

ORDERED, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow morning at the meeting of the house.

The petition of the inhabitants of Cæcil county, which was preferred last session and referred to this session, was read and referred to committee No. 5.

Samuel Wilson, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker a petition of sundry proprietors of lots and houses in Charles-Town, commonly called Port-Tobacco, in Charles county, thus endorsed; "By the senate, July 28, 1779: Read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

"By order, H. RIDGELY, cl. sen."
Adjourned till 4 o'clock.

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

The house met. Mr. Stevenson appeared in the house.

The bill, entitled, An act establishing a mode to perpetuate testimony, was read the second time and will pass with amendments proposed.

Amendments proposed.

After the word "and," in the 13th line of the bill, insert, "in case of absence."

At the end of the bill insert the following clauses: "Provided always, That in case of minors who have no guardian or trustee, and in case of absentees who are residents of this state, and of all other absentees residents of other of the United States, or residing in foreign states in amity with the United States, where such absentees have no trustee, guardian, agent, or attorney, the common and usual mode of perpetuating testimony shall be adopted and no other, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

"Provided also, and be it enacted, That in all cases where testimony may be perpetuated by this act, and where it shall be made appear, to the satisfaction of the judge or justice, by affidavit of the party, that his witness or witnesses are sick and not likely to live, or may be about to march out of this state on the public service as a soldier or militia-man, it shall and may be lawful to take the deposition or depositions of such witness or witnesses, on giving such notice less than twenty days, as the judge or justice may think reasonable, all circumstances considered, so that the party interested, his guardian, trustee, agent, or attorney, may have convenient time to attend.

"And be it enacted, That the judge or justice shall, and he is hereby required to give the party a certificate of having made affidavit, and of the number of days appointed for notice, which shall be lodged with the deposition or depositions, and an attested copy of such deposition or depositions, and of such certificate, shall be taken as good evidence of the truth of the facts therein contained.

"And, for regulating the chancery practice in the case of perpetuating testimony, Be it enacted, That commission shall and may issue to perpetuate testimony on bill, for that purpose, before any appearance of the party defendant, to such four persons, in the usual manner, as the chancellor may approve, and on return of said commission, if no good objection be made thereto in twelve months from the time of such return, the chancellor shall and may order the same to be recorded in perpetual memory, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

"This act to continue three years, and unto the end of the next session of assembly which shall happen after the said three years."

So endorsed, and sent to the senate with the amendments by Mr. J. Beall and Mr. Cramphin.

The petition of the inhabitants of St. Mary's county, respecting a warehouse in that county, was read the second time and rejected.

Mr. Evans brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act for the speedy conveyance of public letters and packets, and for other purposes; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

RESOLVED, That the following be entered as the resolve of this house, viz.

RESOLVED, That for the future this house will not take into consideration any petition from the inhabitants of any county or parish, relative to the imposing any kind of taxes, or erecting any public buildings, or other matter any way respecting the general interest of such county or parish, or particular interest of any part thereof, unless it shall be made appear that two months at least before the offering such petition to any person to be subscribed, advertisements were set up at all the churches, chapels and court-house of the said county, notifying the intention of offering such petition to be subscribed, in order to be preferred to this house, and that the same be published in the Maryland gazette.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 8 o'clock.

T H U R S D A Y, July 29, 1779.

THE house met. Present as on yesterday, except Mr. J. T. Chase. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

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