

The petition from fundry inhabitants of Baltimore-town, respecting the market-house, was referred to Mr. G. Scott, Mr. Ridgely of William, Mr. Joseph Dashiell, Mr. Gibfon, and Mr. Fraizer, to consider and report thereon.

The petition of Charles Steuart, administrator of John Bennett, was referred to Mr. Shaw, Mr. Harris, and Mr. Quynn, to consider and report thereon.

The petition of the executors of Augustine Washington, was referred to Mr. Digges, Mr. M^cMechen, and Mr. Harris, to consider and report thereon.

The petition of John David, was referred to Mr. Johnson, Mr. Grahame, and Mr. Joseph Dashiell, to consider and report thereon.

On motion, ORDERED, That Mr. M^cMechen and Mr. Ridgely of William be added to the committee on the petition of Mary Govane.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of John Carnan of Cæcil county, beg leave to report, that they have examined the same, and are fully satisfied that the facts stated in said petition are true, are therefore of opinion that the prayer of the petition should be granted. All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

By order,

R. B. LATIMER, clk.

Which was read.

A petition from Elijah Merryman of Baltimore county, the father and natural guardian of John Merryman, Nicholas Merryman and Eleanor Merryman, infants, respecting several lots of ground in Baltimore-town; was preferred and read, and referred to Mr. M^cMechen, Mr. Ridgely of William, and Mr. Steel, to consider and report thereon.

On motion, ORDERED, That the petition of Henry Harford, Esquire, be taken into consideration on Tuesday next, and that he have leave to be heard by counsel at the bar of this house.

The house proceeded to take into consideration the order of the day, respecting the removal of the court-house in Charles county, and laying out a new town, and after some time spent in debate thereon, the question was put, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted? Determined in the negative.

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

THE committee appointed to report an estimate of the supplies for the current year, and the state of public funds, &c. beg leave to report, That it appears to the committee, from the annexed estimates, that the supplies for the next year for the civil establishment, will amount to the sum of £. 16,825 current money, besides the interest due on liquidated certificates, and the unliquidated debt, if paid annually, to the amount of £. 29,140 8 5 current money, and for continental purposes to the amount of _____ current money.

That it is the opinion of the committee, that strict justice and sound policy require, that this state ought, on all occasions, most inviolably and religiously to preserve its plighted faith and honour, and therefore that the legislature ought to use every means in its ability and power to comply with its engagements to its creditors, without any discrimination, preference or deduction, and to provide sufficient funds to secure the payment of all debts due from the public, within such reasonable time as the circumstances of the people will admit, and that if possible, part of the principal ought to be gradually discharged, and at all events the interest annually paid.

That it is the opinion of the committee, that so many of the bonds lodged, or to be lodged before the first of June next, in the treasury, for payment of the two emissions of June 1780, (called continental state and state money) and for payment of the emission of May 1781, as will fully amount to the money of those emissions now in circulation, be laid apart and kept separate for the purpose of redeeming those emissions; the said bonds, after the first day of June next, to be listed and numbered, and to be put in a box and drawn out by the treasurer.

That it is the opinion of the committee, that this state ought to pledge all its present funds, (that is, all confiscated British property unsold, and all debts or the surplus not appropriated as above, and all arrearages of taxes due to the state before the first of January 1783,) and if necessary to procure other funds for the payment of all the creditors of the state, whose debts have not been funded, for the payment of the principal within six years from the first day of January next, and for the payment in the mean time of the interest of 6 per cent. annually, to commence on the first day of January next.

That it is the opinion of the committee, that any creditor of the state on certificate on interest, or his assignee, should be allowed to discount such debt, with the interest, out of any debt due by such creditor or his assignee, except only the bonds appropriated and laid apart for the redemption of the emissions of June 1780 and May 1781, which can only be discharged in those emissions or specie.

That it is the opinion of the committee, that an indulgence should be given to the debtors of the state for confiscated property (except on the bonds specially set apart as aforesaid) for five years from the first day of January next, and that they be obliged punctually to pay the interest on their debts, to commence from the first day of September last, and on failure process shall issue to compel payment of the interest and of the principal, in the discretion of the governor, according to the circumstances of the debtor; and if the emissions of June 1780 and of May 1781 shall by any manner be redeemed or sunk before the time, that in such case the same indulgence shall be extended to such debtors.

That