

assembly directed your memorialist (if necessary) to make the attorney-general of Great-Britain a party to his suit, and authorised the governor and the council to instruct your memorialist as to his conduct respecting his agency, and to direct him to prosecute the suit against Mr. Russell, and the other defendants, "with all vigour and expedition." From this supplementary law it evidently appears to be the sense of the legislature, that the commencing or defending suits, respecting the stock, was not within the letter, spirit or intention, of the original law, or within the power or trust committed by that law to the agent.

Your memorialist further represents, that he claims from the justice of the state, that all the expences incurred, or to be incurred, in the suits respecting the bank stock, be paid by the state; and your memorialist expects an explicit declaration of the general assembly to this purpose, or he is free to declare, that the suit, in his name, cannot be continued at his private expence. The idea of prosecuting a public suit for a public claim, at the charge of an individual, is dishonourable and disgraceful to this government, and the expence of the suit may eventually be ruinous to your memorialist.

Your memorialist further claims from the justice of the state, that his reasonable expences for the time of his detention in England, in consequence of the suits in chancery, be paid by the public, an estimate of which he will lay before the committee of claims.

Your memorialist submits to the general assembly, whether the state ought not to make him some compensation for his personal services in the line of his profession, from which the state reaped considerable advantages, and saved great expence, the whole bill being only £. 119 17 6 sterling, to the time your memorialist left England.

Your memorialist further sheweth, that after the public shall pay his expences for the time he remained in England, not from choice but necessity, in consequence of the suits in chancery, he must sink all his expences of his voyage, and in England for seven months, if the bank stock is not obtained, and if obtained, these expences being deducted, the balance will be a moderate compensation for the risk of the voyage, his trouble, loss in his profession, and absence from his family.

Your memorialist hopes, that this representation will not offend the general assembly, or any of its members, and that the language of truth in decent and respectful terms, from a citizen of a free government, will not be displeasing to its representatives. Justice to an individual, and duty to the public, has rendered this memorial necessary.

Annapolis, Feb. 17, 1786

SAMUEL CHASE.

Which were read.

The resolutions respecting John Petty, and the officers and soldiers of the Maryland line, were sent to the senate by Mr. Taney.

On motion, ORDERED, That Mr. Carroll, Mr. Stone, Mr. Waggaman, Mr. Joshua Seney, and Mr. Dent, be a committee to take into consideration the subject matter of the letter and memorial of Samuel Chase, Esq; agent of the state, and report their opinion thereon.

Samuel Hughes, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message:

BY THE SENATE, FEBRUARY 18, 1786.

GENTLEMEN,

WE feel ourselves constrained to recal your attention, at this late period of the session, to three important bills, two of which were originated by this house, and rejected by yours, and the other, after much care and labour have been bestowed upon it by the conferrees of both houses, has been so amended by you as to destroy, in our opinion, the most important regulation of the bill. Conceiving that the state will be deprived of the principal benefit which we expected would result from a proper regulation of the staple of tobacco, we have disagreed to your amendments for striking out of the bill to prevent the exportation of unmerchantable tobacco, that part of it which directs the inspectors, after the first day of September seventeen hundred and eighty-seven, to distinguish in the notes the peculiar and enumerated species of tobacco contained in the hogheads for which such notes may be given, and the preceding part connected with this. Your first and last amendments, which are mere corrections of language, are agreed to. It does not strike us, that this regulation would be difficult in the execution, and if well executed, it would most assuredly increase the value of our staple, by exciting the planters, from the certainty of a better price, to greater industry and attention in the curing, separating, packing and prizing, their tobacco; superior industry, usually productive of superior skill and management, will meliorate this staple commodity of our country; and whatever tends to meliorate any commodity or manufacture, undoubtedly tends to enhance the value or price of that commodity or manufacture.

The distinctions to be made between the several qualities or species of tobacco, directed by the bill to be expressed in the notes of the inspectors, (if they do their duty) will strengthen the confidence of the purchasers of tobacco, ease them of much trouble and no small anxiety, and will induce them to offer a more liberal price, according to the quality of the tobacco they may wish to purchase, when they can depend on its being duly inspected, and truly described in the notes.

By endeavouring to improve and perfect our staple, and by giving the purchaser every assurance which the nature of the commodity and the regulation will admit, that no deceit has been practised upon him, we do but copy the example of the most skilful commercial nations.

In France and England, their most valuable manufactures are inspected by some public officer, and a seal or stamp of office is affixed to them, to denote that the respective manufactures are fabricated