

The petition of Purnal Johnson was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Dallam appeared in the house.

On reading a second time the petition of Philemon Downes, late sheriff of Queen Anne's county, and considering the same, *Resolved*, That the case therein stated is provided for in the resolutions of the convention held the twenty-sixth of July last, and that the committee for licensing suits in Queen Anne's county ought to grant licenses to sue or warrant as the case may require, under the limitations expressed in the said resolves of July.

The memorial of Francis Baker of Talbot county was read a second time and considered, and thereupon, *Resolved*, That the same be rejected.

On considering the representation from the committee of Talbot county of the case of Alexander Wickham, *Resolved*, That he be discharged, *being a person too insignificant and contemptible for the further notice of this convention.*

On motion, *Resolved*, That in all cases in which the council of safety, or any committee of observation within this province, shall be in want of a witness or witnesses in any fact properly depending before them, that they issue subpœna requiring the attendance of the said witness or witnesses, at a time and place by the said council or committee to be appointed; and in case of disobedience, that they issue attachment of contempt, directed to some captain of the militia, requiring him to take the body of the witness or witnesses disobeying as aforesaid, and he or they being before the said council or committee, to answer the contempt, and may fine the said witness or witnesses not exceeding the sum of five pounds current money. And if it shall happen that any witness shall refuse to declare on oath the truth of his or her knowledge touching the fact under the consideration of such council or committee, that they have full power and authority to commit such witness to the custody of some captain of militia within the county where such witness resides, and by him to be safely kept until such witness shall comply as aforesaid. Provided always, that this resolution shall not be understood to compel witnesses to give evidence in cases in which they are interested, and they declare the same on oath when required.

*Resolved*, That the expenses arising on such attachment or commitment, be defrayed out of the property of the person attached or committed.

Adjourned till 3 o'clock.