

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, OCTOBER, 1778. 19

A memorial of Zephaniah Turner was preferred and read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of Elie Vallette was read a second time and referred to Mr. Brice, Mr. Chew, and Mr. Bruff, who are appointed a committee to enquire into the facts therein set forth, and report their opinion thereon.

A petition of Mary and Henry Crooks was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of John Manning was read a first and second time by especial order, and the house thinking the said petition reasonable, RESOLVED, That the treasurer of the western shore pay to John Manning fifty pounds currency, the said Manning having heretofore advanced the said sum for the use of the public, and that the treasurer charge the same to the account of the United States.

A petition of Leonard Belt was preferred and read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Robert Goldsborough from the committee appointed to consider the letter of general Washington of the 5th of October last, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

By the COMMITTEE appointed to consider the letter of general Washington of the 5th of October last, respecting rank.

YOUR committee in obedience to the order of the honourable house, have taken said letter, and the resolves of convention relative to rank, into their consideration, and are of opinion, that the resolutions of the general assembly referred to by general Washington, did not mean to confer powers for changing the appointment of any officer made by the assembly, by adding or taking away a grade. The general assembly in forming the roster of rank, considered the act of convention of the 22d of August, 1776, as a superedeas of the act of convention of the 15th of January, 1776, and conducted themselves accordingly, and the rather, as that establishment of rank of the 22d of August, was agreeable to what prevailed in most, if not all, the other states; and are of opinion, that the general assembly intended only to authorize an alteration in the instance of precedence amongst those of similar rank, where it might be found that mistakes had taken place in that respect. All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

Signed per order of the committee,

W. H. M'PHERSON, cl.

Which was read.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

T U E S D A Y, November 17, 1778.

THE house met. All present as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Chew appeared in the house.

On motion, ORDERED, That no new business be brought into this house after Saturday next.

The petition of Gabriel Child was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Smoot hath leave of absence until Saturday next.

The letter from the marine committee to the governor was read a second time, and referred to the consideration of the governor and council, with full powers to enquire into the fact, and to do therein what to them shall seem right; so endorsed, and sent to the senate by Mr. Chaillé and Mr. H. Goldsborough.

Mr. Dent hath leave of absence until Friday next; Mr. Malon, Mr. Wilmer, Mr. Brown, Mr. Ford, and Mr. Hughes, until Wednesday week.

On motion, leave given to bring in an additional supplement to the acts for the better administration of justice in testamentary affairs. ORDERED, That Mr. Hall, Mr. R. Goldsborough, Mr. Thomas, Mr. J. Hanson, Mr. Chase, Mr. Maddux, and Mr. Hughes, do prepare and bring in the same.

A memorial of the several registers of wills of this state was preferred and read, and referred to the committee appointed to bring in the fee bill.

The bill, entitled, An act for empowering the governor and council to grant a permit for exporting bread and flour or other provisions on account of congress, was read a second time and rejected.

A petition of Richard Carroll, of Charles county, was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Joshua Chilcut, of Caroline county, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate by Mr. S. Hanson and Mr. Stevenson.

Mr. Sturgis hath leave of absence on account of his indisposition.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

W E D N E S D A Y, November 18, 1778.

THE house met. All present as on yesterday, except Mr. Ford, Mr. Wilmer, Mr. Smoot, Mr. Brown, Mr. Sturgis, and Mr. Hughes. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Key,