

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, November, 1798.

On motion, the question was put, That the following be received as an amendment to the said resolutions? "Provided nothing herein contained shall prevent any person naturalized from being eligible to an office of profit or trust, except to the office of judges of any of the federal courts, secretary of state, attorney-general, secretary of the treasury, secretary of war, and secretary of the navy." The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.						
Messrs	Barroll, Tilghman, Dunn, Worthington, Bourne,	Brome, Parnham, T. Buchanan, M'Pherfon, E. Brown,	Ridgely, Carroll, Jones, Hyland, Pattifon,	Quynn, Wright, E. K. Wilfon, Purnell,	Warfield, Gwinn, Bruce, Montgomery,	Young, A. Buchanan, Cretap, of M. Simkins. 27.
N E G A T I V E.						
Messrs	Leigh, Barber, Greenwell, Neale, Harwood, Hall, Mackall,	Taney, Sherwood, Nabb, Benson, Steuart, Steele, S. Frazier,	Miller, Hollingsworth, Wallace, David, Addifon, J. Magruder, Calvert,	Duckett, J. Brown, C. Frazier, Corbin, Thomas, Jarrett,	M'Comas, Dallam, Potter, Clarke, W. Wilfon, Kerfshner,	Cellar, Geoghegan, Summers, R. Magruder, Swearingen, Riley. 39.

So it was determined in the negative.

The resolutions being read throughout, the question was put, That the house assent thereto? The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.						
Messrs	Leigh, Barber, Greenwell, Neale, Barroll, Tilghman, Dunn, Harwood, Hall,	Mackall, Taney, Bourne, Brome, Parnham, T. Buchanan, E. Brown, Ridgely, Carroll,	Sherwood, Nabb, Benson, Hyland, Steuart, Pattifon, Keene, Steele, S. Frazier,	Addifon, J. Magruder, Calvert, Duckett, Quynn, Key, C. Frazier, Wright, Corbin,	E. K. Wilfon, Purnell, Warfield, Gwinn, Thomas, Bruce, Dallam, Potter, Clarke,	Young, A. Buchanan, W. Wilfon, Summers, R. Magruder, Swearingen, Riley, Cretap, of M. Beall. 54.
Messrs	M'Pherfon, Lemmon, Jones,	Miller, Hollingsworth, Wallace,	David, J. Brown, Jarrett,	M'Comas, Montgomery,	Kerfshner, Cellar,	Geoghegan, Simkins. 19.

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

The clerk of the senate delivers a letter from John Eager Howard, Esquire, one of the senators of the United States, enclosing an answer from the president of the United States to the address from the general assembly of Maryland.

To the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the STATE of MARYLAND.

GENTLEMEN,

AN eloquent address, adopted by the two houses of the general assembly of Maryland, and signed on the fourteenth of this month by Mr. Perry, the president of the senate, and Mr. Chapman, the speaker of the house of representatives, has been presented to me by Mr. Howard, one of your senators in congress, in the absence of the other, Mr. Lloyd.

Convinced, as I have been, by an attentive observation of more than twenty years, that there is no state in this union whose public affairs, upon all great national occasions, have been conducted with more method, wisdom and decision, or whose results have been the effect of a more comprehensive and profound view of the subject, than those of the state of Maryland, I cannot receive the assurances of your entire and cordial approbation of the measures of my administration, without a singular sensation of pride and pleasure.

What shall I say to you, Gentlemen, on the subject of the destruction of religion and encouragement of loose principles? I am not fond of introducing this sacred topic into political discussions. But religion is the basis of moral obligation—of the essence of all government; the only ground of confidence between man and man, and the foundation of all society. Without it the world would be an universal and perpetual war of artifice, intrigue, fraud, stratagem and violence, of all men against all men. This at least is my opinion, though I shall not persecute those who differ from me.

When religious liberty has been asserted by invincible arguments of the soundest divines; as well as the philosophers of this century and the last; when every engine of wit, satire, humour and ridicule, have been employed to discountenance intolerance, is the whole to terminate in a cruel and sanguinary persecution of all religion? In the annihilation of all the sacred foundations of morality, government and society? America will not, I trust, be willing to be converted into a perfect bedlam, whatever other parts of the world may wish it.

At the time when, under every discouragement, I was called by the suffrages of very little more than half of the nation to the presidency of the general government, I was fully aware of the dangers that surrounded us, and of the perplexities that awaited my administration. A responsibility which might be determined, as my election had been, by two or three votes, presented itself before me, enough to have appalled a heart possessed of more fortitude than mine. But as the course of my life had led me for twenty years through scenes which afforded me, per-