

By THE SENATE, NOVEMBER 26, 1793.

GENTLEMEN,

ON an examination of the several acts of assembly heretofore made, for fixing the seat of justice and erecting the public buildings in Caroline county, we find, that quantities of tobacco and sums of money have at different times been assessed and levied on the inhabitants of Caroline county, for the purpose of erecting a court-house and gaol therein, to an amount greatly beyond the sum agreed by the present commissioners to be paid to William Benson for building of the court-house. We also find, that by the act of 1790, chapter eleven, the present commissioners are authorized to receive and recover all such sums of money and quantities of tobacco, and it is not stated to us, nor does it in any manner appear, that they have been wholly expended. Under these circumstances, although we concur in the propriety of generously saving an inexperienced, and as we are assured, honest young man from being ruined by one unfortunate contract with the public, yet we think it would be an oppression of the people of Caroline county to impose on them the payment of a further sum of money unless absolutely necessary, much less do we think it just to subject them to the payment of such indefinite sum as shall be estimated by some three workmen.

We have therefore negatived the bill from your house, entitled, An act to authorize and empower the justices of the peace of Caroline county to levy on the assessable property in said county a sum of money necessary to complete the court-house in said county, and for other purposes therein mentioned, and we have past, and send you instead thereof, a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of William Benson, and for other purposes, which we hope will meet your approbation and concurrence, as being calculated to afford every reasonable relief to the petitioner, and at the same time to guard against any unnecessary imposition of taxes upon the inhabitants of Caroline.

By order,

W. PERRY, jun. clk.

Which was read.

A bill, entitled, An act for the relief of William Benson, and for other purposes, endorsed; "By the senate, November 26, 1793: Read the first and second time by especial order and passed.

"By order,

W. PERRY, jun. clk."

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

And the supplement to an act, entitled, An act to establish a market at the market-house in Chester-town, Kent county, and for the regulation of the said market, endorsed; "By the senate, November 26, 1793: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

W. PERRY, jun. clk.

"By the senate, November 26, 1793: Read the second time by especial order and passed.

"By order,

W. PERRY, jun. clk."

Ordered to be engrossed.

On the second reading the report of the committee on the memorials of the committees of Baltimore-town and the emigrants from French Saint-Domingo, agreeably to the order of the day, RESOLVED, That the said report be committed, and that the committee be directed to expunge that part of the said report which follows in these words: "That they are now the victims of unprincipled men, unfortunately clothed with authority which they have abused, and who, by arming slaves against their masters, and committing the most wanton violations of private property, have torn asunder the bands of society, and introduced all the horrors of civil war."

On progression in reading the said report, RESOLVED, That an advance of money be made by this state, to relieve the present distressed French emigrants from Saint-Domingo, now in this state.

On further progression in reading the said report, the following resolution being proposed, viz. That a committee be appointed in the town of Baltimore, who shall have power to draw on the treasurer of the western shore weekly, from the first day of December next, for the sum of five hundred dollars, until the — day of —, for the subsistence of the distressed French citizens now in this state from Saint-Domingo; provided, that if the congress of the United States shall meet and make provision for the unfortunate sufferers before that period, then the power of the said committee to draw on the said treasurer shall cease.

On motion, the question was put, That the blank in the said resolution be filled up with the first day of February next? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Contee, appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.						
Medicars	Ford,	Ridout,	Digges,	Barnes,	Prall,	Threlkeld,
	Harwood,	Brobke,	T. Worthington,	Beatty,	Crabb,	Tomlinson,
	J. Worthington,	Freeland,	Ewing,	Jamison,	Oneale,	Simkins. 23
	Brogden,	M'Pherson,	Contee,	J. Bond,	R. Wootton,	
N E G A T I V E.						
Medicars	W. Thomas,	Ridgely, of Wm.	King,	T. Wootton,	Dennis,	McMechen,
	Plater,	Ridgely,	Frazier,	Sprigg,	Houston,	Swearingen,
	Kilgour,	Howard,	Daffin,	Quynn,	Purnell,	Van Lear,
	J. Wilmer,	Cox,	Gordon,	Duval,	Bayly,	Hughes,
	Lloyd,	Kerr,	Hollingsworth,	O'Bryon,	Montgomery,	Clark,
	Tilghman,	Jones,	R. Bond,	Seney,	Loeckerma,	Johnson,
	Hawkins,	Denwood,	Ward,	Whittington,	Driver,	Bayard. 41

So it was determined in the negative.

On motion, the question was put, That the said blank be filled up with the first day of March next? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Beatty, appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A