

severally endorsed; "By the senate, December 19, 1783: Read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

"By order,

J. DORSEY, clk."

Richard Barnes, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

To the honourable the GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

THE Intendant of the revenue begs leave to report, That several claims are set up to parts of Nanticoke manor, and the reserved lands adjacent to it; that in consequence thereof, Mr. Holliday, one of the commissioners, and a considerable purchaser of lands in said manor, has deferred to give bond for the same, and that other purchasers will not comply with their contracts until the claims above referred to are settled; that these claims originated in deception and fraud, by the combinations of William Logan, of Annapolis, barber, Thomas Robison, George Benwill, Pritchett Willy, and others; that the aforesaid William Logan obtained a special warrant for twenty-one acres of land, the 18th of June, 1773, and renewed it the 16th September, 1773, eleven acres of which he assigned to Thomas Robison, of Talbot county; under this assignment said Robison had a survey called Deep Swamp, containing 1621 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres of land, and returned the certificate thereof to the land-office the 8th of October, 1773; five acres also of the aforesaid 21 acres was assigned to George Benwill, in consequence of which he had a survey called Marsh Pasture, containing 411 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and returned the certificate the 8th of October, 1773; That George Benwill obtained from the land-office a common warrant for six acres, the 24th of May, 1773, three acres, part of this warrant, he had a survey called the Forest Glades, containing 389 acres, returned to the land-office 8th of October, 1773; three acres, part of the above common warrant, was assigned to Isaac Jones, in consequence of which he had a survey called The Broken Ridge, containing 1022 acres, returned the 8th of October, 1773. The steward of Nanticoke manor having certain intelligence that these surveys were made in the night time, within the manor or reserved lands of Nanticoke, and being also informed that they bribed the surveyor to make plots from their private surveys as aforesaid, and gave notice thereof to the then agent of the lord proprietary, who caused to be endorsed on each of the certificates, that the land lies in Dorchester county reserve, and would have prosecuted the surveyor, had he not eluded it by removing out of the then province.

The Intendant humbly conceives, that a resolution should pass the general assembly, prohibiting patents issuing on the above certificates, because of the fraud aforesaid, and because the surveyor had not any right to add more than 100 acres vacancy to any such warrants, even where locations were made upon lands not within any manors or reserves.

The intendant further begs leave to report, that George Benwill, from deception and fraud, obtained a patent the 6th of August, 1774, for a tract of land called Turkey Swamp, containing 112 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and on the 29th of March, 1776, obtained patent for a tract of land called Discovery, containing 96 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres, all which lands lie, as the Intendant has been informed, within the manors and reserves aforesaid. That Pritchett Willy aforesaid, obtained a patent on the 22d of July, 1776, for a tract of land called Marsh Pasture, containing 225 acres, in consequence of the combinations aforesaid.

The Intendant humbly conceives, that as these patents have been obtained through the most palpable fraud, there would be propriety in the general assembly's taking order therein.

December 19, 1783.

DAN. of ST. THO. JENIFER, Intend.

Endorsed; "By the senate, December 19, 1783: Read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

"By order,

J. DORSEY, clk."

Which was read.

The report on the petition of fundry inhabitants, purchasers of Nanticoke manor, referred from the last to the present session, was read, and referred to the next session of assembly.

The bill to establish a warehouse at Hamburg on Wiccomico river, in Saint Mary's county, was read the second time by especial order and passed.

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

S A T U R D A Y, December 20, 1783.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Hammond. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. John Roberts, a delegate returned for Talbot county, appeared, and after qualifying in the mode prescribed by the constitution and form of government, took his seat in the house. Mr. J. Stevenson appeared in the house.

The supplement to the act for the liquidation and payment of debts against persons convicted of treason, was read the first time, with the amendment, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Wheeler has leave of absence.

On motion, The question was put on the following:

RESOLVED,