

United States and Spain being signed, which took place at Madrid 27th last month and the 3d instant, Mr. Pinckney and Mr. Short, understand, set out for France."

Annapolis, January 28.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, in the case of ROBERT RANDALL and CHARLES WHITNEY.

INFORMATION being given to the house, by the following members in their places, to wit: Mr. Smith, of South Carolina, Mr. Murray, of Maryland, and Mr. Giles, of Virginia, that a person of the name of Robert Randall, had made or communicated to them, respectively, certain overtures to obtain their support in this house, to a memorial intended to be presented by the said Robert Randall, on behalf of himself and others, for the grant of a tract of land, containing between or twenty millions of acres, bordering on lakes Erie, Michigan and Huron, and lying within the limits of the United States; for which support the said members, respectively, were promised to receive of the said Robert Randall and his associates, a consideration or emolument in lands or money; and this house regarding the said information as sufficient evidence of a contempt to, and breach of the privileges of this house, in an unwarrantable attempt to corrupt the integrity of its members.

RESOLVED, That Mr. Speaker do issue his warrant directed to the serjeant at arms attending this house, commanding him to take into custody, wherever he be found, the body of the said Robert Randall, and the same in his custody to keep, subject to the farther order and direction of the house.

A warrant pursuant to the said resolution, was accordingly prepared, signed by Mr. Speaker, under his seal, attested by the clerk, and delivered to the serjeant, with order forthwith to execute the same, and make due return thereof to the house.

Information being also given to the house, by Mr. Buck, one of the members from Vermont, of an application to him by a person of the name of Charles Whitney, by which there is good reason to believe, that the said Whitney is a partner and associate of the before named Randall, and equally concerned in the business and overtures of the said Randall; a similar warrant was ordered, signed, and delivered to the serjeant as aforesaid, for taking into his custody, the body of the said Charles Whitney, subject in like manner to the further order and direction of the house.

Tuesday, 29th December, 1795.

The serjeant at arms having returned, on the warrants issued to him yesterday, that he had executed the same on the bodies of Robert Randall and Charles Whitney, the persons therein named, and that he now had them in his custody, subject to the further order and direction of the house: It was, on motion,

RESOLVED, That a committee of privileges, to consist of seven members, be appointed, and that the said committee be instructed to report a mode of proceeding in the case of Robert Randall and Charles Whitney, who were taken into custody yesterday, by order of the house, and that the said committee have leave to sit immediately.

ORDERED, That Mr. Baldwin, Mr. William Smith, Mr. Giles, Mr. Murray, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Coit and Mr. Goodhue, be appointed a committee, pursuant to the said resolution.

Mr. Baldwin, from the committee of privileges, to whom it was referred to report a mode of proceeding in the case of Robert Randall and Charles Whitney, made a report, which was read, considered, and agreed to by the house, as follows:

RESOLVED, That the said Robert Randall and Charles Whitney, be brought to the bar of this house, and interrogated by the speaker, touching the information given against them; on written interrogatories, which, with the answers thereto, shall be entered on the minutes of the house: And that every question proposed by a member, be reduced to writing, and a motion made, that the same may be put by the speaker. That after such interrogatories are answered, if the house deem it necessary to make any further inquiry on the subject, the same be conducted by a committee to be appointed for that purpose.

The said Robert Randall was accordingly brought to the bar of the house, in custody of the serjeant; and the charge against him, as stated in the journal of yesterday, being read, he was interrogated by Mr. Speaker, "whether he did admit, or deny the truth of the said charge?" to which interrogatory he answered, that he was not prepared to admit or deny the same; but requested that time might be allowed him to make answer, and offer a vindication of his conduct, until the day after to-morrow: Whereupon,

It was ordered, that the said Robert Randall, do now withdraw in custody, until the house shall presently decide on his request.

The said Robert Randall accordingly withdrew, in custody, and after debate,

It was resolved by the house, that time be allowed him, until to-morrow, twelve o'clock, to make answer, in conformity to his request.

RESOLVED ALSO, That it be an addition to the charge against the said Robert Randall, "that he informed a member of this house, that a number of the members of this house, not less than thirty, had engaged; or were engaged to support his memorial and application; or words to that effect."

The said Robert Randall was then returned to the bar, in custody, and notified by Mr. Speaker, of the indulgence, and further proceeding, of the house, respecting him: after which,

It was ordered, that the said Robert Randall be detained in custody of the serjeant, and brought up again to the bar of the house, to-morrow at twelve o'clock.

