

commissioners for the faithful execution of their trust, and thereupon the said commissioners shall fix upon a time and place for hearing the allegations of the parties, and shall give sufficient notice thereof by public advertisement, for the information of the creditors and all persons concerned; and the said commissioners shall accordingly meet at such time and place, and then and there hear, receive and examine, by all lawful ways and means, the allegations, proofs, books, papers and vouchers, of the parties, and make a distinct report of all and singular the facts appearing in the case, to the chancellor, with all convenient speed; and the chancellor shall thereupon determine upon the truth of the respective allegations, and if it shall appear that the said Dennis Griffith hath been guilty of any fraud, embezzlement or concealment of his property, with design to deceive or injure his creditors, or any of them, then the said Dennis Griffith shall receive no benefit or relief in virtue of this act; but if the chancellor shall be of a different opinion, then the said Dennis Griffith shall proceed to relieve himself according to the directions of the act to which this is a supplement, in the same manner as if this power had not been vested in the chancellor; and each of the said commissioners shall be entitled to receive, from the property of the said Dennis Griffith, at the rate of twenty shillings by the day for each day they shall be employed in this service."

Which was read.

Mr. Speaker laid before the house the following report:

To the honourable the HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

THE auditor begs leave to lay before your honours the following accounts:

No. 1 contains the western shore treasurer's account, by which you will see the expenditures from the first of November, 1789, to the first of November, 1790, also the balances and appropriations of specie.

No. 2 is an estimate of the state debt, which he has endeavoured to make as nearly correct as possible, by which it appears that the balance of the principal and interest, exclusive of the bank stock, amounts to the sum of eleven thousand two hundred and sixty-three pounds nineteen shillings and three-pence to the credit of the state.

No. 3 is a list of balances remaining on the books of his office, amounting to ninety thousand nine hundred and thirty-four pounds of tobacco, two hundred and seventeen thousand eight hundred and fifty-one pounds six shillings and three farthings old continental money, four thousand and thirty-five pounds thirteen shillings and one half-penny state and state continental money, eight thousand six hundred and twenty-eight pounds three shillings and nine-pence red money, and seven thousand nine hundred and ninety-two pounds nineteen shillings and two-pence specie, unaccounted for.

The money and tobacco has been advanced at different periods of the war, and for various purposes, and though, in many instances, its probable it may have been expended agreeable to the intentions for which it was put into their hands, yet few have applied for a settlement, and some of those have not been able to produce to your auditor evidence thereof, which he conceives would justify his adjusting the same, from the length of time, which has occasioned the loss of vouchers, and, in many instances, the death of the parties.

Your auditor begs leave to suggest to the consideration of your honours, whether it would not facilitate a settlement to provide for such cases as may come under the aforementioned description, and if it should appear just to your honours, to enable your auditor to pass accounts for the balance where it appears to be due to the party, from which he conceives, by the act of limitation for bringing in claims, he is precluded.

He has the honour to be,

With great respect,

Your obedient and humble servant,

R. DENNY, Auditor.

Auditor's-office, 10th December, 1790.

Which was read.

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

SATURDAY, December 11, 1790.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Owings appeared in the house. On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act to prevent sheriffs or collectors from distraining the goods of the citizens of this state, after being out of office for the time therein mentioned. ORDERED, That Mr. Tilghman, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Beatty, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Smith, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, A supplement to the act, entitled, An act to prevent the exportation of bread and flour not merchantable, and for other purposes; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of Stephen Masters, was read the second time, and the resolution therein mentioned assented to.

On motion, the question was put, That the committee of claims allow the executor of the late Henry Dickinson, treasurer of the eastern shore, the sum of sixty pounds seven shillings and six-pence on the journal of accounts, for that sum stolen out of the treasury chest of the eastern shore? Determined in the negative.

A petition from the securities of John Beall, late collector of Prince-George's county, praying that the books and papers of the said Beall may be delivered over to them, with power to collect the balances due