

	A F F I R M A T I V E.						
Messrs.	Hopewell,	Turner,	Pattison,	Quynn,	Norris,	Cellars,	
	Perkins,	Owings,	R. Bond,	Paca,	Hardcastle,	Funk,	
	Miller,	Cockey,	Bravard,	Faw,	Hollingworth,	Burgess,	
	Wright,	Ridgely,	Digges,	Mantz,	M'Mechen,	Holmes.	
	Chafe,	Gale,				26.	
	N E G A T I V E.						
Messrs.	Abell,	N. Worthington,	Dent,	Sherwood,	Hooper,	Purcell,	
	De Butts,	B. Worthington,	M'Pherfon,	Stevens,	P. Mitchell,	Oneale.	
	Forrest,	Taney,				14.	

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

ORDERED, That Mr. M'Mechen, Mr. Ridgely, Mr. Chafe, Mr. Johnson, Mr. B. Worthington, Mr. Owings and Mr. Faw, be a committee for the above purpose.

ORDERED, That Mr. Paca, Mr. Chafe, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Wright, be a committee to prepare an answer to the message of the senate relative to a conference on a bill for the relief of debtors.

A petition from sundry merchants of the state of Maryland, praying that their bonds given to the naval officers of their respective districts to secure the payment of certain duties on goods imported in this state by land, may be cancelled and delivered up to them, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Pattison, Mr. Wright and Mr. Miller, to consider and report thereon.

On motion, Leave given to bring in an additional supplement to the act to prevent the exportation of unmerchantable tobacco. ORDERED, That Mr. De Butts, Mr. Taney and Mr. Dent, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Daniel Carroll, Esquire, from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker petitions from John Brown and Thomas Smith, late receivers of quit-rents, praying to be authorized to collect the arrearages of said quit-rents, severally endorsed; "By the senate, April 23, 1787: Read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

"By order,

J. DORSEY, clk."

Which were read.

Mr. Quynn, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of William Steuart, of Somerset county, beg leave to report, that they have taken the same into their consideration, and find the facts therein stated to be true; and are of opinion that a law ought to pass to authorize the justices of said county to levy a sum of money sufficient to indemnify his loss. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

T. PURDY, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto.

Mr. Hopewell, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Jane Nicols, of Saint Mary's county, beg leave to report, that they have examined the allegations set forth in said petition, and find them true, and are of opinion that the prayer of the said petition ought to be granted, on her giving bond with security to the justices of Saint Mary's county court, to be accountable to the holders of notes which may hereafter be brought in for their proportion of the sales of the tobacco remaining in Chaptico warehouse, of the inspection of her late husband, which, in justice to the said holders as well as the petitioner, your committee think should be immediately sold. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

A. GOLDER, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto.

On motion, ORDERED, That Mr. Wright and Mr. Paca be added to the committee on the memorial of John Brown and Richard Carmichael, in behalf of William Carmichael.

The house adjourns till 3 o'clock.

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

The house met. Mr. Roberts appeared in the house.

Mr. Chafe, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APRIL 23, 1787.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

WE are truly sensible of the distresses of private debtors, and that many of them are unable to pay their debts, without parting with their property at one third or less of its real value. This we consider such a grievance and oppression, as demands legislative redress. Your honours must feel with real concern the sufferings of our people from a rigid collection of debts in the manner the laws now permit. In times of great distress, we have many instances of legislative interference in private contracts, and this house are of opinion, that the circumstances of our people are wrought up to such an extreme of difficulty, as will well justify this legislature in the like interposition to preserve many respectable citizens and their families from inevitable ruin. We know of no relief that can be given to debtors but what will, in some degree, break in upon private contracts, and therefore conceive this objection must be waved, or no substantial redress can be afforded. If any effectual mode of relief can be devised by a conference, we shall readily agree to it; and to manifest our

care.