

PROCEEDINGS of the CONVENTION

SATURDAY, September 14, 1776.

CONVENTION met. All members present as on yesterday, except Mr. Gilpin, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Brevard, Mr. T. Wright, Mr. Kent, Mr. Goldsborough, and Mr. Marbury. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

It being represented to this Convention, that in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-three, an act of assembly passed, directing the justices of Talbot county to levy on the inhabitants of that county forty-five pounds of tobacco per tax, to be paid at three annual payments, for the purposes of purchasing land and building a house thereon for the reception of the poor of that county: that in consequence thereof there was levied at November court seventeen hundred and seventy-four, the quantity of fifteen pounds of tobacco per poll, which has been collected and paid into the hands of trustees appointed to carry the said act into execution, and there remains unexpended. That at November court seventeen hundred and seventy-five, the further sum of fifteen pounds of tobacco was levied by the justices of the said county, now to be collected by the sheriff, which cannot at this time be done without distressing the inhabitants thereof:

RESOLVED therefore, That the sheriff of Talbot county shall forbear to collect any of the tobacco so levied on the inhabitants of that county at November court seventeen hundred and seventy-five, and that the trustees appointed for carrying the said act of assembly into execution, are hereby requested to pay all money or tobacco which they may have received or shall hereafter receive in virtue of the said act, into the hands of the trustees of the said county, to be applied by them to the relief and support of the poor of the said county.

Mr. Hughs brings in and delivers to Mr. President the following report, to wit:

“Your committee to enquire into the expenditure of the money appropriated for the building a log gaol in Frederick county, beg leave to report, That one hundred and seventy-nine pounds five shillings and two-pence farthing has been expended on the same, as per account rendered to your committee; and that there remains in the hands of the supervisors of the said building the sum of twenty pounds fourteen shillings and nine pence three farthings. That the log gaol is complete agreeable to the direction of a resolve in December last all to three stoves. Your committee are of opinion that the said log gaol is by no means proper for the reception of prisoners of war, having no yard or other necessary convenience; all which is submitted to the honourable house.

“Signed by order of the committee,

JOHN JOHNSON, clk.”

Which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Convention adjourns till Monday morning 9 o'clock.

MONDAY, September 16, 1776.

CONVENTION met. All members present as on Saturday, except Mr. Hughs. The proceedings of Saturday were read. Mr. Worthington, Mr. Bruff, Mr. J. Mackall, and Mr. Fenwick, appeared in the house.

Agreeable to the order of the day the Convention took into consideration the report relative to the conduct of Isaac Coffin, and after hearing the evidence produced, as well against as in behalf of the said Isaac Coffin, were of opinion, that he hath shewed himself inimical to the cause of American freedom; therefore RESOLVED, That the said Isaac Coffin enter into bond with good security to the president of this Convention, in the penalty of two hundred pounds common money, for his future good behaviour, and thereupon be discharged on paying the charges of his prosecution.

Mr. Hooe and Mr. Semmes have leave of absence.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

TUESDAY, September 17, 1776.

CONVENTION met. All members present as on yesterday, except Mr. Hooe, Mr. Semmes, and Mr. Worthington. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Chamberlaine has leave of absence.

On motion, RESOLVED, That three persons be added to the committee appointed to examine and report the state of the accounts and proceedings of the commissioners of the loan-office; and Mr. T. Ringgold, Mr. J. Smith, and Mr. Worthington, were elected by ballot to be of the said committee.

On motion of Mr. Fitzhugh, That the question be put on the following:

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