

MARYLAND GAZETTE

Annapolis, Thursday, Dec. 12

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Which was issued from this Office on Thursday last, in an Extra sheet, is inserted in the last page of to-day's paper for the benefit of our country subscribers.

The Senate of this State formed a quorum on Thursday last, and appointed Mr. Richard Harwood Clerk, Mr. John N. Watkins Assistant Clerk, Mr. Thomas J. Brice Committee Clerk, Mr. G. I. Grammer, Messenger, and Mr. Henry Coulter, Door-keeper.

On Monday his Excellency Charles Ridgely, of Hampton, was re-elected Governor of this State for the ensuing year—and on the following day, James Shaw, Richard Frisby, Henry H. Chapman, William H. Ward, and William Potter, Esquires, were elected to the Council.

The President's Message, and proceedings of the house of delegates, have crowded out a number of articles prepared for this day's paper.

COMMUNICATED.

Conceiving it to be a settled point, that the Constitution of the U. States is the supreme Law of the Land, I take leave to call the attention of the public to an important paragraph thereof—which is as follows:—'In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved;—see amendments to the Constitution of the United States, VII.

From the above it would seem, that the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace cannot constitutionally exceed twenty dollars—If so, are not the acts of Assembly extending their jurisdiction, formerly to ten pounds, but lately to fifty dollars, unconstitutional? These hints are respectfully submitted by a quondam Justice of the Peace.

Legislature of Maryland.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Mr. James Prather, junr. a delegate from Allegany, Mr. Littleton Quinton, from Worcester, Mr. Edward G. Williams, from Washington, and Mr. Thomas Blackstone, from St. Mary's, appeared, qualified, and took their seats.

The Speaker laid before the house communications, from the Trustee of the state, the Treasurer of the W. S. and Auditor. Read.

PETITIONS.

From Peter Hoffman, and others of Baltimore, for a road. From sundry inhabitants of Baltimore, to build a bridge across the Great Gunpowder Falls. From Catharine Mannaca, of Anne-Arundel, & Barney Dean, of Frederick, for a divorce. From Thomas Moore, of Cecil, to confirm his title to certain lands. From sundry citizens of the eastern shore of Maryland, for relief relative to kidnapping negroes.

From James Tidball, of Allegany, to remove certain slaves from Virginia into this state. From Henry Downes, of Caroline, to change the name of Dion Cotner to Dion Downes. From Jeremiah & Mary Terrell, of Kentucky, for the sale of lands. From the Boonsborough Turnpike Road Company, for a supplement to their act of incorporation. From Jane E. Calder, for a divorce. From sundry inhabitants of Frederick, to amend and straighten a road. From James Hogstin, of Harford, to confirm his title to certain property. From Joseph S. Smith, of Frederick, a revolutionary officer. From sundry inhabitants of Somerset, to widen and make public a road. Severally referred.

Leave given to bring in a bill to provide for bringing up the records of the Orphans' court of Frederick county; a bill respecting the right of challenge in criminal cases; a bill for securing to mechanics, & others, in the city of Baltimore, payment for their labor and materials in erecting houses; a bill to alter and amend the act for enlarging the power of the high court of Chancery.

Mr. Banning, from the committee appointed to prepare Rules, &c. delivers a report. Read.

The Rev. John Jacobs was appointed Chaplain.

Mr. Bowles delivers a supplement to the act to make a turnpike road from Boonsbro' to Swearingen's ferry. Read. Mr. Poole a bill to authorize the levy court of Frederick to levy a sum of money for the purchase therein mentioned. Twice read and passed. Mr. Schenck a bill for the benefit of John Shick. Read.

Adjournd.

Thursday, Dec. 5.

Mr. John Horrel, a delegate from Calvert, appeared, qualified, & took his seat.

PETITIONS.

From sundry inhabitants of Caroline, to change the place of holding elections in the third election district of said county. From sundry inhabitants of St. Mary's, to change the place of holding elections in District No. 2 in said county. From James Deane, of St. Mary's, for a support. From James Ryan, of Montgomery, praying his title to certain lands may be confirmed. From Lawrence Herdle, of Montgomery, Allen Townsend and Jacob Clarke, of Allegany county, revolutionary soldiers. From Janaro S. Farree and Benjamin Gray, for relief relative to a road. From sundry inhabitants of Talbot, for a road and public landing. From sundry inhabitants of Dorchester, prohibiting the sale of spirituous liquors within a certain distance of Camp Meeting. From Isaac Dawson, of Kent, for a divorce. From Elizabeth Cox, of Talbot, for the sale of a house and lot. From Sarah Fawcett and George B. Sunwalt, of Baltimore, for a divorce. From Robert Carr, of Harford, to confirm his title to certain property. From Edward K. Talley, a free man of colour, of Harford, to confirm his title to certain property. From the heirs of Martin Fisher, of Montgomery, for the state to release its right to certain lands. From sundry inhabitants of Frederick-town, for a lottery to pave Market-street. Severally referred.

Leave given to bring in a bill to settle and ascertain the salary of members of the council; a bill to alter the time of holding the courts of appeals for the eastern shore, and for other purposes; a bill authorizing the levy court of Talbot to appoint a person to take care of the court-house.

Mr. Taney from the committee of elections and privileges, delivers a report. Twice read and concurred in.

The Speaker laid before the house the following letter: Baltimore, December 1st, 1816.

Sir, When the legislature of Maryland conferred on me the honour of a seat in the Senate of the U. States, of which I shall ever retain the most grateful remembrance, I indulged the hope that I might be able to reconcile the duties of that situation with the necessary attention to my professional business. But the experience of one session has convinced me of my mistake; and as my profession is indispensable to me, I find it necessary to avail myself of the opportunity which the present situation of the State affords, and withdraw from the Senate.

In quitting so honourable a station, conferred on me in a manner so gratifying, I have to regret that my necessary avocations in another place, prevented me from giving my whole mind and time to its duties. This omission, when the circumstances of the case are considered, will, I hope, be thought excusable.

Be pleased, Sir, to communicate my resignation to the House over which you preside, and to convey to them at the same time the expression of my gratitude, respect, and good wishes.

With sentiments of the highest consideration, I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient, very humble servant.

Robert G. Harper.

To the hon. the Speaker of the Ho. of Del. Read.

Adjournd.

Friday, Dec. 6.

Mr. James Roberts, from Queen-Anne's, and Mr. Abraham D. Mitchell, from Cecil, appeared, qualified, and took their seats.

PETITIONS.

From Benjamin Young, of Baltimore, and William Law, revolutionary soldiers. From the Harford town turnpike road Company, for certain alterations in the original law. From William Hughton, of Caroline, to be reimbursed certain money. From Elizabeth Hauer, of Frederick, for a patent on a certificate. From the Union Beneficial Society of Baltimore, for an act of incorporation. From Joseph Simmons, of Annapolis, for a support. From Samuel Taylor, junr. of Worcester, for a divorce. From the trustees of the Union Lanthorn School of Frederick, for legislative aid. From the members of Zion Church, and others, of Frederick, for a lottery. From Kasey Harrison, of Anne-Arundel, a revolutionary soldier. From Charles S. Ridgely and John C. Weems, of Anne-Arundel, to make public a road. From John P. Gardiner, of Charles, to be allowed interest on a certain sum of money.

Mr. Prather delivers an unfavourable report on the petition of Jacob Clark. Concurred with.

Mr. Stoddert delivers a bill for appointing a printer to the state. Mr. Dennis a bill to make public and extend a road in Somerset. Mr. McDonald a bill to change the place of holding the elections in the third election district of Caroline. Mr. Kell a bill to incorporate the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company of Maryland. Severally read.

Mr. Ridgely delivers a report favourable to the petition of Allen Townsend. Read.

The supplement to the act incorporating a company to make a turnpike road, from Boonsbro', to Swearingen's ferry, and the bill for the benefit of John Shick, were severally passed.

Leave given to bring in a bill for the relief of Richard Bartlett.

Mr. Banning delivers a bill to authorise the sale of a house and lot at the "Hole in the Wall"—twice read and passed.

The clerk of the senate delivers a message, informing the house they have made a quorum, and are ready to proceed to business.

A message was sent to the senate in reply.

Mr. Harrison delivers a bill respecting the right of challenge in criminal cases—made the order of the day for Wednesday.

