

interests of their particular states, and commanding their respective quotas, to be more sparing of their men. We need not point out the consequences which would follow.

We find, by the late arrangement of the army, that it is proposed to raise forty-two thousand men for the approaching campaign. How far it may be in the power of the United States to raise, cloath and pay so many, we shall not undertake to determine; we can only speak of the ability of this state, which we sincerely believe cannot nearly raise and keep up her assigned quota of that number. When requisitions are made by congress exceeding the ability of the states, disappointment and despondency are the sure and natural effects. Overstrained exertions leave a nation in a state of languor and debility; the measure of defence ought to be proportioned to the powers of attack; we hope the strength of our enemy, so long baffled and often disgraced, does not make such a great force necessary; if it does, we could wish that our real situation should be made known to his Most Christian Majesty, with the strongest solicitations for additional troops; we shall be so far from entertaining any apprehensions or jealousies from such a measure, that we should retain the deepest sense of the obligation, if enough were sent to put a speedy and happy end to the war.

Which were read and assented to, and sent to the senate by Mr. Dashiell and Mr. Barnes.

The engrossed bill No. 49, was read and assented to, and sent to the senate, with the paper bill thereof, by Mr. Cramphin and Mr. Sulivane,

The house adjourns till half after 3 o'clock.

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

The house met.

Whereas this state is indebted on certificates, and otherwise, for loans, goods, and provisions, furnished on credit, services performed, and provisions taken for public use, which have not been paid for agreeable to the intention of the legislature, or expectation of the creditors; this general assembly, desirous of doing justice to all,

RESOLVE, That they will, at the next session, liquidate and ascertain all just claims that may then be unsatisfied against this state, and if they shall not have means within their power to make immediate satisfaction, will reduce them to a real standard, according to the value at the time the payment ought to have been made, and will allow interest from such time; and to enable the legislature to do the justice intended, those who have certificates given by any person, except the treasurer, are requested to send copies thereof to the auditor-general, who is to make a list thereof, and to lay the same, with the copies he may receive, before the general assembly.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to secure disaffected persons. ORDERED, That Mr. Wilmer, Mr. Chase, and Mr. Clagett, do prepare and bring in the said bill.

Mr. Wilmer brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the said bill; which was read the first and second time by especial order and passed. Sent to the senate by Mr. W. Stevenson and Mr. Duckett.

Samuel Hughes, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the instructions to the delegates in congress, endorsed; "By the senate, February 2, 1781: Read and assented to.

"By order, J. MACCUBBIN, clk."

RESOLVED, That the governor and council be requested to transmit to such states as have or may express such a desire, a printed copy of the laws and proceedings of this session, with an assurance that this state is desirous of continuing such an intercourse.

ORDERED, That the printer to this state transmit to the lieutenant of each county a printed copy of the laws of this and every future session of assembly.

The resolution relative to outstanding certificates, was sent to the senate by Mr. Hindman and Mr. Whately.

RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the council, relative to the choice of a counsellor in the room of Mr. Daniel Carroll, be laid before the house.

Which was accordingly done, and are in the words following, viz.

January 25, 1781.

AGREEABLE to the constitution and form of government, the council proceeded to the choice of a counsellor in the room of Daniel Carroll, Esq; who resigned his seat by letter on the 17th instant, when Stephen West, Samuel Hanson, Edward Coursey, James M^cHenry, and John Brice, were put in nomination, and the ballots being taken, Stephen West, Edward Coursey, James M^cHenry, and John Brice, had an equal number; the council then proceeded to ballot a second time, confining their ballots to the said four gentlemen having an equal number of votes, and the ballots being again equal for the said four gentlemen, the council then proceeded to determine the election by lot, which fell upon Stephen West, Esq; who is declared duly elected.

RESOLVED, That this legislature highly approve the spirited and active behaviour of major Steward, in fitting out the sloop Porpoise for a cruise against the enemy infesting the bay; they regret