

would be cautious of appointing an officer whose impunity as to them, and whose hopes of indulgence from the other House, might encourage him to act in opposition to their laws.

An attempt was afterwards made to bring in the Intendant, by the House of Delegates, who, it was contended had the sole constitutional right of appointing him, and a bill that had been brought in to transfer chief of the powers which he had held, to the Governor and Council, was dissented to, apparently in consequence of the arguments on that occasion.

The merits of this question were not entirely settled, but it appeared very clearly, that the House of Delegates, could not appoint an Intendant, or any other officer, with powers any way similar to those, which the late Intendant had held; the point was consequently given up, and a bill was brought in to vest in the Governor and Council, such of the powers as appeared necessary to be continued.

On the 24th the Assembly proceeded to ballot for Delegates to Congress, and J. Henry, W. Hindman, W. Harrison, R. Ridgely, and N. Ramsay, Esquires, were elected.

Considering the importance and dignity of this trust, it is somewhat surprising, that more solicitude is not used in obtaining an appointment to it: I would not be understood to reflect particularly on the abilities or other qualifications of either of those gentlemen, but it may with propriety be said, that from the backwardness of many of our most able characters to engage in this office the representation of the State has of late fell short of that degree of perfection which we might formerly boast of, although the exigency of our affairs, must now require, more than ever, the assistance of the most distinguished abilities.

From this circumstance and the neglect of our Delegates in point of attendance, there is little doubt but that our consequence both at home and abroad, must be considerably diminished, and to this purpose a paragraph in a late paper, under the London head, observes, "That very few gentlemen throughout the American States appear desirous of obtaining a seat in Congress, and that many, when they are elected, refuse or neglect to attend."

The salary in this State, three pounds per day, is certainly sufficient according to our present circumstances, but it seems as yet the misfortune of our State, that it affords few persons