ascertained.

That your committee find, by the books of the said commissioners, there was a balance of £. 16 10 11 1/2 remaining in the office, by a report made in June last: That they have received from sundry persons, in discharge of the principals of their bonds, since the 4th of June, the date of the last report, the sum of £. 16,407 10 sterling, and also the sum of £. 2,708 9 0 1/2 sterling for interest. That out of the before-mentioned sums, they have paid into the hands of the western shore treasurer, agreeable to a resolve of the house of delegates, the sum of £. 18,922 11 2 1/2; and for office expences, including their and their clerk's salaries, the sum of £. 209 18 9; for all which the said commissioners have produced to your committee the necessary vouchers and receipts.

That your committee have examined the several bonds taken by the commissioners in virtue of an act of assembly passed at November session, 1769, for bills of credit, bills of exchange, and gold and silver, lent out to sundry persons on interest, at the rate of four per cent. per annum, and compared the same with a list

list