

farm, the greatest part of which was leased out for twenty-one years, at six pounds sterling the hundred acres; that the whole assessments having been charged to the proprietors, who were entitled to the reversion, they applied to the commissioners, who determined that the tenants ought to pay two thirds of the taxes; since which they have rescinded their judgment, and directed the collector to collect the rents from the landlords; and praying the legislature to interpose and settle some rule of apportionment to prevent future litigation between the parties; thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 17, 1780: Read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates."

"By order,

H. RIDGELY, clk."

Which was read.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill for raising a company of men for guarding the prisoners of war of this state and the magazine in Frederick county. ORDERED, That Mr. Stricker, Mr. Chase, Mr. Gaunt, Mr. Sprigg, and Mr. Chapline, do prepare and bring in the same.

The petition of Robertson Stevens read the second time and referred to Mr. J. Henry, Mr. Eccleston, and Mr. Keene, who are appointed a committee to consider and report thereon.

A petition of Alexander Claggett, late collector of the assessment in Washington county, setting forth, that from the uncommon severity of the weather he was unable to make the collection in time, and therefore praying to be relieved from the penalties incurred in consequence thereof, was preferred and read, and referred to the committee on the petition of Robertson Stevens.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the representation of colonel Ramsay, captain Swan, and lieutenant Fitzhugh, on behalf of themselves and the officers of this state now prisoners with the enemy, beg leave to report, That they have conferred with colonel Ramsay and captain Swan, and are informed by them, that there are about sixteen officers of the Maryland line, and about seventeen or eighteen of other corps belonging to this state, now prisoners of war with the enemy; that a year's board, at two dollars per week, will be due the twentieth of this month from all the officers, except Eccleston, Belt, and Gray, taken at Elizabeth-town the beginning of January last; that many officers are in want of linen, cloaths, and other necessaries; that congress, in their last supply, furnished each field officer, besides paying their board, with sixty pounds in specie, and each inferior officer with forty-five pounds like money; that on a late application to congress by the captive officers, they were informed that congress had not specie in the continental treasury to supply their wants.

Your committee were further informed, that a flag would be admitted by the enemy, and a passport granted into New-York with provisions for the use of the captive officers, and bar iron and plank for sale, to furnish the officers with specie to pay their board and contingent expences. Your committee have made enquiry into the sum which ought with all expedition to be furnished to each officer, and submit the following estimate to the honourable house, to wit:

A suit of cloaths	-	-	-	-	-	25
Two shirts, at 50s.	-	-	-	-	-	5
Stockings, shoes, hats, &c. &c.	-	-	-	-	-	10
Board	-	-	-	-	-	40
Contingent expences	-	-	-	-	-	30
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Your committee, on considering the above facts, have come to the following resolution:

That the governor and the council be empowered and requested, from time to time, to send with a flag and passport from the enemy into New-York, or such place as the enemy will permit, such a quantity of flour, corn, beans, peas, bacon, and pork in barrels, as they may think sufficient for the support of the captive officers belonging to this state now with the enemy, and such a quantity of bar iron and inch plank as they are of opinion will furnish each officer with specie, to purchase cloaths, linen, and other necessary apparel, and to defray contingent expences; and that the governor and council be empowered and requested to purchase and export, or to contract for the purchasing and exporting, the said articles, to the city of New-York, or such place as the enemy will permit, and to order them to the care of Mr. Pinkard, or such other person as they may think proper; and that the governor and council may be empowered to draw on either of the treasurers for as much money as may be necessary to carry the intention of this general assembly, to make necessary and liberal provision for their officers, into full execution and effect.

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

Signed per order of the committee,

A. GOLDER, clk.

Which was read the first and second time and concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill