

due to the petitioner Sarah, as administratrix of the said Samuel Geist, deceased, who died intestate; that the said Francis Holton is ready to pay the remainder, and interest thereon; and therefore praying an act may pass, to enable the said Sarah Geist to convey the said land to the said Francis Holton.

Adjourned till 3 o'clock.

P O S T M E R I D I E M.

The house met. Mr. Ford appeared in the house.

The question being put, That the house concur with the following message to the senate? Was determined in the affirmative.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, June 12, 1778.

May it please your honours,

HIS excellency the governor having recommended to the general assembly to take into consideration the constitution and form of government, and this house, from experience, having discovered several imperfections therein; and as the mode prescribed for alterations and amendments is attended with considerable delay, think it will be highly expedient, in the course of this session, to lay the foundation of such amendments as may be thought necessary for the circumstances of the state. To accomplish this we propose, if agreeable to your honours, as the most eligible and expeditious method, a joint committee of both houses; should you concur with us in opinion, this house will be ready to appoint a committee to meet the gentlemen appointed by your honourable body.

A F F I R M A T I V E.

Messieurs	Read,	Semmes,	W Goldsbrough,	Veazey,	Brice,	Smith,
	R. Barnes,	M'Pherson,	R. Goldsbrough,	Ward,	Quynn,	Chase,
	Plowden,	Forbes,	Henry,	West,	Douglafs,	Sprigg,
	Lethbury,	Hanson,	Murray,	Contee,	Malon,	J. Barnes,
	Maxwell,	Gibson,	Daffin,	Bruff,	Stainton,	Hughes.
	Lloyd,	H. Goldsbrough,				

N E G A T I V E.

esr.	Ford,	Tillard,	Stevenson,	Magruder,	Bond,	Williams,
	Gresham,	Somervill,	Shepherd,	Edelen,	Smithson,	Bayly,
	Hammond,	Chew,	Alexander,	Sheredine,	Burgess,	Crabb.
	Worthington,	Deye,	Bowie,	H. Wilson,		

The message was sent to the senate by Mr. Chase and Mr. Smith.

WHEREAS it appears, by the letter signed Henry Lee, M. P. L. D. and directed to capt. William Lindsay, partisan corps of light dragoons, that the said Henry Lee, by virtue of powers and authority committed to him by the board of war, hath authorized, directed and empowered the said capt. Lindsay to seize, for the public service, such geldings belonging to the inhabitants of the peninsula formed by the Delaware and Chesapeake bays, as he may judge suitable for the dragoon service. In the execution of this power he is enjoined to discriminate between the well affected and disaffected; he is to pay particular attention to the speculators in the horse trade, whose pernicious traffick has so much enhanced the price of horses; he is directed to tender a generous price to the proprietors of the horse prior to seizure; should it not satisfy, he is to pay the appraisement of the horse as valued by two men on oath, the one chosen by himself, the other by the owner of the horse; should the proprietor refuse receiving the appraised value of his horse, he is to make him a tender of the sum before evidences, and bring off the horse, granting him a certificate purporting what he had done. In the exercise of this power, he is to regulate his conduct by discretion, and act with moderation:

RESOLVED, That this state has been particularly attentive to every proper application, and will at all times cheerfully afford every aid and assistance in support of the common cause.

RESOLVED, That the board of war have not any power to order or direct the seizure of property within this state, and that the exercise of such a power cannot be suffered with safety to the jurisdiction, freedom, and sovereignty thereof.

RESOLVED, That his excellency the governor be requested to give every assistance in his power to the purchase of horses for the use of the army, but that he put an immediate stop to all seizures in virtue of such authority, and that he transmit a copy of the said letter of instruction, together with these resolves, to congress.

Sent up for concurrence by Mr. Henry and Mr. R. Goldsbrough.

Adjourned till next day 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY,