

By the House of Delegates December 13th 1779

May it please your Honours,

We are of Opinion that the Choice of Delegates to represent this State in Congress, at all Times, but more especially at present, greatly concerns not only this, but all the States in the Union. We think the Election should be made when both Houses are as full as can be expected. Several of our Members have Leave of Absence, and may be expected in a few Days. Our Attention is closely employ'd in providing Ways and Means to procure Supplies of Provisions and other Necessaries for our Army, and in devising a Mode to comply with the late Requisition of Congress for raising our Quota of the Continental Tax. We have resolv'd to seize and confiscate all British Property within this State, and are preparing Bills for those important Purposes; as soon as this House has finished the interesting Subjects now under Deliberation, they will consider of proper Persons to fill the important Department of Delegates to Congress, and will inform your Honours of the Time they may judge convenient for that Purpose. By Order J. M. Smith C. Sec. of the Del.

Which was read and agreed to.

The Bill, entitled, An Act for enlarging the Powers of the Governour and Council, read the first Time, pass'd, and sent to the Senate by Mr. Hanson and Mr. Dashiell

The Bill, entitled, An Act to continue the Acts of a ssembly therein mentioned; and the Bill, entitled, An Act for the Relief of the Reverend Thomas Brown, of Dorset County, and the Reverend Joseph Mofonger of Mary's County, sent to the Senate by Mr. Henry and Mr. E. Hall

The Bill, entitled, An Act to prohibit, for a limited Time the Exportation of Wheat, Flour, Rye, &c. read the first Time and ordered to lie on the Table

William Hindman, Esq. from the Senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker, a petition of Remonstrance of sundry Inhabitants of Cecil County, respecting a Court House and Prison, and a petition of sundry other Inhabitants of Cecil County, relative to a Free School; severally endorsed by the Senate, December 13th 1779. Read and referred to the Consideration of the House of Delegates by Order of the House C. Sec. which were ordered to lie on the Table

Richard Bacon, Esq. from the Senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the Bill, entitled, An Act for the Relief of the Reverend Thomas Brown of Dorset County, and the Reverend Joseph Mofonger, of Saint Mary's County, endorsed, "By the Senate December 13th 1779 Read the first Time and ordered to lie on the Table. By Order of the House C. Sec. By the Senate December 13th 1779 Read the second Time by especial Order and with gaps By Order of the House C. Sec. which was read and ordered to be engrossed. — And also the Bill, entitled, An Act to explain the several Acts of Assembly heretofore made relative to the Enrolment of Deeds, endorsed; "By the Senate November 25th 1779. Read the first Time and ordered to lie on the Table By Order of the House C. Sec. By the Senate December 13th 1779 Read the second Time and with gaps with the proposed Amendments — By Order of the House C. Sec.

The Amendments propos'd. Strike out the whole Enacting Clause, and insert, "Be it therefore enacted and declared, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That in all Cases where the Enrolment of Deeds is directed by Law to be made within six Months from the Day of the Date of the same Deeds, the said Months shall be deemed and taken, and hereby declared to be calendar Months." which was read, agreed to, and the Bill ordered to be engrossed.