

Dict Ses. 1822

Passed Feb. 24, 1823.

Shoebrook, half pay, private.

Passed Dec. 20, 1822.

Relative to national defence, &c.

No. 70.

Resolved, That the treasurer of the western shore, pay to Joseph Hood, Caroline county, or to his order annually, and in case of his death, to his executors in quarterly payments, the half pay of a private, for the support a maintenance of Edward Shoebrook, during his life, as a compensation for services rendered in the revolutionary war.

No. 71.

Whereas, The state of Maryland is in a peculiar degree dependent on that and protection, to secure which was the great object of the confederation of the United States, and especially is exposed from its vast extent of navigable waters, and the geographical position of the city of Baltimore, to the attacks of a maritime enemy, who, as has been demonstrated by the events of the late war, can harrass our citizens, plunder and destroy our property, possess themselves of our territory, and prevent our necessary transactions, as far as a large portion of our citizens are affected; *And whereas*, exemption from such danger to the lives and exposure of the fortunes of our citizens, can only be secured to us, by the liberal application of those means, which the good people of the United States, have placed at the disposal of the government of the union for the common defence and general welfare, and it is not only the soundest policy, but the best dictate of prudent economy, to use the period when a general peace and the ordinary resources of our country afford opportunity to the government to provide for the defects in our system, which a state of war has disclosed, and to be prepared against a recurrence of injuries which may be repeated at a moment impossible by any political calculation to be anticipated.

And whereas, It is at all times the duty of the citizens of a free government to deliberate on the policy and measures of those, to whom they have confided the administration of their political concerns, and on occasions when contrary opinion is entertained on matters vitally affecting their best interests to express their sentiments with candour and firmness.

We the members of the senate and house of delegates, acting as the representatives of the people of Maryland, and influenced by a belief that it is highly expedient in the present situation of our political concerns to announce the opinions and wishes of the people of this state, in relation to such measures of the government of the United States, as have in view the better security of our country against the approaches of a hostile maritime force, Do therefore

Resolve, That we cordially approve the efforts of the general government, to foster our navy, and to cause a progressive increase of this means of defence which experience has taught us to regard, as necessary to our protection and to the maintenance of that high and dignified character which has exalted our country amongst the nations of the earth; that we cordially approve of every effort of the general government to extend and perfect a system of defence by fortifications highly useful in other places and essentially necessary to the waters of the Chesapeake and its tributary rivers; *And whereas*, from the relative position of this state, and those vast sources of successful enterprize and wealth, the rivers Potomac and Susquehannah, as well as from the relation of our largest city to an extensive district of inland country, it is of the utmost importance to our citizens that a system of internal improvement shall be vigorously pursued; *Therefore*, We do further resolve, that we will highly approve and zealously co-operate with the general government, in the adoption of such measures as will afford to our country the facilities and advantages which nature has placed in our control, and which a wise policy should induce us to improve.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions be forwarded by the executive to each of our senators and representatives in congress, with a request that they will co-operate in the promotion of measures which in the sense of the legislature are best calculated for the interests of the union at large, and especially of this state.

Internal improvement.

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