Mr. Davis a bill to complete the unfinished record of the Orphans Court of Frederick—twice read and passed. Mr. Williams a bill for the relief of Richard Bartlett. Mr. Thomas a bill for the benefit of Thomas Moore, of Cecil. Severally read.

On motion of Mr. Lecompte the following message was read. Gentlemen of the Senate, The honourable Robert G. Harper, esquire, having resigned his seat in the Senate of the U. S. we propose on next, if agreeable to your house, to proceed to the election of a Senator to supply his place, agreeably to the constitution of the United States, and the provisions of an act of assembly passed at November session, 1809, entitled, An act to fix the mode of electing Senators to represent this state in the Senate of the United States.

Mr. Stoddert, leave given to bring in a bill to establish county schools. Messrs. Stoddert, Causin, Semmes, Bowles, Duvall, Lecompte, and Dennis, the committee.

Mr. Rd. Watts delivers a bill to release the right of the State to a part of a tract of land therein mentioned. Mr. Blackstone a bill for the relief of James Deane—severally read. Mr. Scott a bill to change the place of holding elections in the second election district in Saint-Mary's—twice read and passed.

Mr. Warner delivers a report favourable to the petition of Benjamin Young. Read.

Mr. Washington delivers a report favourable to the petition of William Law. Read.

Mr. Hands delivers a bill authorizing the levy court of Talbot to appoint a person to take care of the court-house—twice read and passed. Mr. Prather a bill to authorise James Tidball to bring certain slaves into this state. Read.

Mr. Hands delivers a report unfavourable to the petition of sundry inhabitants of Talbot, for opening a public road through the land of John Goldsborough, esq; to Choptank river—Concurred with.

The clerk of the senate delivers the following communication from the Executive: In Council, Annapolis, Dec. 4, 1816. GENTLEMEN,

WE have the honour to inform you, that in pursuance of the powers vested in this department by a resolution of the last General Assembly, we have ceded to the general government the exclusive right of jurisdiction in and over the ground and territory on which Forts McHenry and Washington are erected.

The resolution appropriating the sum of five hundred dollars to defray the expense of collecting the public arms, being found to be wholly inadequate to the object, we have thought it advisable to refer the subject to your reconsideration.

The resolution appropriating money for the purchase of arms having been rescinded by the last General Assembly, we are under the necessity of referring to you the claim of Mr. J. Joseph-Henry, for rifles, delivered since the repeal of the resolution, under a contract entered into during its existence, with this department. We herewith enclose sundry resolutions from the states of Massachusetts, Ohio, Rhode-Island, Vermont, Virginia, and Tennessee.

We would submit to your consideration the propriety of taking steps for liquidating, at an early day, the state's claim against the General Government for the expenses incurred by the late war. For this purpose it will be necessary to appoint an agent, to exhibit and attend to the settlement of these claims. We deem it of primary importance that this subject should receive your early attention, as it must be within the recollection of the General Assembly, that the revenue of the state was found to be insufficient for the discharge of military claims and expenses, and that recourse was had to a loan to meet extraordinary disbursements rendered necessary for defence. It is hoped that the claim against the General Government will receive the attention due to it from Congress, and that the provision which they shall make for its payment, will furnish the means of redeeming this loan. Should this just expectation fail, it rests with the wisdom of the General Assembly to provide the necessary means for its redemption. We deem it to be our duty to bring to the notice of the General Assembly the situation of the claims of the State against individuals: By former resolutions the Executive was authorised to take whatever steps were deemed necessary, in order to recover or secure them. For obvious reasons it is impossible for this department to attend to this duty, and for want of proper attention to it considerable sums, which might be recovered, are lost every year. We take leave therefore to recommend the appointment of an officer, whose business it shall be to collect, or otherwise secure, such claims. We deem it proper to suggest, for your consideration, the necessity of a revision and amendment of the militia laws of this state. It is at all times of importance to have an efficient and practicable system, and it has been clearly shewn, by late experience, that the provisions of the present system are so radically defective, that the law is but a dead letter.

We have the honour to be, With great respect, Your obedient servants, C. RIDGELY, of Hampton. The Honourable the President of the Senate, and the Honourable the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Which, with the documents, were read.

Mr. R. Dorsey delivers a report favourable to the petition of Kasey Harrison. Read.

Leave given to bring in a bill to encourage the destruction of crows in St. Mary's.

