

some general system, for rewarding all those who have served the public, and are in similar circumstances.

The committee have also considered the petition of Richard H. Courts, but have not received satisfactory evidence of the legality of his appointment in the hospital department.

The committee have also considered the memorial of captain John Read, in behalf of the company he commanded, and are of opinion, that their claim to depreciation is founded in justice, and ought to be granted.

The committee beg leave to observe, that by the act for adjusting the accounts of the army, the depreciation due to the estates of officers and soldiers, who have died or fallen in battle, cannot be claimed but by the widows or children, whereby parents and other near relations are totally precluded.

Upon the whole, the committee beg leave to suggest the following resolutions.

That the commissioner be authorised and directed to settle with, and grant certificates to, the officers and men of the invalid corps, who are citizens of this state, upon the certificate of their commanding officer, agreeable to an act of congress of the 26th of June last.

That the commissioner be authorised and directed to settle with, and grant certificates to, lieutenant-colonel Moses Rawlings, for depreciation of his pay, from the 1st of June, 1777, to the 2d of June, 1779, in the same manner, and upon the same principles, that officers in the line of this state are settled with.

That the governor and council be requested to direct the treasurer to grant his certificate to captain John Read, and the officers and men of his company, for the depreciation of their pay, as settled with the auditor-general, to the 1st of August, 1780, agreeably to the act of last session, for liquidating the accounts of public creditors.

That the commissioner be authorised and directed to settle the accounts of all officers and soldiers, who have died or fallen in battle, and grant certificates for the amount thereof to their devisees, or legal representatives, or to such person or persons as they may have directed to receive the same.

All which are submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

A. GOLDER, clk.

Which was read.

A petition from John Page, late collector of the tax in Kent county, setting forth, that he made payment of his collection into the treasury in a short time after the same became due, and praying to be exonerated from any interest incurred, was preferred and read, and referred to the committee appointed on the petitions of collectors.

The petition of William Rowland was read.

The bill relating to forfeited recognizances, fines and forfeitures, and judgments in murder and treason, was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. M'Mechen, conceiving himself interested in the determination on the petitions from Baltimore, respecting the market-house, requested leave to withdraw; which was granted.

According to order, the house took into consideration the petition and counter petitions from Baltimore-town and county, respecting the market-house, and after hearing the counsel on behalf of the petitioners and counter petitioners, adjourned till to morrow morning 9 o'clock.

M O N D A Y, December 17, 1781.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Whitely. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Howard, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Cadwalader, appeared in the house.

Charles Carroll, Barrister, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker a petition from Henry and Charles Greenbury Griffith, praying the general assembly to enable them to sell certain lands, the property of their nieces, Sarah, Rachel, Lucretia, and Elizabeth Davis, minors, the interest to be applied to their education and maintainance, and the principal to be divided between them, when they arrive at the age of sixteen years; a petition of Betty Handy, setting forth, that in the month of May last, the enemy burned her dwelling-house, and plundered and destroyed all her other property, whereby she is rendered unable to pay the public assessment, and praying relief; and a petition of sundry inhabitants of Worcester county, praying that the repairs of the causeway through Pocomoke swamp to Snow-hill town may be made a county charge; severally endorsed; "By the senate, December 17, 1781: Read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

"By order,

J. MACCUBBIN, clk."

Which were read.

The house proceeded on a further consideration of the petition and counter petitions from Baltimore-town, relative to a new market-house, and on motion, RESOLVED, That the petition relative