

who have petitioned the legislature, the same ought to be extended to the collector of Anne-Arundel county. All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

Signed per order of the committee,

A. GOLDR, clk.

Which was read.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning half past 8 o'clock.

W E D N E S D A Y, May 3, 1780.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

A petition of Thomas Grafton, setting forth, that he was appointed commodore of the navy of this state in June 1778; that his necessary expences have far exceeded his allowance of rations and pay; that he is shortly to be discharged from the service in consequence of the sale of the galleys, and therefore praying to be appointed to some post adapted to his capacity, or to be allowed such indemnification as will put him in the same situation he was in when he entered the service; was preferred and read.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to enable the judges of the court of appeals to appoint a clerk, and to empower such clerk to provide repositories for the records. ORDERED, That Mr. Chase, Mr. M'Mechen, and Mr. Reed, do prepare and bring in the same.

The engrossed bill No. 21 was read and assented to, and with the paper bill thereof sent to the senate by Mr. Worthington and Mr. Quynn.

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

By the COMMITTEE appointed to consider and report the most speedy and effectual measures to put this state into the best posture of defence.

YOUR committee, in obedience to the order of the honourable house, have taken the subject matter referred to them into consideration, and thereupon report the following resolves:

That it is the opinion of this committee, that the state of Maryland ought to be put into a proper posture of defence.

That the governor and council have power to call forth a select number of militia, with proper officers, by voluntary enlistment, or ballot if necessary, twelve hundred on the western and eight hundred on the eastern shore, the number of militia to be proportioned in the several counties, and to serve constantly, if necessary, until the 15th of December next, and be armed, and paid, and have rations allowed them by the state; to march where ordered in this state, or if occasion require into Virginia, Pennsylvania, or the Delaware state; and that the governor and council be requested to apply to the commander in chief of the United States to appoint an officer of the Maryland line to take the command.

That one company of artillery be raised by voluntary enlistment, to consist of one hundred men, under proper officers, to receive a bounty of 450 dollars each man, and have cloaths and rations at the expence of the state.

That the governor and council be requested to apply to congress for the loan or purchase of six brass field pieces, with their carriages and furniture necessary and commonly used therewith.

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

Signed per order,

GEO. RANKEN, cl. com.

Which was read.

The house adjourns till half past 2 o'clock.

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

The house met.

Mr. Fitzhugh brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to prevent and punish forestalling, engrossing, and speculating in provisions; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

On a second reading of the report from the committee appointed to consider and report the most speedy and effectual measures to put this state in a proper posture of defence, the question was put, That the house concur with the first resolve in the said report? Resolved in the affirmative.

The second resolve therein being read, the question was put, That the house concur therewith? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Sprigg appeared as follow:

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

Messrs. Reed,
Lethbury,
W. Stevenson,

J. Hall,
Maccubbin,
Winder,

Ward,
Quynn,
Chase,

Ringgold,
Dennis,
Keene,

M'Mechen,
Alexander,

Sprigg,
Bayly.

E G N A-