

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, OCTOBER, 1780. 109.

ORDERED, That Mr. T. Johnson, Mr. Chase, and Mr. Dashiell, be a committee to prepare a draught of a message to the senate, relative to the amendments proposed to the bill to seize and confiscate British property, &c.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning half after 9 o'clock.

T U E S D A Y, January 30, 1781.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The resolve respecting the compensation, &c. to the civil officers, was sent to the senate by Mr. Barnes and Mr. Joseph Chapline.

Samuel Hughes, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the above-mentioned resolve, endorsed; "By the senate, January 30, 1781: Read and assented to.

"By order,

J. MACCUBBIN, clk."

And, a bill, entitled, An act to naturalize the sons of the late major-general the Baron de Kalb, endorsed; "By the senate, January 30, 1781: Read the first and second time by especial order and will pass.

"By order,

J. MACCUBBIN, clk."

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

And also the following resolution:

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 30, 1781.

RESOLVED, That the governor and council be requested to transmit to his Excellency Benjamin Franklin, minister plenipotentiary of the United States at the court of Versailles, a printed copy of the bill for naturalizing the sons of the late major-general the Baron de Kalb, to be presented by the said minister to the Baroness de Kalb; and that they also transmit to his Excellency the minister of France at Philadelphia another copy of the said bill, requesting him to forward the same to the Baroness aforesaid.

By order,

J. MACCUBBIN, clk.

Which was read.

Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill to empower the delegates of this state in congress to subscribe and ratify the articles of confederation, endorsed; "By the senate, January 30, 1781: Read and reconsidered in consequence of a message from the house of delegates and will pass.

"By order,

J. MACCUBBIN, clk."

Which was ordered to be engrossed.

And the following message:

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 30, 1781.

GENTLEMEN,

AT the earnest desire of your house we have again taken up the bill to empower the delegates in congress to subscribe and ratify the articles of confederation. You cannot be unacquainted with those reasons which have hitherto influenced this state to withhold her assent to those articles. It has been generally supposed, and in our opinion upon good grounds, that the claim of this state to a proportionable part of the western country can be better supported under the present form of union, than that of the confederation; influenced by this opinion, we put our negative on the bill; but being sensible that a confederation is anxiously desired by every friend to the future peace and happiness of these United States, and as the pressing exigencies of our affairs demand the adoption of every measure that promises in the smallest degree to strengthen our cause and produce confidence and satisfaction among the several states, and as the powers given to the delegates by the bill, in your opinion, cannot alter or injure our claim to the western country, but that claim may be as fully ascertained and as firmly secured after as before the confederation; and as we rely on the justice and disposition of congress hereafter for the establishment of our claim, and to defeat the hopes of our enemy, and gratify the earnest desire of your house, we have returned you the bill with our affirmative. We most earnestly wish this measure may be productive of all the good you expect from it, but should it be attended with ill effects, we shall be so far from imputing them to you, that we shall always hold ourselves equally responsible for the consequences of this important measure, which we are satisfied is taken with the most virtuous intentions.

By order,

J. MACCUBBIN, clk.

Which was read.

And also a bill, entitled, A Supplement to the act to procure recruits, endorsed; "By the senate, January 30, 1781: Read the first and second time by especial order and will pass.

"By order,

J. MACCUBBIN, clk."

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

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