

trial; that in the year aforesaid, a number of the inhabitants of said county, unknown to the petitioner, took the said negro out of the gaol of the county aforesaid, and hanged him by the neck until he was dead; and therefore praying to be allowed the value of said slave.

Charles Grahame, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker a letter from his excellency the governor, of yesterday, enclosing a copy of a letter from the governor and council of the 26th of March, to lieut. col. Samuel Smith, upon the subject of enlisting servants contrary to a law of the state, together with lieut. col. Smith's answer to the same; which said letters were read.

William Hindman, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker a petition from sundry inhabitants of St. Mary's county, for establishing a public warehouse, thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 4, 1778: Read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

"By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen."

Which said petition was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Gibson delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, "An act empowering Robert Richardson and Thomas Kemp to sell and dispose of the real estate of Philip Wetherell, deceased, and to apply the money arising therefrom to special purposes therein mentioned; which was read the first and second time, by an especial order, passed, and sent to the senate by Mr. Gibson and Mr. Kent.

RESOLVED, That the governor and the council be requested to apply to congress for such number of effective arms and accoutrements as they can conveniently spare, for the use of this state, not exceeding ten thousand stand, and ten field-pieces: Provided such arms, accoutrements and field-pieces can be procured on such terms as the governor and the council shall think reasonable, and this state will be answerable for the same.

Sent up for concurrence by Mr. Sprigg and Mr. J. Barnes.

Mr. West has leave of absence till Monday next.

Mr. Sheredine, from the committee of elections and privileges, delivers to Mr. Speaker a report, which was read in the words following:

By the **COMMITTEE** of **ELECTIONS** and **PRIVILEGES**, April 4, 1778.

YOUR committee beg leave to report, That, during the last session of assembly, a warrant from the then speaker was directed to Philip Quinton, as sheriff of Worcester county, for holding an election for one delegate, to serve in the room of Peter Chaille, resigned. And by a letter from the said Philip Quinton it is certified, that, in consequence of the said warrant, after giving due notice thereof, he held an election on the 25th day of November last, when William Holland, Esq; was duly elected. It is certified, likewise, by the said Philip Quinton, that, prior to holding the said election, he had resigned his commission as sheriff of said county. Which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

Signed per order,

JOHN CALLAHAN, cl. com.

The house taking into consideration the report on the governor's letter of the 26th of March, and the letter and depositions therewith transmitted, **RESOLVED**, That a law ought to pass, empowering the governor and council to direct the militia to be called out in Somerset and Caroline counties, and also in any other counties they have good reason to believe are disaffected, otherwise than by classes, and in such manner as to the governor and council may appear most for the advantage of the common cause. That the governor and council be empowered and requested to cause one of the galleys and an armed boat to be fitted out and manned with all expedition, and give directions for such galley and boat to cruise in the sound, from Hooper's Straits to Watt's Island, and in the rivers adjacent to the sound, or such other places as they may direct, for the purpose of preventing all communication between the disaffected and the enemy's shipping. That the governor and the council be empowered and requested to cause an independent company of foot, to consist of one hundred men, besides officers, to be raised on the eastern side of Chesapeake bay, to be stationed in Somerset county and such other places as they may direct, to protect the well affected inhabitants, secure the provisions, and prevent and suppress insurrections. That the officers be such men as the governor and the council can confide in. That the company be raised to serve on the eastern shore only, and be enlisted for three years, or during the war, unless sooner disbanded by the general assembly. That the governor and the council be requested to send down to Somerset county part of the companies of matrosses now in this city and Baltimore-Town, there to continue until the independent company can be raised, or a sufficient number thereof, to answer the purpose. Leave given to bring in a bill in pursuance of the foregoing resolutions. **ORDERED**, That Mr. Maddux, Mr. L. Wilson, Mr. Quynn, Mr. Strawbridge, and Mr. J. Hall, do prepare and bring in the same.

On a second reading the petition of Barnaby Egan, **ORDERED**, That Mr. Somervill and Mr. Chew be a committee to enquire into the facts, and report the same, together with their opinion thereon, to the house.

Adjourned till 3 o'clock.