

The Debt due from this State is above One Million of Pounds Currency. Our Army is exhausted, our Quota of Troops require a considerable Reinforcement, and a large Sum will be necessary to defray the Expence of the recruiting Service. We are inclin'd to think our Proportion of the continental Debt may exceed twenty five Million of Dollars.

If, after contemplating the Information we have taken the Liberty to give you, of our Circumstances, you are still inflexibly determin'd not to seize and appropriate British Property, in our Power, to enable us to carry on this War, (and we again declare it is not in our Power to collect the necessary Sums by Taxes, without greatly distressing our People, and compelling them to sell their Property to pay the) Appointment) we shall return to our Constituents with the Consolation, that we have endeavour'd to do all in our Power, and the Consequences which may happen, so they are so great, will not be justly imputable to us.

It now remains for us to express our Acknowledgments so justly due to your Honours, for the particular Instance of your Attention and regard to the Gentlemen of the Eastern Shore; but notwithstanding the Indolence of the Season and the Severity of the Weather renders an Attendance on the public Business, at this Time, exceedingly distressing and inconvenient to this House in general, and to the Gentlemen of the Eastern Shore in particular, yet the Duty which we owe to our Country, the Welfare of the Public, and a Relief to our People from the very heavy Taxes which are demand'd of them for the Prosecution of the War, surpasses the Obligations of private Interest. Govern'd by these Motives, we can assure your Honours, that we shall wait with Patience the Result of your Determinations on the very important Bill now sent back for your Consideration. We lament, with your Honours, that the Senate is at this critical Period so thin, (and regret that Measures, calculated to compel the Attendance of the Members of the General Assembly on the public Business, have not met with your Approbation, notwithstanding the repeated Exhortations both Houses must have had of the Necessity of adopting some Means to enforce the Observation of Duties, to which Virtue and a patriotic Spirit have not been competent.

By Order J. D. Hill & Co. Secy.

Was sent to the Senate, with the Bill for the Seizure and Confiscation of British Property, by Mr. Hall and 15 more.

Mr. Jordan brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a Bill, intitled, An Act to regulate the Toll taken by Millers, which was read the first Time and order'd to lie on the Table.

Upton Sheradine Esq. from the Senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following Message?
By the Senate, December 21st 1779

Gentlemen, We assent to the Propositions contain'd in your Message of this Day by Messrs. Mason and Ross, and have appointed Joseph Kim and Upton Sheradine Esquires, to join the Members named by your House in the Examination of the Ballot Boxes. By Order H. Ridgely, Cl. Sen. Which was read and order'd to lie on the Table.

On a fourth reading the Report from the Committee appointed to report upon the Civil List, &c. the Question was put, That the House concur with that part of the same for an Allowance to the Governor of £1500 p Annum? Carried in the Negative.

The Question was then put on £1200 p Annum. Carried in the Negative.

The Question was then put on £1000 p Annum. Resolved in the Affirmative.