

The committee appointed to consider the truth of the facts set forth in a memorial from the justices of Baltimore county court, and report their opinion thereon,

Do report, That the uneasiness in the minds of many of the inhabitants of Baltimore county arises from the uncommon increase of taxes therein, extraordinary assessments being made for the erecting public buildings and bridges, clearing, straightening, opening, grubbing, and stoning roads, and paying their proportion towards building a prison, court house, &c. in Harford county.

That sundry inhabitants of Baltimore county were and are averse to clearing, opening, and straightening said roads, and intended to petition the legislative body of this province for a repeal of the law authorising the same, or an alteration thereof in such parts as they apprehended aggrieved them; but being prevented by the unhappy disputes subsisting between the colonies and Great Britain from making application for redress of such apprehended grievances to the assembly of this province, they have been led into an unlawful and unwarrantable opposition to the collection of the public taxes, which the necessary embargo laid on our ports has tendered greatly to increase.

That a great number of the said inhabitants have paid the said taxes, and they being imposed by virtue of sundry acts of the assembly, your committee are of opinion, the residue of the said inhabitants are in duty bound to pay those already assessed, as they clearly had it in their power to discharge them, the ports being open and a price offered for all manner of country produce till the 10th of September last.

That the remainder of the said money, directed by the said acts of assembly to be levied, ought, by the justices of the said county, pursuant to the said acts, to be assessed; but if trade and commerce should not be restored in such manner as to enable the people of the said county to discharge the said taxes, that the legislative authority for the time being ought, in such circumstances, to suspend the payment of the same (except such part thereof as shall be assessed for the paying for the building of the poor house and inspection house in said county) or take order therein in such other way as to them shall seem most expedient.

That it is the opinion of this committee, that the money appropriated for loan, to the inhabitants of Baltimore county, for clearing and opening roads, by act of assembly, and delivered out by the commissioners for emitting bills of credit to the supervisors of said roads, or so much thereof as hath been expended, and all sums levied or hereafter to be levied on the inhabitants of said county, for the pur-