Charles Whitney, the other person named in the warrant of Mr. Speaker, was then brought to the bar, in custody of the serjeant, and the charge against him, as stated in the journal of the proceeding of yesterday, being read, the following interrogatories were propounded to him; by Mr. Speaker: to which he gave the respective answers thereto subjoined.

Question. What is your name?
Answer. Charles Whitney.

Question. Where do you reside?

Answer. In the state of Vermont.

Question. What is your occupation?

Answer. I am a farmer.

Question. When did you come to this city?

Answer. About the first of this month.

Question. Where is your usual abode whilst in this city?

Answer. At the Green-tree tavern, in Fourth-street.

Question. Are you, or are you not guilty of the charge which has been read to you, of being a partner and associate of Robert Randall, and equally concerned in the business and overtures of the said Randall?

Answer. I am not guilty: I am equally concerned with Mr. Randall in the present land business, but am ignorant of any improper motives, or improper conduct of the said Randall therein; and can only answer for myself.

Question. Are any other persons associated with Mr. Randall and yourself, in this business, and what appropriations or disposition of the said lands did you design to make?

Answer. Colonel Pepure, and Mr. Jones of Massachusetts, and col. Ebenezer Allen, of Vermont, agreed to associate with us in this business; and it was our intention to divide it into forty-one shares, and associate with us such other influential characters as we could engage, in order to divide with us the great expense, and trouble of the undertaking.

Question. Are any persons within the British lines associated with you in this business?

Answer. Yes.—Mr. Atkins, senior, Mr. Atkins, junior, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Innis, a Mr. Pattenon, merchants and traders residing at Detroit, and its vicinity, are concerned with us.

Question. Are any of the persons you have named at Detroit, as concerned with you, in civil or military commission under the British government?

Answer. Yes.—Mr. Atkins, the elder, is said to be in civil commission, as a judge.

Question. Have you any instrument of association between your self and partners?

Answer. I have; it is signed by the persons last named, and is, I believe, now at my lodgings.

Question. Have you any objections to produce the said instrument?

Answer. I don't know that I have; but being without counsel I wish for time to reflect upon it.

Question. Are you acquainted with a person of the name of John Gove, and did you make application to him to become an associate with you?

Answer. I am acquainted with Mr. Gove, and did apply to him, to become an associate; to which I understood him to have agreed.

Question. Where does Mr. Gove lodge?

Answer. At the Green tree tavern, in Fourth street.

Question. Was Mr. Gove authorized by you, to apply to any members of congress in favour of your proposal?

Answer. I did mention to Mr. Gove, that he might apply to the members in favour of our proposal.

Question. Were there any shares of the said land to be left open or unappropriated, between you and your associates?

Answer. There were shares left open to be filled at my pleasure.

Question. Did you make any, and what application to Mr. Buck, one of the members of this house, from the state of Vermont, to support your application?

Answer. I did apply to Mr. Buck, at his house in Vermont, and represented to him, generally, the nature and advantages of our plan; but I made no proposal to him of benefit or advantage to himself or of other improper inducement.

Mr. Buck then informed the house, that the said Charles Whitney had made overtures to him in Vermont, offering a share in land, or an equivalent in money; or words to that effect: Whereupon,

It was moved and seconded, that the said Charles Whitney do now withdraw in custody, and that all further proceedings respecting him be adjourned until to-morrow, twelve o'clock.

And, on a question taken, the same was ordered accordingly; with an instruction to the serjeant, to keep him separate and apart from Robert Randall.

Wednesday, 30th December, 1795.

A petition of Robert Randall, in custody of the serjeant at arms, was presented to the house and read, praying that he may be indulged with the assistance of counsel, and a reasonable time to prepare for his defence, on the charges now depending against him before the house: Whereupon,

It was resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be granted.

The said Robert Randall was then brought to the bar, in custody of the serjeant, and it being demanded of him by Mr. Speaker, "what further time he required to prepare for his defence?" he answered until Friday next.

RESOLVED, That further time be allowed the said Robert Randall, until Friday next, to prepare for his defence; and that in the mean time, he be remanded in custody of the serjeant, until further order.

The speaker laid before the house, an instrument of writing, purporting to be, "articles of agreement entered into and concluded at Detroit, the twenty-sixth day of September, in the year of our lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, for the purpose of obtaining the pre-emption right from the United States of America, and extinguishing the right of the native Indians to a certain territory therein defined, containing by computation, eighteen or twenty millions of acres, and lying on lakes Erie, Huron and Michigan, between Ebenezer Allen and Charles Whitney, of the state of Vermont, and Robert Randall of the city of Philadelphia, on the one part; and John Atkin, Jonathan Scheffelin, William Robertson, John Atkin, junior, David Robertson, Robert Innis and Richard Pattenon, all of Detroit, of the other part;" which instrument of writing had been given up by Charles Whitney to the serjeant at arms, and by the serjeant delivered to the speaker.

