

The following message

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 22, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING been much instructed by the matter, and duly impressed with gratitude for the manner, of your very polite answer to our message of the 19th of this month, we cannot refrain from congratulating you upon the happy discovery made yesterday, that the very part of the act referred to is void, which but a few days before you pressed for a repeal of with much seeming earnestness; it is to be lamented indeed, as you have so satisfactorily proved the policy of your measure, that the declaration grounded upon this new information, will lose much of its weight by the circumstances under which it was made, as people will be apt to run into the error of supposing, that our adherence to the negative given to your bill originated the opinion you have given, and not a due consideration of the bill of rights and form of government. Another circumstance unfavourable to the success of your assertion in obtaining the end desired is, that the point of law must by our constitution be determined by the judicial power, where occasional declarations of either house will have very little influence; and if the courts of justice should commit a mistake, and determine against your authority, a proper confidence in it may possibly injure the men you mean to relieve, as the act in question unfortunately inflicts certain penalties on those who vote without having complied with its directions. However this matter ends, great credit must be allowed you for your humanity, liberality and wisdom, but above all, for the great and generous mind you discover in shifting your position with so much facility, after the first attempt to accomplish your very laudable views has not met with merited success, owing to an opinion of this house, unhappily dictated by the extremity of folly.

J. DORSEY, clk.

By order,

Which was read.

And the bill respecting the commerce of this state, &c. endorsed; "By the senate, January 13, 1785: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

J. DORSEY, clk.

"By order,

"By the senate, January 22, 1785: Read the second time with the proposed amendments and will pass.

J. DORSEY, clk."

"By order,

Amendments proposed. In the 8th page and 8th line, after "cargo" insert "unless such vessel shall come from a port, where, by the law and custom, no clearance is granted, whereof a certificate, or other satisfactory proof, shall be given." Page 18, strike out the title of the duty bill. Page 5, after the word "or" in the 4th line insert "mariner."

Which were read and agreed to, and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

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

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 22, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

WE are very desirous that you would adopt the several amendments which we pointed out in our message of yesterday, as proper to be made to the bill for imposing certain duties on imports and exports. If you still pertinaciously adhere to that part of the bill imposing duties on exports, we will pass the bill if you will return it to us, even with those duties, provided you will limit the duration of the act to three years, and will insert in it a clause for appropriating, at least for one year, the monies to be collected under the act.

J. DORSEY, clk.

By order,

Which was read.

On motion, the question was put, That the house reconsider the message respecting the bill to impose duties on certain enumerated articles imported into and exported out of this state? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Oneale appeared as follow:

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

Messrs Plowden,	Ware,	Waters,	Johnson,	Townshend,	Hardcastle,
Carroll,	Ridgely of Wm.	Bowie,	Seney,	Chaille,	Downes,
Grahame,	Hindman,	Gantt,	Chafe,	Joseph Dashiell,	Steret.
Fraizer,	John Dashiell,	Digges,	Quynn;		

N E G A T I V E.

Messrs. B Worthington,	Stevenson,	Bravard,	Beatty,	Elzey,	Cramphin,
N. Worthington,	Harris,	Job,	Shriver,	Wheeler,	Oneale,
Dent,	Miller,	Oglevee,	Norris,	Stull,	Edwards.

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

The aforesaid message was read the first and second time, and the question put, That the house agree thereto? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Stevenson appeared as follow:

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

Messrs Plowden,	Ridgely of Wm.	Waters,	Johnson,	Townshend,	Hardcastle,
Carroll,	Hindman,	Bowie,	Chafe,	Chaille,	Downes,
Fraizer,	Gibson,	Gantt,	Quynn,	Joseph Dashiell,	Steret.
Ware,	John Dashiell,	Digges.			

N E G A