

The Committee on Pensions and Revolutionary Claims to which was referred the Memorial of H. M. Fitzhugh Administrator of William Fitzhugh, beg leave to report. That they have taken the Memorial into consideration and from evidence offered before them are satisfied that the facts therein set forth, are correct. They have ascertained, that William Fitzhugh; a half pay Captain on the British establishment, took an early and decided stand on behalf of the cause of freedom. He threw up his British Commission and being too old for service, ~~maintained~~ <sup>maintained</sup> two of his Sons in the Revolutionary Army during the war. In consequence of his great zeal, he became peculiarly obnoxious to the enemy, who in the course of the war, burnt and destroyed property and carried off Slaves to the amount of nearly fifteen thousand dollars, as was established by proof taken at the time and filed in the State Archives. They have seen many original petitions of the said William Fitzhugh taken from the Archives of the House asking for Compensation for his losses,

thus incurred, he believing, that he ought to be paid out of the fund arising from the confiscated property of the Tories. But the Legislature, never granted him any other relief than to pass the Resolution referred to in the Memorial of the Administrator, being N<sup>o</sup>. 10. of November Session, Seventeen hundred and Ninety One, which allowed him the half pay of a Captain on the British Establishment, from the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September Seventeen hundred and Eighty three, to the first day of November Seventeen hundred and Ninety One and the Treasurer was ordered to issue him a Certificate therefor, bearing legal interest - your Committee have further ascertained that no such Certificate was ever issued or paid by the Treasurer to the said William Fitzhugh, in his life time, or to his representatives, since his decease - This Administrator, therefore prays for relief, asking that the State will not by reason of the lapse of time, refuse to pay a claim so clearly established, It appears to your Committee, that this claim is unquestionably just, and that the State cannot with honor interpose, any bar in the nature of limitation to its payment. whether the whole interest

up to the present time should be paid is another question, inasmuch however, as the Committee, have no present means of Ascertaining the Amount of the half pay of a Captain on the British Establishment at the time specified, in the resolution and cannot therefore arrive at any basis on which to found a recommendation for specific Appropriation to pay the claim according to the terms of the Constitution — your Committee prefer to report the following joint Resolutions referring the matter for proof to the Comptroller of the State, in the manner therein specified, leaving the payment of the claim, to the future action of the General Assembly, and ask to be discharged &c.

### Joint Resolutions.

1<sup>st</sup> Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, that the Comptroller of the State, shall forthwith ascertain and compute what Amount is due to the Estate of <sup>the</sup> late William Fitzhugh, of Calvert County, under and by virtue of the Resolution N<sup>o</sup> 10, of the General Assembly of the State of Maryland, passed at November Session, in the year Seventeen hundred and Ninety One, and in Ascertaining said Amount, the Comptroller, shall first Ascertain by Satisfactory

evidence, to be laid before him, the Amount of the half pay of a Captain on the British Establishment, as at the date of said recited Resolution, and secondly shall compute the Amount Allowed by said resolution, on the principles therein set forth, in the same manner as if the Certificate therein provided for, had actually issued to said Fitzhugh.

2<sup>nd</sup> Resolved, That so soon as said Amount shall be ascertained by the Comptroller as aforesaid, he shall file among the Archives in his Office, a Certificate of the Amount so Ascertained, for the further Action of the General Assembly of Maryland.

By the Senate  
March 10<sup>th</sup> 1856  
Read and assented to,  
Per Order

By the H. of Delegates  
March 10<sup>th</sup> 1856  
Read and assented to  
Per Order

C. Harwood, Secy

Thos. A. Kent, Clk.

Examined by  
Samuel M. Tommes  
Edw. Watkins

Recess

Filed March 13<sup>th</sup> 1856

Apr 10

Apr 11