

the enemy; and he is hereby authorised to draw on the treasurer of the Western Shore, for the pay, rations and forage, of the said dragoons and officers, out of any unappropriated money in the treasury.

By order,

WM. K. LAMBDIN, Clk.

Which was read the first and second time by special order; and the further consideration thereof postponed until Monday next.

Mr. Jones from the committee, delivers the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Richard Taylor, of Montgomery county, an old revolutionary soldier, beg leave to report that they have taken the same into consideration, and find the facts therein stated to be true; they therefore submit the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer of the Western Shore be, and he is hereby authorised and directed to pay unto Richard Taylor, of Montgomery county, or his order, annually, in quarterly payments, a sum of money equal to the half pay of a private, as a remuneration for his services during the revolutionary war.

By order,

JOHN STEVENS, Jr. Clk.

Beale Randall, Esquire, a delegate returned for Baltimore county, appeared, qualified, and took his seat.

The clerk of the senate delivers the following message:

BY THE SENATE, December 10, 1814.

*Gentlemen of the House of Delegates,*

In accordance with your message of this day, proposing to go immediately into an election of a register of wills for Caroline county, we agree forthwith to proceed to supply that vacancy. Thomas Culbreth is put in nomination by the senate, in addition to the gentleman named by your house; and we have appointed Messrs. Hollingsworth and Hebb to join the gentlemen designated by you to count the ballots, and report the result thereof.

By order,

THOS. ROGERS, Clk.

Which was read.

The house proceeded to ballot for a register of wills for Caroline county. The ballots being deposited in the ballot box, the gentlemen named to strike retired to the conference room to examine them, and after some time returned and reported, that John Young had forty-six votes, and Thomas Culbreth eighteen votes. Whereupon, *Resolved*, That John Young, be and he is hereby recommended to the governor to be commissioned as register of wills for Caroline county.

The speaker laid before the house the following communication from the executive council:

*To the Honorable the General Assembly of Maryland.*

COUNCIL CHAMBER, December 10, 1814.

*Gentlemen,*

On addressing you at the opening of the present session, it is to be regretted that the aspect of our public affairs, affords little cause for congratulation.

The appearance of the enemy on our coast early in the summer, as was predicted by the legislature at their last session, rendered it necessary to make the best preparation for defence of which the state was capable. Accordingly the militia of the counties most liable to invasion, were called into actual service; and as the situation of the country became more alarming, such a portion of the troops as could with prudence be spared from the third division (two thousand of them having marched; agreeably to the president's requisition of April for the defence of Baltimore) were also directed to hold themselves in readiness to repair at a moment's notice to the scene of danger.

These armaments together with the incidental purchase and transportation of military stores and provisions have necessarily required very considerable disbursements: Yet, if we advert to the deplorable kind of warfare which the enemy is pursuing, and consider the harassing service to which our men must consequently be exposed, it is presumed that the expenditures will not be found incompatible with the most judicious economy.

In compliance with the requisition of the president on the executive, dated the 4th of July, for the state to furnish six thousand troops for the general defence, orders were issued to the different brigadiers, to organise and cause to proceed to the designated rendezvous, their respective quotas of men. These orders were obeyed with as much promptitude, as our present militia system is capable of enforcing. On the 19th of August last, we received a letter (of which No. 1, is a copy) from the general commanding the tenth military district, stating that he had been authorised by the president to accept on behalf of the United States, all the militia then in service, under the authority of the state of Maryland, as well elsewhere, as at Annapolis. Giving to this communication the construction which the liberality of its proposition appeared to justify, and which seemed so congenial with the spirit of the constitution, which provides for the general defence, the executive of Maryland, on the 17th of October, wrote the letter marked No. 2, to the secretary of war, requesting explicit information as to the time when the acceptance of our militia took effect; they also referred him to the act of congress, passed on the 18th of April last, which provides that the expenses incurred in cases of calls on the militia made by the authority of any state or territory which may be approved by the president, shall be adjusted and paid by the United States. Conscious that our calls on the militia had been made exclusively for the purpose of repelling invasion, which might reasonably be considered one of the cases contemplated by the above recited act, it could not be presumed that the president would hesitate to sanction them. In this just expectation, we have, however, been disappointed. No notice having been taken of our first application to the secretary, it was repeated on the 11th ultimo, but an answer from him has not yet been received.

Of the loans authorised by the resolution of May, 1813, for four hundred and fifty thousand—four hundred and thirty-six thousand have been obtained. Of this sum, one hundred and twenty-seven thousand two hundred and ten dollars and twenty-three cents have been expended under the appropriation of one hundred and eighty thousand dollars for the purchase of arms; and one hundred and seventy-four thousand eight hundred and one dollars and twenty three cents in defraying the