

Post Meridiem

The House met. William Hindman, Esq. from the Senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the Bill, entitled, An Act for the more effectual preventing of stalling and engrossing, and for other Purposes therein mentioned; thus endorsed, "By the Senate, December 14th 1779. Read the first Time and ordered to lie on the Table. By Order W. Ridgely, Cl. Sec. By the Senate, December 17th 1779. Read the second Time and will pass with the Amendments proposed. By Order W. Ridgely Cl. Sec." In the fifth Line of the 16th Page after the word "paying," ^{strike out the words} "not exceeding one half of." In the 13th Line of the 17th Page, between the words "Account" and "of," insert the words "on Oath." In the sixth Line of the 18th Page, strike out the word "tenth" and insert "first," and the word "January" and insert "February" which Amendments were read & agreed to. The Bill passed for engrossing. And the Bill, entitled, An Act for the Regulation of Officers Fees, thus endorsed; "By the Senate December 15th 1779. Read the first Time and ordered to lie on the Table. By Order W. Ridgely Cl. Sec. By the Senate, December 17th 1779. Read the second Time and will pass. By Order W. Ridgely Cl. Sec."

Ordered to be engrossed

A Petition of the Inhabitants of Susquehanna County, in Cecil County, was preferred & read the first Time and ordered to lie on the Table.

Mr. J. Hall brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a Bill, entitled, An Act to appoint Commissioners to take and state the Public Accounts, which was read the first Time and ordered to lie on the Table.

The following engrossed (message)

By the House of Delegates December 17th 1779

Mr. Speaker, We have considered your several Amendments to our Bill relating to the Estates of deceased Persons. We have agreed to all your Amendments, except the last, relative to the Power we proposed to give to the Orphan's Court or Chancellor, where Provision may be made by Will, Testament, or Deed for the Support of Widows and Orphans, to make a further Allowance out of the Estate, where the Provision intended has become insufficient. We have not agreed to your other Amendments from any Conviction of their Propriety, but from a Belief that the Bill amended contains useful and beneficial Regulations, and may prevent some of the Injuries and Inconveniences intended to be remedied. Your last Amendment is wholly inadmissible, and if the Cries of the Fatherless and Widows cannot prevail on your Honours to recede from that Amendment, we have no hopes that any Thing we can say will have that Effect. Our House have unanimously determined not to adopt your Amendment to that Clause, and if you are equally clear in not departing, the other Clauses of the Bill may be enacted into a Law, leaving that, with other Things, to the Consideration of a future Day. Should you depart from your Amendment, the Clause as it stood in our Bill may remain Part of the Law.

By Order J. D. W. H. Cl. Sec.

Being prepared, was sent to the Senate by Mr. Hall and Mr. Key

A Bill, entitled, An Act to empower Thomas Harrison to lay a Snow and around the Streets, lanes, and Alleys, of that Part of Baltimore Town commonly called the Market Ground was read the first & second Times by especial Order, passed & sent to the Senate by Mr. Worthington & Mr. M. C. B. -

The Bill for the Relief of Joseph Cowman, of Annapolis County, was read the second Time by especial Order, passed, & sent to the Senate by Mr. M. C. B. and Mr. Alexander

On Motion, leave given to bring in a Bill to regulate the Toll of Willows. Ordered, That Mr. Jordan, Mr. Hall, Mr. Crampin & Mr. Job do prepare a Bill in the said

The House adjourns till to-morrow Morning 9 o'clock