

of this province against the payment of levies, such conduct evidently leading to throw this province into disorder, confusion and anarchy desired by the inveterate enemies and dreaded by the real friends to American liberty.

*Resolved* therefore, that this convention will, if necessary, aid the officers with their utmost power, in the collection of the levies which ought to have been paid in the summer past; yet those officers are requested not to distract the effects of those whose extreme poverty disables them from paying.

*Resolved*, That the justices of the several county courts ought to assess the inhabitants of their counties, agreeable to the acts of assembly of this province; but as the people may not be able, if the unhappy differences with Great Britain should continue, to pay the whole of the assessments for building court houses, churches, and for the like extraordinary charges, and a convention will probably again meet before the time of payment, the legislative authority for the time being will make further order, as to the payment of such assessments as the circumstances of the people may require, and the application of the money assessed will admit; it being the fixed intention of this convention to support order in the community, and ease the good people of this province as far as possible.

On reading the following application of John Archer and James Harris of Harford county:

“Gentlemen,

December 6, 1775.

“We are fully convinced of the public utility of factories, and would therefore make an overture to you to undertake a flax or hemp manufactory. To carry on the above branch of business to any effect, we should stand in need of £300, which we would engage to remit in linen of such sizes as you would recommend, at the following times; one third of the above sum the first of June next, one third more on the first of September, and the remaining third the first of December, 1776; the cost we will cheerfully transmit therewith, and leave the price to the honorable convention.

JOHN ARCHER,

JAMES HARRIS.

To the delegates of Harford county now sitting in convention.”

*Resolved*, That the sum of three hundred pounds, out of the treasury of this province, be advanced to the said John Archer and Jas. Harris, agreeable to their application aforesaid, on their giving bond with good security, payable to the honorable Matthew Tilghman, Esq. Thomas Johnson, jun. and Charles Carroll, barrister, Esquires, conditioned for the performance of the terms in the said application mentioned.