

12 VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, NOVEMBER, 1782.

nor acted under it, but that if he had not been elected a delegate he believes he should have acted as colonel. All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

By order,

G. RANKEN, clk.

Which was read.

On motion by Mr. Hall seconded by Mr. M'Mechen, ORDERED, That the sheriff of Washington county attend at the bar of this house, to amend his return of delegates chosen for said county.

On motion by Mr. Done seconded by Mr. Dashiell, ORDERED, That that part of the report from the committee of elections and privileges respecting Mr. John Done, a delegate for Somerset county, having received a commission as colonel of the Princess-Anne battalion, be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

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

T U E S D A Y, November 19, 1782.

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

The bill for the relief of Robert Milligan, of Cæcil county, was read the second time by especial order and passed. Sent to the senate by Mr. Hindman and Mr. Fell.

Mr. Quynn, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee appointed to consider on all petitions of a private nature beg leave to report, That they have taken into consideration the petition of Abraham Nivison, of St. Mary's county, and find the facts therein stated to be strictly true; they therefore submit to the house the propriety of passing a law to enable the justices of the county courts to levy a sum sufficient to make provision for unhappy persons in similar circumstances. All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

By order,

G. RANKEN, clk.

Which was read.

The house proceeded to take into consideration the order of the day, and upon the second reading of that part of the report from the committee of elections and privileges respecting Mr. John Done, RESOLVED, That, in the opinion of this house, the said Mr. John Done was not, at the time of his election, a field officer in the militia, and therefore is entitled to his seat as a delegate for Somerset county.

The report being read throughout, was concurred with.

Edward Lloyd, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill for the relief of Robert Milligan, of Cæcil county, endorsed; "By the senate, November 19, 1782: Read the first and second time by especial order and will pass.

"By order,

J. MACCUBBIN, clk."

Which was ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Forrest, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee, to whom were referred the requisitions of congress, and the letters from the superintendant of finance to his Excellency the governor, &c. beg leave to report, That it is the opinion of the committee, from the annexed estimate of supplies for 1783, for continental and state purposes, that they will amount to 352,000 dollars, or £. 132,000 current money, for congress; and to £. 71,000 current money, for the state.

Your committee beg leave to observe, that by the returns of the commissioners of the tax, agreeable to the act to raise the supplies for 1780, the property of this state was estimated to £. 15,889,079 specie; and by the returns for 1781, to £. 12,682,581 0 4½ specie; and by the returns for 1782, to £. 11,747,493 5, this very great difference in the valuation of the property must deceive the legislature, and render it impossible to impose a tax for raising the supplies.

Your committee are fully satisfied of a very great inequality in the valuation of property (especially of land) in the different counties, and even in different hundreds of the same county; and that lands and slaves of equal comparative worth are valued at very different prices.

Your committee are of opinion, that the sum apportioned and required of this state by congress, as its quota of interest of continental loans (being almost one ninth of the whole) is over and beyond its proper proportion of the sum to be raised by the United States, and not in any degree proportioned to the real value of the land within each state; and if the rule of apportionment was just, the committee would observe, that the public debt, for which congress require interest, comprehends the loan-office certificates, arrearages of pay to the army from August 1780 to January 1782, and the unfunded or unliquidated debts due to the citizens of all the states on quarter-masters and commissaries certificates, &c. and this state has made very large advances of money, about £. 60,000, to the army, between August 1780 and January 1782, besides the depreciation of pay, and about £. 25,000 to the army, since January 1782; and has paid