

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, NOVEMBER, 1781. 43

N E G A T I V E.

Messieurs	Forrest, Thomas, Plowden, Mills, Cadwalader,	Lloyd, Hall, Brogden, Fitzhugh, Chew,	Jenifer, Stone, Ridgely, Hindman, Rowland,	Bowie, Hawkins, Duckett, Kent, Seney,	Coursey, Chafe, Quynn, Beatty,	Norris, M'Mechen, Wilson, Chapline.
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So it was determined in the negative.

The question was then put on forty-five shillings. The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. S. Worthington appeared as follow :

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

Messieurs	Forrest, Thomas, Plowden, Mills, Cadwalader, Lloyd,	Stevenson, N. Worthington, Hall, Brogden, Fitzhugh, Chew,	Jenifer, Stone, Ridgely, Hindman, Brevard,	Rowland, Bowie, Hawkins, Duckett, Kent,	Seney, Coursey, Chafe, Quynn, Beatty,	Norris, M'Mechen, Wilson, Chapline, Bayly.
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N E G A T I V E.

Mess.	B. Worthington, Taney,	S. Worthington, Eccleston,	Job, Miller,	Taylor, Sprigg,	Burgefs, Griffith,	Oneale.
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So it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Bayly has leave of absence till Monday week. Mr. Eccleston has leave of absence. Mr. Burgefs has leave of absence until Thursday next.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

F R I D A Y, December 21, 1781.

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

Mr. Quynn, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report :
By the COMMITTEE appointed to enquire into and report on the proceedings of the commissioners appointed to preserve confiscated British property.

YOUR committee beg leave to report, that for want of access to the public records, and the impracticability of having persons and papers before them during this session, they will not have it in their power to report on the great number of petitions and memorials referred to their consideration ; they are therefore of opinion, that the most eligible mode would be, to refer the whole to the commissioners appointed to preserve British property, with full powers to enquire into their several grievances, and report the same to the next session of assembly, and their opinion of the best means of redress. All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

By order,

J. KNAPP, clk.

Which was read.

The resolution of congress of the 10th instant was read the second time, and referred to the committee appointed to enquire into and report the number of recruits wanting to complete the quota of troops, &c.

A petition from Benjamin Cawood, collector of the tax in Charles county, praying that the time for the collection of the public assessment may be extended, and that he may be relieved from the interest with which he is chargeable, was preferred and read, and referred to the committee appointed on the petitions of the collectors of the tax.

On progression in reading the supply bill, the question was put, That the following clause be inserted in the said bill ?

“ And be it enacted, That all merchants, subjects of this or any of the United States, having property within the state of Maryland, shall be liable to taxation ; and the assessor in every hundred shall make enquiry into the stock in trade of such merchant or merchants, consisting of ships or other vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, lying in or adjacent to such hundred ; goods and merchandise on hand ; also of wheat, flour, corn, or any other article or articles of visible property, ready money excepted, for sale, or employed in trade, either in the warehouses, or laden on board such ship or other vessel, that may come under the denomination of stock in trade ; and shall call on all such merchants to discover their property, money excepted, employed in trade ; and, on neglect or refusal to discover the same, shall and may estimate the stock aforesaid, at the full value thereof, upon the same scale that other property is assessed by this act, in his judgment and opinion, upon the best information he can obtain ; and the aforesaid stock in trade of such