

The petition of sundry inhabitants of Baltimore county, praying to be admitted to take the oath of fidelity and support to this state: The memorial of Patrick M'Gill, of Anne-Arundel county: And the memorial of Robert Reith, door-keeper to the governor and council, were sent to the house of delegates by Matthew Tilgman, Esq;

The governor communicated to the senate the following message:

GENTLEMEN of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

OUR constitution and form of government having wisely provided an easy but cautious method for making such alterations therein as might, on experience, be found necessary; and the present session affording a good opportunity, I request you to take the subject into consideration, and to lay the foundation for such amendments as you may think needful and most agreeable to the circumstances of the state.

June 11, 1778.

TH. JOHNSON.

Which was read, and sent to the house of delegates by Joseph Nicholson, Esq;

The petition of Francis Holton, of York county, in Pennsylvania, and Sarah Geist, administratrix of Samuel Geist, of Anne-Arundel county, praying, That an act might pass the legislature to enable the administratrix to convey the land therein mentioned, which was heretofore sold by the intestate, in his life-time, to the said Francis Holton, was read, and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates, and sent by Charles Carroll, Esq; barrister.

Mr. Bruff and Mr. Hanson, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president a bill, entitled, An act relating to prisoners and deserters from the British army and navy, thus endorsed; "By the house of delegates, June 12, 1778: Read the first and second time, by especial order, and will pass.

"By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del."

Which was read the first and second time, by especial order, passed, and sent to the house of delegates by Thomas Contee, Esq;

The senate adjourns till 3 o'clock.

P O S T M E R I D I E M.

The senate met.

Mr. Chase and Mr. Smith, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president the following message:

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, June 12, 1778.

May it please your honours,

HIS excellency the governor having recommended to the general assembly to take into consideration the constitution and form of government, and this house, from experience, having discovered several imperfections therein; and as the mode prescribed for alterations and amendments is attended with considerable delay, think it will be highly expedient, in the course of this session, to lay the foundation of such amendments as may be thought necessary for the circumstances of the state: To accomplish this we propose, if agreeable to your honours, as the most eligible and expeditious method, a joint committee of both houses; should you concur with us in opinion, this house will be ready to appoint a committee to meet the gentlemen appointed by your honourable body.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Henry and Mr. R. Goldsborough, from the house of delegates, deliver to the president the following resolves:

HOUSE of DELEGATES, June 12, 1778.

WHEREAS it appears, by the letter signed Henry Lee, M. P. L. D. and directed to capt. William Lindsay, partisan corps of light dragoons, that the said Henry Lee, by virtue of powers and authority committed to him by the board of war, hath authorized, directed and empowered the said capt. Lindsay to seize, for the public service, such geldings belonging to the inhabitants of the peninsula formed by the Delaware and Chesapeake bays, as he may judge suitable for the dragoon service. In the execution of this power he is enjoined to discriminate between the well affected and disaffected; he is to pay particular attention to the speculators in the horse trade, whose pernicious traffick has so much enhanced the price of horses; he is directed to tender a generous price to the proprietors of the horse prior to seizure; should it not satisfy, he is to pay the appraisement of the horse as valued by two men on oath, the one chosen by himself, the other by the owner of the horse; should the proprietor refuse receiving the appraised value of his horse, he is to make him a tender of the sum before evidences, and bring off the horse, granting him a certificate purporting what he had done. In the exercise of this power, he is to regulate his conduct by discretion, and act with moderation:

RESOLVED, That this state has been particularly attentive to every proper application, and will at all times cheerfully afford every aid and assistance in support of the common cause.

RESOLVED,