

ORDERED, That the sheriff of Caroline county attend at the bar of this house immediately, to shew cause why he has not made a return of the election of a delegate to represent said county in the room of Mr. Henry Downes, who resigned. ORDERED, That the serjeant at arms attending this house serve the said sheriff with a copy of the above order.

Mr. Gibson brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, A supplementary act to the act, entitled, an act for the special appointment of inspectors, and other purposes, which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from Mr. Charles Beatty, of Frederick county, was presented to the house and read.

Adjourned till next day 9 o'clock.

W E D N E S D A Y, June 17, 1778.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Somervill and Mr. Semmes. The proceedings of yesterday were read

On reading the petition of Cassandra Ducker, widow and executrix of John Ducker, deceased, ORDERED, That Mr. Quynn, Mr. Burges, Mr. Worthington, Mr. Tillard, and Mr. Contee, be a committee to enquire into the facts and report the same, together with their opinion thereon, to the house.

The house taking into consideration that part of the report of the committee of elections and privileges relating to the election of a delegate for Charles county, Mr. Hanson withdrew, and the house being of opinion that he was a field officer at the time of his election, RESOLVED, That the said election is void, and that Mr. Hanson is incapable of holding a seat in this house. ORDERED, That Mr. Hanson be called to the bar of the house and informed, by the speaker, that he is discharged from any further attendance as a member of the house; and he appeared at the bar, and Mr. Speaker informed him accordingly.

Mr. Lethbury brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to declare the law, and to amend and repeal part of the act, entitled, A supplement to the act for the better security of the government; and also part of the act, entitled, An act to prevent and suppress insurrections; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On a second reading the message from the senate of the 15th instant, ORDERED, That Mr. R. Goldsborough, Mr. West, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Henry, Mr. Chase, Mr. Lethbury, and Mr. Smith, be a committee to prepare a message in answer thereto.

Mr. R. Goldsborough, from the said committee, brought in a draught of a message, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from Mr. Alexander Somervill was received and read, notifying a resignation of his seat in the house.

Adjourned till 3 o'clock.

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

The house met,

And took into consideration the message brought in this forenoon, which said message follows in these words:

May it please your honours,

THIS house concur with your honours in opinion, that the constitution and form of government ought not to be altered, except from the greatest necessity, and with the utmost care and circumspection; but the present circumstances of the state, and a conviction that some alterations might be made in the constitution and form of government, which would render it more perfect, induced this house to propose a conference on that subject; a mode, though productive of some delay, that has been adopted on almost every important occasion. We would most willingly enter into an enumeration of those imperfections, which, from experience, we have discovered, if your honours had not manifested a disinclination to proceed to a consideration of them. And the question being put, That the house concur therewith?

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

Messieurs
Read,
R. Barnes,
Plowden,
Maxwell,
Chew,

H. Goldsborough, Veazey,
W Goldsborough, Ward,
Henry, Alexander,
Murray, West,

Contee,
Brice,
Quynn,
Edelen,

Douglafs,
Mason,
Smith,
Chase,

Sprigg,
J. Barnes,
Hughes,
Lethbury.

N E G A T I V E.

Messieurs
Ford,
Gresham,
Worthington,
Tillard,
M'Pherson,

Forbes,
Deye,
Stevenson,
Shepherd,

Gibson,
R. Goldsborough, Young,
Daffin, Sheredine,
Bowie, Wilson,

Bond,
Smithson,
Dickinson,
Stanton,

Burges,
Williams,
Bayly,
Crabb.

The