

That your committee find by a report in January, 1778, it appears, that the sum of £. 73 17 2 gold currency was then due from the collector of the land-tax in Queen-Anne's county, for the half year ending the 29th day of September, 1763, and that the said sum hath not yet been paid.

Your committee further take leave to report, that from the multiplicity of business, the nature of the trust, and the care and regularity of the transactions, they are of opinion, that the commissioners and clerk's annual salaries have been very inadequate to the services they have rendered the public.

All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable assembly, this 21st day of December, 1779.

JOHN HANSON, jun. ch. of com.

Which was read.

The engrossed bill No. 5 was sent to the senate, with the paper bill thereof, by Mr. Dennis and Mr. Stricker.

Mr. Fitzhugh brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a message to the senate, which was read, unanimously agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

Joseph Sim, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill, entitled, An act to encrease the allowance of magistrates, and for other purposes therein mentioned, thus endorsed;

“ By the senate, December 20, 1779: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

“ By order,

H. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

“ By the senate, December 21, 1779: Read the second time by especial order and will pass

“ with the proposed amendments.

“ By order,

H. RIDGELY, cl. sen.”

Amendments proposed. Strike out the preamble. Strike out the first enacting clause. Strike out the word “ and,” in the beginning of the fourteenth line of the second page. After the word “ enacted,” in the seventeenth line of said page, insert the words “ by the general assembly of Maryland.” Strike out from the word “ or,” in the sixteenth line of the third page, to the word “ and,” in the eighteenth line of said page, and insert the words “ thirty pounds currency.” Strike out the words “ twenty-five pounds, or the value thereof, as above mentioned,” in the second and third lines of the fourth page, and insert “ fifteen pounds currency.” In the eighth line of the said page, strike out the word “ fifty,” and insert “ thirty.”

Which were read.

The house adjourns till 3 o'clock.

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

The house met.

A petition of John Hagherty, a nonjuror, was preferred and read, and granted so far as relates to the treble tax only.

Mr. Quynn brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to empower the governor and council to sell the public property therein mentioned; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. J. Henry brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee appointed to report what provision to the civil officers of this state will defray their reasonable and actual expences, and also to report what compensation ought to be made to the civil officers, agreeable to the resolve of the last assembly of the 12th of August, beg leave to report, That previous to the commencement of the present war, the following provisions were necessary to defray the reasonable expences of the several civil officers of this state, to wit:

Governor £. 1000. Chancellor 700. Chief judge of the general court 700. Puisne judges, each 600. Judges of court of appeals, each 200. Judge of the admiralty 100. Attorney-general 100. Auditor-general 400. Treasurer 400. Clerks of the council, each 150. Treasurer's clerk 150. Auditor's clerk 150. Clerks of the two houses, each 100. Commissioners of the loan-office, each 150. Clerk of the loan-office 100. Treasurer of the eastern shore 150. Counsellors, each 300. And considering that every necessary of life has rose to forty prices at least, imported goods far beyond that, it is but reasonable and just in the opinion of your committee, that the civil officers should receive each an addition to their salaries as will make them equivalent to what they were heretofore.

And your committee beg leave further to report, that considering the precedent established in the case of Mr. Turner, and other circumstances, it is but reasonable and just, that the other officers should be compensated for the services of the past year in the same proportion.

All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

Signed per order,

GEO. RANKEN, cl. com.

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

Mr. Wootton appeared in the house.

Mr. Stricker brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

YOUR