

# VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, APRIL, 1783. 3

A petition from Alexander M<sup>c</sup>Allen, of Worcester county, praying a confirmation of his father's will, was preferred and read; and Mr. Morris, Mr. Dashiell, and Mr. Duckett, were appointed a committee to consider and report thereon.

ORDERED, That the petition of David Brown and Henry Wilson, executors of John Cornthwaite, referred from the last session to the present, be referred to the above committee, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Richard Davis, of Frederick county, praying an act may pass, giving him an estate in fee simple to certain tracts of land willed him by his father, was preferred and read, and referred to the committee on Alexander M<sup>c</sup>Allen's petition, to consider and report thereon.

On motion, ORDERED, That Mr. Kent, Mr. Morris, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Ridgely, and Mr. Stone, be a committee to examine into and report the state and condition of the late prerogative office, what time in their opinion it will take to sort and pack into boxes the original papers belonging to each county, and what sum of money will be sufficient to defray the expences of boxes, packing, &c.

On motion, ORDERED, That Mr. Morris, Mr. Stone, Mr. Dent, Mr. Duvall, and Mr. Quynn, be a committee to consider and report on the petitions, &c. referred from the last session to the present.

The house adjourns till 3 o'clock.

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

The house met. Mr. Sherwood appeared in the house.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

## T H U R S D A Y, May 8, 1783.

**T**HE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

A petition from James Chester, of Baltimore county, praying compensation for his services as recruiting officer in the district of Baltimore, was preferred and read, and referred to the next session of assembly.

Mr. Morris, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report: **T**HE committee, to whom was referred the petition of Alexander M<sup>c</sup>Allen, of Worcester county, beg leave to report, That it appears the will of Arthur M<sup>c</sup>Allen hath only two subscribing witnesses thereto, and that in the said will there is a devise of sundry parcels of land to the petitioner, subjecting him, in consequence thereof, to the payment of sundry legacies, which legacies it appears have also been paid by him. Your committee are clearly of opinion, that the want of another witness to the said will was solely owing to the testator's ignorance of the law, as set forth in the petition, and that his intention of vesting the lands in the said will to the petitioner ought not to be frustrated by a defect of formality, do therefore recommend that a law should pass, making valid the will of the said Arthur M<sup>c</sup>Allen, in the same manner, to all intents and purposes, as though the same had been subscribed by three witnesses. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

G. RANKEN, clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Morris, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report: **T**HE committee, to whom was referred the petition of David Brown and Henry Wilson, executors of John Cornthwaite, of Baltimore county, beg leave to report, That it appears to them, that the facts stated in the petition are true, and that a law ought to pass, to make valid the will of the said John Cornthwaite, in the same manner, to all intents and purposes, as if the same had been subscribed by three witnesses. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

G. RANKEN, clk.

Which was read.

A petition from Elizabeth Margaret Littig, of Baltimore county, setting forth, that her husband, by his last will and testament, devised his estate to her during her widowhood; but in case she should marry, that then the whole should be divided between herself and her two sons; and praying a law may pass, to empower her to lease the said estate, for the advantage of herself and two sons; was preferred and read.

A petition from John Buckman, of Saint Mary's county, praying a law may pass, empowering the justices of Saint Mary's county court to levy a sum of money for the support of his son, who is an idiot, was preferred and read, and referred to Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ridgely, and Mr. Keene, to consider and report thereon.

John Henry, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker a memorial from Thomas Russell and William Augustine Washington, praying the sale of the Principio lands may be prolonged; which