

## N E G A T I V E.

Messieurs	Mackall, Lethrbury, Worthington, J. Hall, H. Ridgely,	Harrison, Johns, Birkhead, Deye,	J. Stevenson, C. Ridgely, Ward, Job,	Magruder, Quynn, Chafe, Earle,	Beatty, M'Comas, Norris, Taylor,	Keene, M'Mechen, Alexander, Sprigg.
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So it was determined in the negative.

An amendment was then proposed to the said clause, by striking out the words "sum expressed in the said bills, and every sterling debt at the exchange of one hundred and sixty-six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence current money for one hundred pounds sterling," and inserting the words "value of the said bills compared with gold and silver at the rates expressed in this act, and every sterling debt at the exchange of one hundred and sixty-six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence, valued in gold and silver as above at the time of payment." The question was put, and the yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Cadwallader appeared as follow :

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

Messrs.	Jordan, Wilmer,	W. Stevenson, Cadwallader,	Maccubbin, J. Henry,	B. Hall, Ringgold,	Dennis,	M'Mechen.
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## N E G A T I V E.

Messieurs	Reed, Mackall, Lethrbury, Worthington, J. Hall,	H. Ridgely, Williamson, Freeland, Harrison, Johns,	Birkhead, Deye, J. Stevenson, C. Ridgely, Ward,	Job, Magruder, Quynn, Chafe, Earle,	Beatty, M'Comas, Norris, Taylor,	Keene, Alexander, Sprigg, Bayly.
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So it was determined in the negative.

The bill being read throughout, the question was put, That the said bill do pass? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Deye appeared as follow :

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

Messieurs	Reed, Jordan, Mackall, Wilmer, Lethrbury,	W. Stevenson, Worthington, J. Hall, H. Ridgely,	Maccubbin, Harrison, Johns, Birkhead,	J. Henry, Ward, Job, B. Hall,	Magruder, Quynn, Chafe, Earle,	Norris, Keene, Sprigg, Bayly.
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## N E G A T I V E.

Messrs.	Cadwallader, Williamson, Freeland,	Deye, J. Stevenson,	C. Ridgely, Ringgold,	Dennis, Beatty,	M'Comas, Taylor,	M'Mechen, Alexander.
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So it was resolved in the affirmative.

ORDERED, That Mr. Chafe, Mr. J. Hall, Mr. Cadwallader, Mr. Lethrbury, and Mr. Earle, do prepare a message to the senate to accompany the said bill.

William Hindman, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message :

BY THE SENATE, MAY 14, 1780.

GENTLEMEN,

WE are sorry that the negative given by this house to the bill referred to in your message by Messieurs John Henry and Charles Ridgely, should have involved you in any kind of difficulty; and hope you will do us the justice to believe a sense of right and sound policy, and not a desire to embarrass, influenced our conduct.

Our objections to the principles of your bill, we thought sufficiently pointed out by the principles, nature, and extent, of the bill which we originated, and which soon followed the rejection of yours. Under this impression, we did not imagine that a message explaining the motives of our conduct, and stating our objections, would have been expected, or deemed necessary; but as you have intimated that such is your expectation, we cannot but wish you had imparted it to us earlier in the session, and when we had little business before us; we could then have stated our objections more fully, and with greater perspicuity, than the shortness of time, and the necessary attention to the bills sent us with your message, will admit.

The preamble of the bill for seizing and confiscating British property, disclosed the principles upon which the enacting clause was grounded; and though the latter seemed in appearance to confiscate the property of British subjects only, yet when coupled to the preamble, ever a key to the construction of an act, it really included all those who are called absentees, and must have been so taken by any court of judicature; for the criterion by which a British subject was to be distinguished,