

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, November, 1796.

T H U R S D A Y, December 15, 1796.

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THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. Calvert, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act for the preservation of the breed of fish in Patuxent river; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The resolution granting a loan to the city of Washington was sent to the senate by the clerk.

The bill for the relief of the poor of Washington county was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

Mr. Nicholas Day M'Comas, a delegate returned for Harford county, appeared, and after qualifying in the mode prescribed by the constitution and form of government, and taking the oath to support the constitution of the United States, took his seat in the house.

Mr. Ridout, from the committee of elections and privileges, brings in and delivers to the speaker the following report:

THE committee of elections and privileges further report, that by the return of the sheriff of Harford county it appears, that Nicholas Day M'Comas, Esquire, is duly elected and returned a delegate for Harford county, in the room of Jacob Norris, Esquire, whose seat was vacated. All which is submitted to the house.

By order,

Z. HUGHES, clk.

Which was read the first and second time and concurred with.

Mr. Quynn, junior, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, A supplement to the act, entitled, An act to improve and repair the streets in Frederick-town, in Frederick county, and for other purposes therein mentioned; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Robins, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act to repeal the nineteenth section of the constitution, and to provide a new mode of electing senators in case of refusal, death, resignation, disqualification, or removal out of this state, of any senator, or on his becoming governor, or member of the council; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

RESOLVED, That this house will sit the remainder of this session, for the dispatch of public business, from 9 o'clock in the morning till 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and from 5 o'clock in the evening till 8 o'clock; this resolution to commence on Monday next.

The report on the petition of sundry inhabitants of George-town, in Montgomery county, was read the second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. **ORDERED**, That Mr. Reintzel, Mr. Key and Mr. Swearingen, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

On motion, **ORDERED**, That Mr. Jones, Mr. W. Thomas and Mr. Carroll, be a committee to tax the costs attending the petition of Christopher Hughes, and others.

A petition from the justices of the levy court of Anne-Arundel county, respecting the new road from Ellicott's mills to the county line, praying it may be established into a turnpike road, was presented, read, and the question put, That the said petition be referred to the next session of assembly? Determined in the negative.

ORDERED, That Mr. J. C. Thomas, Mr. Ridout, Mr. Brogden, Mr. Winchester and Mr. Landin, be a committee to consider and report thereon.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to increase the jurisdiction of the corporation of the city of Annapolis. **ORDERED**, That Mr. Key, Mr. Quynn and Mr. W. Thomas, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to repeal the thirty-seventh section of the constitution and form of government of this state, so far as the same relates to any senator or delegate of assembly. **ORDERED**, That Mr. Key, Mr. Whittington and Mr. Montgomery, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The report on the petition of John M'Pherson was read the second time, and the question put, That the house assent to the resolution therein contained? Determined in the negative.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors. **ORDERED**, That the committee appointed on the petitions of insolvent debtors prepare and bring in the same.

The following message being prepared, was sent to the senate, with the bill for recording the deed therein mentioned, by the clerk.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER 15, 1796.

GENTLEMEN OF THE SENATE,

WE have returned you the bill, entitled, An act for recording the deed therein mentioned, and trust, if reconsidered, that it will meet the approbation of your house. We conceive the principle of this bill has influenced the legislature on former occasions, where laws have passed to validate titles defective for want of recording; this case appears more essentially to require legislative aid, because the negroes (the subjects of its operation,) had no power, control or custody, of the original deed, and consequently no fault or neglect is imputable to them. As a security for all purchasers and creditors anterior to the date of said deed, we have amended the bill by a clause to that effect.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

The bill to alter and repeal such parts of the constitution and form of government of this state as relate to the council to the governor, was read the second time, and the question put, That the said bill do pass? The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follow:

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