

es delivered since the repeal of the resolution, under a contract entered into during its existence with his department.

We herewith enclose sundry resolutions from the states of Massachusetts, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Louisiana and Tennessee.

We would submit to your consideration the propriety of taking steps for liquidating at an early day the state's claim against the general government for the expenses incurred by the late war. For this purpose it will be necessary to appoint an agent to exhibit and attend to the settlement of these claims. We deem of primary importance that this subject should receive your early attention, as it must be within the recollection of the general assembly, that the revenue of the state was found to be insufficient for the discharge of military claims and expenses, and that recourse was had to a loan to meet extraordinary disbursements, rendered necessary for defence. It is hoped that the claim against the general government will receive the attention due to it from congress, and that the provision which they should make for its payment will furnish the means of redeeming this loan. Should this just expectation fail, it rests with the wisdom of the general assembly to provide the necessary means for its redemption.

We deem it to be our duty to bring to the notice of the general assembly the situation of the claims of the state against individuals. By former resolutions the executive was authorized to take whatever steps were deemed necessary, in order to recover or secure them. For obvious reasons it is impossible for this department to attend to this duty, and for want of proper attention to it considerable sums which might be recovered are lost every year. We take leave therefore, to recommend the appointment of an officer whose business it shall be to collect or otherwise secure such claims. We deem it proper to suggest for your consideration, the necessity of a revision and amendment of the militia laws of this state. It is of great importance to have an efficient and practicable system, and it has been clearly shewn by late experience, that the provisions of the present system are so radically defective that the law is but a dead letter.

We have the honour to be, with great respect, your obedient servants,

CHS RIDGELY, of Hampt.

Which with the accompanying documents, were read and ordered to be printed.

Abraham D. Mitchell, Esquire, a delegate from Cecil county, appeared, qualified, and took his seat.

Mr. R. Dorsey from the committee delivers the following report :

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Kensey Harrison, of Anne-Arundel county, report, that they have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the treasurer of the western shore be and he is hereby directed to pay to Kensey Harrison, of Anne-Arundel county, late a private in the revolutionary war, or to his order, annually, in quarterly payments, a sum of money equal to the half pay of a private, during his life, as a further remuneration for his services.

By order,

M. LATIMER, Clk.

Which was read.

On motion by Mr. Blakistone, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act to encourage the destruction of crows in Saint Mary's county. Ordered, That Messrs. Blakistone, Causin and H. Watts, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The house adjourns until to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, December 7, 1816.

The house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read, The bill, entitled, An act for the benefit of John Shick of Washington county ; the bill authorising the county court of Talbot county to appoint a suitable person to take care of the court house in said county ; the bill, entitled, A supplement to the act, entitled, An act to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from the square in the town of Boonsborough, in Washington county, to Swearingen's ferry on the Potomac river ; the bill to authorise the sale of a house and lot at the Hole in the Wall, in Talbot county, for the benefit of Susan and Lydia Cox, the infant daughters of Charles Cox, deceased ; the bill to provide for the completing the unfinished records of the orphans court of Frederick county ; the bill to alter and change the place of holding the elections in the second election district in Saint Mary's county ; the bill to change and alter the name of Dion Cotner of Caroline county, to Dion Downes ; and the bill to authorise the county court of Frederick county to levy and assess a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned, were sent to the senate.

Mr. Harryman delivers a bill, entitled, An act to lay out a road near Peter Hoofman's mill in Baltimore county ; which was read.

The bill, entitled, An act to make public and extend a road in Somerset county, was read the second time by special order, passed, and sent to the senate.

On motion by Mr. Warner, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act to incorporate a company to be styled the Independent Manufacturing Company of Baltimore. Ordered, That Messrs. Warner, Harryman and Price, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Lanham from the committee delivers the following report :

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Lawrence Hurdle, of Montgomery county, beg leave to report, That they have had the same under consideration, and find the facts stated therein to be true ; they therefore submit the following resolution :

Resolved, That the treasurer of the western shore of Maryland, pay to Lawrence Hurdle, or his order, annually, in quarter yearly payments, a sum of money equal to the half pay of a sergeant, as a further remuneration for those services by which his country has been so essentially benefitted.

By order,

S. FOUNTAIN, Clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Lanham delivers a bill, entitled, An act to confirm and make valid a deed to James Ryan of Montgomery county ; which was read.

Mr. R. Dorsey delivers a bill, entitled, An act to make public a road in Anne-Arundel county ; which was read the first and second time by special order, passed, and sent to the senate.