Adjournd.

Saturday, Dec. 7.

Mr. Harryman delivers a bill to lay out a road near Hoofman's mill, in Baltimore county. Read.

The bill to make public and extend a road in Somerset county was passed and sent to the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Warner, Leave given to bring in a bill to incorporate a company to be styled The Independent Manufacturing Company of Baltimore.

Mr. Lanham delivers a report favourable to the petition of Lawrence Hurdle. Read.

Mr. Lanham delivers a bill to make valid a deed to James Ryan, of Montgomery. Read. Mr. R. Dorsey a bill to make public a road in Anne-Arundel—twice read, passed, and sent to the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Scott, Leave given to bring in a bill to revise and amend the act to regulate pilots, and establish their fees.

PETITIONS. From Alexander Moore, of Cecil, praying a confirmation of his title to certain real property. From sundry inhabitants of Queen-Anne's to complete the ditch on Unicorn Branch. From Mary Wyatt, of Caroline, for a support. From sundry inhabitants of Somerset, for the encouragement of internal improvements. Severally referred.

Mr. Banning from the committee of claims delivers the following report: By the Committee of Claims. Your Committee beg leave to report that they have examined the accounts and proceedings of Benjamin Harwood, Treasurer of the Western Shore of Maryland, and find by an account sent by the Committee of Claims to the first of November, one thousand and hundred and fifteen, there was a balance of 569,717 dollars and 83 cents. Exchanged 6 per cent stock: 335 dollars and 74 cents. Funded 3 per cent stock: 4,910 dollars and 13 cents. Emissions of bills of credit made by Act of Congress of the 18th of March 1780, and the sum of 76,667 dollars and 19 cents specie, remaining in the Treasury.

That it appears to your Committee by the accounts of the said Treasurer he hath received for Escheats, Grants and Improvements on Land, 2,871 dollars and 12 cents; for open accounts, 2,979 dollars and 88 cents; for bonds taken for money and stock lent, 11 dollars; for confiscated property, 31 dollars and 67 cents; for fines, losses and amercements, 2,652 dollars and 69 cents; for Marriage Licenses, 7,351 dollars and 81 cents; for ordinary retailers, hawkers and pedlers Licenses, 14,369 dollars and 78 cents; for the under the act for establishing and curing the salary to the Chancellor, 355 dollars and 66 cents; from the Treasurer of the Eastern Shore, 57 dollars and 80 cents; from the Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 9,027 dollars; from the Farmers Bank of Maryland, for dividend on stock, 15,200 dollars; from the Union Bank of Maryland, for dividend on stock, 3,392 dollars; from the Mechanics Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 11,237 dollars and 50 cents; from the Hager's Town Bank, for dividend on stock, 3,750 dollars; from the Commercial and Farmers Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 2,500 dollars; from the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 1,275 dollars; from the Marine Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 850 dollars; from the Franklin Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 1,425 dollars; from the Light Bank of Maryland, for dividend on stock, 1,000 dollars; from the Baltimore and York town Turnpike Road Company, for dividend on stock, 37 dollars; from the Baltimore and Frederick town Turnpike Road Company for dividend on stock, 1,815 dollars; and from Benjamin Harwood, Treasurer for dividend on stock of the U. States, 44,236 dollars and 12 cents.

It appears to your committee by the accounts of the said Treasurer, he hath paid the sum of 191 dollars & 25 cents agreeably to the Resolutions of November Session 1797, in discharge of the emissions of bills of credit of June 1780, which emissions your Committee have counted and bonded.

That it appears to your Committee the said Treasurer hath paid away from the first of November 1816, to the first of November 1815, the sum of 400 dollars of the bills of credit emitted by an act of Congress of the 18th of March 1780, and the sum of 155,353 dollars and 84 cents specie for all which payments have been produced to your Committee the necessary vouchers and receipts; and that there remains in the Treasury the sum of 569,717 dollars and 83 cents; exchanged six per cent stock of the United States, 335,104 dollars and 74 cents, funded three per cent stock of the United States, 4,910 dollars and 13 cents, of the emissions of bills of credit made by an act of Congress of the 18th of March 1780; and the sum of 57,515 dollars and 13 cents specie, which sum of specie is appropriated in the manner following, to wit: Balance of Cash in the Treasury, 87,515 12

Deduct appropriations due to the 1st of November 1816, and then remains unpaid. For the payment of the Civil List, 4,927 83. For the payment of the Judiciary, 10,706 36. For half pay due to officers & Soldiers, 10,051 65. For the payment of the Journals of Accounts, 3,858 69. For Indian Annuities, 43 34. To the Armies of the Eastern and Western Shores, 245 75. To the Adjutant General and Brigade Inspectors, 1,350 10. For the redemption of the Bills of Exchange drawn in virtue of an Act of November session 1779, 3,450 00.

