

escaped detection. Judging, therefore, of the future by the past, it appears to us that this alteration, instead of being beneficial, will be productive of mischievous consequence.

The change proposed in the salary of the chief justice is equally exceptionable. It may prevent the office being accepted by those who are competent to fill it, and compel such an appointment as nothing but necessity can justify. It is also inadmissible on another ground, for it cannot be denied that the allowance to the chief justice ought to exceed that of the other justices; and as the criminal court of Baltimore sits, on an average, at least seventy days in a year, the associate justices, to whom, with the chief justice, your honours propose to commit the administration of criminal justice in that county, at twenty shillings per day, have a larger allowance than the chief justice himself.

We think it proper to add, as an objection to all your amendments, that we consider this bill as a money bill, and therefore that the senate can only pass or reject it. The constitution has defined what is a money bill, and what is not. Your honours will perceive, by adverting to the form of government, that the present bill is not within the exceptions, but is clearly within the affirmative description, because it contains an application of taxes or supplies to the support of government.

We hope that, on reconsideration, the senate will recede from their amendments, and pass the bill.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, agreed to, and sent to the senate, with the bill mentioned in the message, together with the resolution in favour of John Lanham, and the bill for enlarging the power of the high court of chancery, and the several supplementary acts to the said act, and for enlarging the power of the said court with respect to the personal estates of idiots and lunatics, and the bill respecting certain collectors of this state, by Mr. Dennis.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to appoint commissioners of the tax in Allegany county. ORDERED, That Mr. Duvall, Mr. Simkins, and Mr. Denwood, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Tilghman, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, A Supplement to an act, entitled, An act respecting the collectors of the public taxes since the first of January, seventeen hundred and eighty-three; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The following propositions were laid before the house, and read, viz.

RESOLVED, That Robert Denny be and he is hereby appointed auditor-general.

RESOLVED, That the auditor-general be and he is hereby empowered to adjust and settle, subject to the direction of the governor and council, all open and unsettled accounts between the state and individuals, and in making the said settlements the auditor and the governor and council may proceed upon equitable principles, and receive such vouchers as may be satisfactory to them, although not strictly legal; that all accounts examined and passed by the auditor shall be signed by him, and the said accounts shall be carried to the governor and council, or to the council in the absence of the governor, for their approbation, who, if they approve, may order the treasurer of the western shore to issue a certificate for the amount of the balance, who shall issue accordingly, and the persons in whose favour the said orders shall be drawn, shall respectively give a receipt upon the accounts, which shall be carried without delay to the auditor, that the same may be entered in his books; and that in case the said auditor refuse to act, die, resign, or remove out of the state, in the recess of the house of delegates, the governor and council may appoint a proper person to such vacant office, to hold the same until the next meeting of the house of delegates.

RESOLVED, That the governor and council be and they are hereby empowered to employ an agent to superintend the collection of all balances due to the state upon open account, and allow him such compensation for his services as they may think proper, not exceeding five per cent. on the amount of all money paid into the treasury under his agency.

On the second reading the second proposition, respecting the powers of the auditor-general to settle and adjust all open accounts between this state and individuals, the question was put, That the house assent thereto? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. B. Worthington, appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.					
Carroll,	J. Worthington,	Sherwood,	Hollingsworth,	Dennis,	Rochester,
T. Bond,	Gantt,	Kerr,	Forman,	Beatty,	Cellar,
Plater,	Mackall,	Denwood,	Clark,	M'Comas,	Jacques,
Moore,	Freeland,	Jones,	W. Bowie,	Amos,	Crabb,
Tilghman,	Craik,	Steele,	F. Bowie,	Downes,	Beall,
Lethrbury,	Parnham,	Lecompte,	Quynn,	Douglass,	Simkins,
N. Worthington,	Ridgely,	Goldsbrough,	Duvall,	M'Mechen,	Cresap.
Harwood,	Ridgely, of Wm.	R. Bond,	Chaille,	Ott,	
N E G A T I V E.					
Messieurs	B. Worthington,	R. Bowie,	Burgefs.	3.	

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

The propositions were read throughout and assented to.

Mr. Ridgely, of Wm. from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the journal of accounts, which was read the first and second time and assented to, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto.

The following question being propounded to the house, viz. That the resolutions on the propositions respecting the assumption of the state debts, and the subsequent proceedings thereon, be and they are hereby rescinded and annulled? The previous question was called for and put, That the said question be now put? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Forrest, appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A