

council of safety for the time being, take the whole number contracted for on the account and for the use of the public.

The petitions of Patrick Obryan and John Brown, late farmers of his lordship's Quit-rents in Queen-Anne's county, were severally read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Ringgold brings in and delivers to Mr. President, a report from the committee appointed to examine into the expenditure of the money placed in the hands of Mr. William Lux, as agent for the ship Defence, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from George Adams was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the convention resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to consider of the late intercepted letters to governor Eden, the proceedings of the continental congress, and of the council of safety of this province, thereupon; Mr. Plater in the chair. After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. Plater reported from the committee several resolutions, which were read and agreed to, and thereupon,

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this convention, that the council of safety of this province, upon the subject of the late intercepted letters to governor Eden, duly and properly exercised the powers delegated to them.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this convention, that upon the evidence before them of the correspondence which his excellency governor Eden has, from to time, held with administration, it does not appear that such correspondence has been with an unfriendly intent, or calculated to countenance any hostile measures against America.

*Whereas*, by a late intercepted letter from lord George Germain, one of the secretaries of state, to his excellency the governor, it appears that a great armament of land and sea forces were in readiness to proceed to the southward, in his lordships's expressions, "in order to attempt the restoration of legal government in that part of America," but in effect to invade and subdue the southern colonies; which armament was to proceed in the first place to North Carolina, and from thence either to South Carolina or Virginia, as circumstances of greater or less advantage should point out; if to the latter, it might have very important consequences to this province; and therefore in the said letter his excellency is called on well to consider of every means, by which he may, in conjunction with lord Dunmore, give facility and assistance to the operations of the said armament. And whereas, the governor must, if he re-