The said instrument of writing was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Charles Whitney was then brought to the bar, in custody of the serjeant, and the further information against him, by Mr. Buck, one of the members from Vermont, as stated in the journal of the proceedings of yesterday, being read to him, he was interrogated by

Mr. Speaker, "whether he did admit or deny the same?" To which he answered, that he did wholly deny the same: Whereupon,

It was ordered, that he be remanded to the custody of the serjeant, until further order of the house: and On motion,

It was resolved, that the committee of privileges be instructed to consider and report to this house, the proper mode of conducting the further inquiry, and the trial in the case of Robert Randall and Charles Whitney.

Thursday, 31st December, 1795.

The speaker laid before the house, a letter from Robert Randall, in custody of the serjeant, stating that the engagements of the gentlemen of the bar of this city, will prevent them from assisting him as counsel, until Saturday evening; and praying a farther postponement of the proceedings respecting him, until the earliest part of next week, which was read: Whereupon,

ORDERED, That further time be allowed the said Robert Randall, until Monday next, in conformity to his request.

Mr. Baldwin, from the committee of privileges, to whom it was referred to consider and report on the proper mode of conducting the further inquiry, and the trial in the case of Robert Randall and Charles Whitney, made a report, which was read, and debate arising thereon,

An adjournment was called for.

[To be continued.]

FOR SALE,

AN elegant PHAETON, built on the most fashionable construction, with a set of the best London plated HARNESS. The carriage is in no manner injured. Apply to the printers hereof.

NOTICE.

THE subscriber intends to petition the next Charles county court for a commission to mark and bound the tract of land called BOARMAN'S MANOR, lying in Charles county, under an act of assembly, entitled, An act for marking and bounding lands.

JAMES BOARMAN.
Bryan-town, January 27, 1796.

Five Pounds Reward.

RAN away from the subscriber a negro man named HARRY, about five feet six inches high, twenty-four years old, knock kneed, large wide mouth, which, when he laughs, he spreads very much, and half shuts his eyes, he lisps and speaks thick, especially when surprised or frightened; he had on a new white cotton jacket and trousers of the same cloth, rather short and pieced at bottom, an old wool hat, brown linen shirt, white yarn stockings, and strong shoes with hob nails in the soles and large broad headed nails in the heels. Whoever takes up the said negro, and secures him so as his master gets him again, shall receive the above reward, and if brought home, reasonable charges, paid by

JAMES CHESTON.

Well-river, January 7, 1796.

Thirty Dollars Reward.

RAN away in May last a negro man named JOHN, a carpenter, a black lully fellow, with a scar under one of his eyes, and on the 6th instant, eloped negro BEN, a small black fellow, with one of his fingers hurt by some accident. Whoever will deliver me the above negroes, or secures them in the Annapolis gaol, shall be paid the reward above, or FIFTEEN DOLLARS for either of them.

BENNETT DARNALL, near Pig Point.

January 21, 1796.

By virtue of a writ of fieri facias, from the general court, to me directed, will be SOLD, at the house of EDWARD SPURRIER, at Elk-Ridge Landing, on Saturday the 13th day of February,

A TRACT of land called HERBERT'S CARE, containing about 200 acres, taken as the property of WILLIAM PITT GRIFFITH, and sold to satisfy a debt due to ARCHIBALD MONCRIEFF and ROBERT DORSEY. The sale to begin at 12 o'clock.

RICHARD HARWOOD, Sheriff

of Anne-Arundel county.

January 12, 1796.

A LIST of LETTERS remaining in the Post-Office, Piscataway, which, if not taken up before the first day of April, will be sent to the General Post-Office as dead letters.

JOHN ADDISON.

Thos. Brown.
Mrs. Susannah Brewer.
Henry Clarvoe.
Benjamin Cawood.
Samuel Crawford, 3 letters.
Nicholas Crasco.
Edward Edelen, Esq.
Thos. Mudd, near Piscatay.
John Murphy, merchant, Piscatay.
Benjamin Oden.
Leonard Robey, 2 letters.

ISIDORE HARDEY.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of JOHN NORRIS, late of Anne-Arundel county, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims to make them known, to MARTIN NORRIS, Administrator, Anne-Arundel county, Well-river, Jan. 8, 1796.