

amount of the balance so to be ascertained by the auditor; provided, that if it shall appear to the auditor that there are debts in the hands of the citizens of this state, due to the aforesaid William Mollison, survivor in aforesaid, liable to be affected by said claim of Martha Hall, then in such case the auditor is hereby directed only to allow the said Martha Hall the balance which may be due to her, deducting the amount of the debts so due to the said William Mollison.

By order,

J. BREWER, clk.

Which were severally read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entitled, An act for draining part of a branch called Old-town Branch, lying in the upper part of Caroline county, was read the second time and will not pass.

Mr. Houston, from the committee of conference appointed on the communications from the executive relative to the bank stock, delivers the following report:

THE committee of conference, to whom was referred the executive communications respecting the sale of the Maryland bank stock in the bank of England, report, that they have taken the same, with the accompanying papers and documents, into consideration.

The committee beg leave to express their opinion, that in the transaction of the important subject of those communications by the executive, and by the agents of the state acting under their authority, the interest of the state has been invariably kept in view. The sale of the English, and purchase of American stock, has been more advantageous than could have been anticipated. All the expences incurred in the negotiation, comprehending the commission granted the different agents, may be covered by a judicious investment of the proceeds. The committee are of opinion, that the money which will be received from the bills of exchange drawn by the purchasers in favour of the state's agents, together with the money received, or that shall be received from the sales of the English stock, should be invested, by subscribing on the part of the state, in the stock reserved in the Bank of Baltimore, the Union Bank of Maryland, and the Farmers Bank of Maryland, in the proportions expressed in the resolution herewith reported.

RESOLVED, That the treasurer of the western shore, under the direction of the governor and council, subscribe, on the part of this state, in the stock in the Bank of Baltimore, the sum of seventy-four thousand dollars, in the Union Bank of Maryland the sum of two hundred and seven thousand six hundred dollars, the sum of fifty dollars to be paid on each share subscribed for in that bank, and in the Farmers Bank of Maryland the sum of thirty thousand dollars, the amount of which subscriptions shall be paid out of the money received, or that shall be received, from the sale of the Maryland bank stock in the bank of England.

In taking into consideration the investment of so large a portion of the state's funds, the committee could not avoid turning their attention to the finances generally. As there will, in the course of the current year, be received, exceeding to a considerable amount the expences of the government, provision during the present session should be made for the disposition of it towards useful and profitable objects. None of more magnitude presents itself than improving the navigation of the river Susquehanna. The judicious application of about sixty thousand dollars, the committee believe, would remove the principal obstructions to accomplish so important an object, in which the states of Maryland and Pennsylvania are so materially interested. The committee flatter themselves with the hope, that that state, whose inhabitants will be more especially accommodated with a safe, cheap and expeditious way to market, will double the sum this state may apply. The committee therefore submit the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the sum of twenty thousand dollars be appropriated, out of any monies that may come into the treasury during the current year, exceeding prior appropriations and current expences of government towards opening and clearing the bed of the river Susquehanna, from the line of this state to the town of Columbia in the state of Pennsylvania, provided the state of Pennsylvania, during their present session, shall appropriate the sum of forty thousand dollars towards the same object, the money to be laid out under the superintendence of such person or persons as the executives of the two states may appoint.

The committee further report, that by the proceedings of the congress of the United States, it appears to be in contemplation by the United States to open a road from Cumberland, in the state of Maryland, to the state of Ohio. The state of Maryland, in the opinion of the committee, will, in a considerable degree, be deprived of the benefits that might be derived from such a road, unless the land communication from Cumberland to intersect or meet one of the great turnpike roads from Baltimore is made more convenient than the present roads afford.

Without public aid, your committee are of opinion, that those roads will not materially be mended. The application of a sum of money to this purpose out of the revenue of the state, would, in the opinion of the committee, be advisable, and leave ought to be given to bring in a bill for this purpose.

Which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The senate adjourns until to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

THURSDAY, January 16, 1806.

THE senate met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were