

S A T U R D A Y, October 26, 1776.

CONVENTION met. All members present as on yesterday, except Mr. Marbury, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Schriver, and Mr. T. Smyth. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. J. Smith and Mr. Ridgely have leave of absence on account of particular private business.

Whereas many young men under twenty-one years of age, seized of lands and tenements within this state, have entered, and others so seized may enter into the service of this state, or the United States in arms, and by the laws now in being they cannot devise their lands or tenements, it is therefore RESOLVED, That any last will of any young man in the service aforesaid, made after he hath or shall have accomplished the age of sixteen years, shall, in case he hath died or shall die whilst in service as aforesaid, be of the same force and effect, to all intents and purposes, as if he was of the full age of twenty-one years at the time of his making the same will.

Mr. Bishop has leave of absence on account of the indisposition of his brother.

The president laid before the Convention a letter from the committee of observation for Kent county, relative to the conduct of Mr. William Sluby, which was read.

ORDERED, That the same be entered on the journal, and it follows in these words:

“ Gentlemen,

Chester-Town, October 23, 1776.

“ Inclosed is a report of the facts, relative to Mr. Sluby's case, as they arose on the examination of Mr. Claypoole, and two others who were summoned by the committee at the request of Mr. Sluby. The committee set two days on the business for want of time to finish the examination the first day. Mr. Claypoole was absent in the country the second day of our sitting, so that Mr. Sluby had not an opportunity of cross examining him. The committee are of opinion, that nothing appeared against Mr. Sluby, which would justify the exercise of the power of sending him under a guard to the Convention.

“ Signed by order,

JOHN COMBS, clk. com.

“ P. S. The reason Mr. Sluby did not cross examine Mr. Claypoole on the first day is, that after Mr. Claypoole had delivered his testimony, the chairman was called off on necessary business.

“ To the honourable the Convention at the city of Annapolis.”

Mr. Mason appeared in the house.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Convention resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to consider further of the declaration of rights, and form of government for this state; Mr. T. Wright in the chair. After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. Wright reported, that the committee had, according to order, taken into their consideration the declaration of rights, and form of government for this state, and had come to several resolutions thereon, but not having had time to come to a conclusion, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

RESOLVED, That this Convention will on Monday resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to consider further of the same.

On motion of Mr. J. Hall, RESOLVED, That the Council of Safety be authorized and empowered to make out commissions for captain Thomas Watkins, and also for his first and second lieutenants and ensign, Levin Lawrence, Thomas Todd, and John Iiams, jun. as captain, first, second and third lieutenants of a company of matrosses to be stationed in the city of Annapolis, and that they or either of them have power to enlist all the men of said company that are willing to enlist as matrosses, and to discharge such of them as are not willing to enlist after the first of December, and enlist others, so that the said company may be compleated to the number of ninety-two privates, besides commissioned and non-commissioned officers.

Convention adjourns till Monday morning 9 o'clock.

M O N D A Y, October 28, 1776.

CONVENTION met. All members present as on Saturday, except Mr. Ridgely, Mr. J. Smith, Mr. Bishop, and Mr. Kent. The proceedings of Saturday were read. Mr. Dent, Mr. Parnham, and Mr. S. Wright, appeared in the house. Mr. Lowes has leave of absence on account of sickness.

Mr. Sheredine brings in and delivers to Mr. President, a report from the committee appointed to enquire how far the resolves of the last Convention of the sixth of July for raising two companies of rifle-men, and four companies of Germans, have been complied with, and into the expenditure of the money advanced for the raising those companies, which was read in the words following, to wit:

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