

By the COMMITTEE appointed to enquire into the truth of the facts contained in the petition of William Smith, of Baltimore-Town, and to report thereon.

YOUR committee report, That it appears to them that Anne Ottey, heir at law of William Ottey, late of Baltimore county, deceased, and Anne Ottey, widow of the said William Ottey, for the consideration of seven hundred pounds current money, made and executed a deed of bargain and sale, dated the fourth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, of all the said William Ottey his part of the tracts of land called Islington, Northstead and Buck Range, which said part is contained within the lines, courses, and distances in the said deed mentioned, to the said William Smith, and his heirs; which said deed appears to be acknowledged before William Buchanan and William Spear, two of the justices for Baltimore county.

Your committee further report, that by the said deed it appears that Anne Ottey, one of the parties, received the sum of seven hundred pounds, the consideration money therein mentioned, but it does not appear that the said deed has been recorded. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

Signed by order of the com.

ARCHIBALD GOLDER, clk.

Which was read.

Leave given to bring in a bill to direct the recording of a deed to William Smith.

Mr. S. Chase brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to direct the recording of a deed to William Smith, which was read a first and second time by an especial order, passed, and sent to the senate by Mr. J. T. Chase and Mr. Read. They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker they delivered the bill.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock, and met accordingly.

The engrossed bill No. 17, read and assented to, and sent to the senate, with the paper bill thereof, by Mr. Bruff and Mr. Hammond.

George Plater, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill, entitled, An act to direct the recording of a deed to William Smith, thus endorsed; "By the senate, June 29, 1777: "Read the first and second time by especial order and will pass.

"By order,

A. C. HANSON, cl. sen."

The engrossed bill No. 19, read and assented to, and sent to the senate, with the paper bill thereof, by Mr. Ridgely and Mr. Stevenson.

Joseph Nicholson, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message:

By the S E N A T E, June 29, 1777.

Gentlemen,

THE surprize expressed in your message of yesterday afternoon, by Messieurs Ennalls and Veazy, could not have taken place on a cool and dispassionate consideration of the subject. We pretend not to boast of our intense application to the public business, nor can we think ourselves chargeable with neglect. 'Tis true, some time has been taken up in the revision of your bills; yet we flatter ourselves it has not been altogether mispent.

You will be pleased to consider, that under the supplementary bill, the assessment in Anne-Arundel and Harford counties cannot be made and returned to the commissioners sooner than the middle (probably the end) of September; and these with all other assessments are to be returned to the next session, to the end, we presume, that full information may be received by the assembly of the state of assessments; whereby they may be enabled to apply some general equal rule. Why then adjourn to a time, at least fourteen days (perhaps a month) before you can receive the information necessary to your entering on the business which confessedly is the occasion of your adjournment?

A meeting for the purpose of laying down the rule for an equal assessment of property, we think, cannot well be held so as to afford time to finish that business before the annual election takes place; and there is reason to fear, the result of such a meeting will be inconvenience and expence, without effecting the purpose designed by it.

These considerations prevail with us to think an adjournment to the time we proposed most proper; but as you hold the purse of the state, and we wish to give you every opportunity which you may judge necessary for the successful management of it, we will meet you at any time to which you may think fit to adjourn.

By order,

A. C. HANSON, cl. sen.

Which was read.

Charles Grahame, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the paper bills, No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, &c. to 19, inclusive, severally endorsed; "By the senate, June 29, 1777: "The engrossed bill, whereof this is the original, read and assented to.

"By order,

A. C. HANSON, cl. sen."

The house proceeded to make out a list of county lieutenants to be proposed to the senate for their concurrence, and recommended to the governor and the council, when the following was agreed to:

For