That it appears to your Committee by the accounts of the said Treasurer, he hath received for Escheats, Grants and Improvements on Land, 2,871 dollars and 12 cents; for open accounts, 2,979 dollars and 88 cents; for bonds taken for money and stock lent, 11 dollars; for confiscated property, 31 dollars and 67 cents; for fines, losses and amercements, 2,652 dollars and 69 cents; for Marriage Licenses, 7,351 dollars and 81 cents; for ordinary retailers, hawkers and pedlers Licenses, 14,369 dollars and 78 cents; for the under the act for establishing and curing the salary to the Chancellor, 355 dollars and 66 cents; from the Treasurer of the Eastern Shore, 57 dollars and 80 cents; from the Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 9,027 dollars; from the Farmers Bank of Maryland, for dividend on stock, 15,200 dollars; from the Union Bank of Maryland, for dividend on stock, 3,392 dollars; from the Mechanics Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 11,237 dollars and 50 cents; from the Hager's Town Bank, for dividend on stock, 3,750 dollars; from the Commercial and Farmers Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 2,500 dollars; from the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 1,275 dollars; from the Marine Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 850 dollars; from the Franklin Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 1,425 dollars; from the Light Bank of Maryland, for dividend on stock, 1,000 dollars; from the Baltimore and York town Turnpike Road Company, for dividend on stock, 37 dollars; from the Baltimore and Frederick town Turnpike Road Company for dividend on stock, 1,815 dollars; and from Benjamin Harwood, Treasurer for dividend on stock of the U. States, 44,236 dollars and 12 cents.

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Deduct appropriations due to the 1st of November 1816, and then remains unpaid. For the payment of the Civil List, 4,927 83. For the payment of the Judiciary, 10,706 36. For half pay due to officers & Soldiers, 10,051 65. For the payment of the Journals of Accounts, 3,858 69. For Indian Annuities, 43 34. To the Armies of the Eastern and Western Shores, 245 75. To the Adjutant General and Brigade Inspectors, 1,350 10. For the redemption of the Bills of Exchange drawn in virtue of an Act of November session 1779, 3,450 00.

That it appears to your Committee by the accounts of the said Treasurer, he hath received for Escheats, Grants and Improvements on Land, 2,871 dollars and 12 cents; for open accounts, 2,979 dollars and 88 cents; for bonds taken for money and stock lent, 11 dollars; for confiscated property, 31 dollars and 67 cents; for fines, losses and amercements, 2,652 dollars and 69 cents; for Marriage Licenses, 7,351 dollars and 81 cents; for ordinary retailers, hawkers and pedlers Licenses, 14,369 dollars and 78 cents; for the under the act for establishing and curing the salary to the Chancellor, 355 dollars and 66 cents; from the Treasurer of the Eastern Shore, 57 dollars and 80 cents; from the Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 9,027 dollars; from the Farmers Bank of Maryland, for dividend on stock, 15,200 dollars; from the Union Bank of Maryland, for dividend on stock, 3,392 dollars; from the Mechanics Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 11,237 dollars and 50 cents; from the Hager's Town Bank, for dividend on stock, 3,750 dollars; from the Commercial and Farmers Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 2,500 dollars; from the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 1,275 dollars; from the Marine Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 850 dollars; from the Franklin Bank of Baltimore, for dividend on stock, 1,425 dollars; from the Light Bank of Maryland, for dividend on stock, 1,000 dollars; from the Baltimore and York town Turnpike Road Company, for dividend on stock, 37 dollars; from the Baltimore and Frederick town Turnpike Road Company for dividend on stock, 1,815 dollars; and from Benjamin Harwood, Treasurer for dividend on stock of the U. States, 44,236 dollars and 12 cents.