

N E G A T I V E.

Me<sup>r</sup>. Worthington,   Stevenson,   Bowie,   Contee,   Mitchell,   Bayly.  
Deye,   Shepherd,   Magruder,   Purnell,   H. Wilson,

The bill was amended accordingly, and sent to the senate by Mr. Bruff and Mr. Lethrbury. Thomas Contee, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the said bill, thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 11, 1778: Read as amended, and will pass.

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

The engrossed bills, No. 4, 5, were severally read and assented to, and sent to the senate, with the paper bills thereof, by Mr. West and Mr. Bowie.

William Hindman, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the paper bills, No. 4, 5, severally endorsed; "By the senate, April 11, 1778: The engrossed bill, whereof this is the original, read and assented to.

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

Matthew Tilghman and Charles Carroll, barrister, Esqrs. from the senate, acquaint Mr. Speaker, that the governor is attending in the senate, ready to sign and seal some engrossed bills which have passed this session, and that the attendance of this house is requested there for that purpose. Mr. Speaker left the chair, and, attended by the members of this house, went to the senate, and there presented the following engrossed bills to the governor, who signed the same and affixed the great seal thereto in the presence of the members of both houses.

No. 4. An act empowering Robert Richardson and Thomas Kemp to sell and dispose of the real estate of Philip Wetherell, deceased, and to apply the money arising therefrom to special purposes therein mentioned.

No. 5. An act to procure troops for the American army.

Mr. Speaker, attended by the members of this house, returned and resumed the chair.

Adjourned till Monday 9 o'clock.

M O N D A Y, April 13, 1778.

**T**HE house met. Present the same members as on Saturday, except Mr. Smoot, Mr. Gibson, and Mr. A. Hall. The proceedings of Saturday were read.

The petition of John Marshall, of Worcester county, was read and referred to the committee of claims.

Mr. Murray, from the committee of grievances and courts of justice, brought in a report relative to the capture of the ship Lydia, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The house taking into consideration the amendments proposed by the senate to the bill, entitled, An act for the speedy recovery of public debts, and having assented to the first and rejected the second, ORDERED, That Mr. Chase, Mr. J. Hall, Mr. Lethrbury, and Mr. West, be a committee to prepare a message to the senate on the subject matter of the amendment rejected by this house.

Mr. J. Hall, from the committee appointed to prepare a message on the subject of the amendment to the bill, entitled, An act for the speedy recovery of public debts, brought in a message, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned till 3 o'clock.

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

The house met.

On a second reading the message prepared this forenoon, the same was agreed to, and follows in these words:

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, April 13, 1778.

May it please your honours,

WE have agreed to all the amendments sent down with the bill for the speedy recovery of public debts, except striking out that clause of the bill which creates a lien on the lands of the debtors to the continent and this state from and after the commencement of suit in the courts of justice. We wish you to reconsider this amendment, and if you are satisfied of the propriety of the measure, recede from it. Large sums of money have been issued by order of congress, as well as by order of this state, to effect useful purposes, and the services intended have been in many instances totally neglected by the persons entrusted, and the money either squandered or applied to private use. We apprehend some preference ought to be given to public claims, and that there may be failure of justice in many instances, if debtors to the public be allowed to alienate their real estate after suit brought. The case of loan-office bonds, we think, ought to have some weight; the lands of the obligor are bound from the time of contracting the debt, and we apprehend no great inconvenience