

tions, which have been practised, will no doubt, be attended with the most beneficial consequences, and tend to place this branch of our commerce upon a more profitable and advantageous footing.

A matter of considerable importance, was now brought before the House of Delegates.—A proposal to remove the seat of government to Baltimore-Town:—The event of this proposal, I believe, is generally known.—The motion was, after a considerable debate, rejected by 35 against 18.

I consider it unnecessary to offer any remarks on this subject, it being very fully and ably treated by Aristides in his considerations, which it is to be presumed, will have due weight on the minds of the people, and be a lasting barrier against the future attempts, to carry this plan in execution.

To the discussion of subjects of a similar partial concern, may in a great measure, be attributed, the uncommon length of this session, and although many objects were of so important a nature that a proper regulation of them would amply compensate for the time which they took up and the expence which they occasioned, it is probable, that we shall, on examining the proceedings, find some of a different kind, which, however they might be determined, would hardly repay the attention bestowed on them. Of this nature I consider the supplement to the act respecting fornication, and the bill which was proposed to be brought in, for the suppression of *vice and immorality*.

These endeavours seem to have originated from the same principles, which prevailed at the opening of the session, with respect to the *bill for the support of the clergy*; and although the motives might be perfectly moral and religious, I apprehend in the proposed virtuous and moral bill, the framers had, in some instances, trespassed on that religious freedom which was intended to be secured by our bill of rights.

We come now to a subject of infinitely more importance, *the requisitions of Congress*, a compliance with which, would probably tend more to make us *honest*, than any *moral regulations* which the Assembly could devise.

The situation of the States, with respect to their foreign and domestic debts, was well known, and Congress had in the most decided language, called upon them, to furnish their respective parts of the sum required for the payment of the interest.